



# NOTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON

10.11.2008

**Venue:** Stroud Youth Centre

## YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

### **VOTING MEMBERS**

Thomas Lydon, Marling**	P
Harry Bush, Marling	P
Alex Jones, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Jessica Howell, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Liam Baker, Thomas Keble	P
Cameron Patterson, Thomas Keble	P
El Linsell, Stroud High	P
Rosemary Dickinson, Stroud High	P
Jack Young, Archway School	Ap
Fran Ballinger, Archway	A
Hilary Dixon, Katharine Lady Berkeley's	P
Lindsey Driver, Vale of Berkeley	P
Frank Gillison, Vale of Berkeley	P
Andrew Burbidge, Nailsworth YF	Ap
Connor Walker, Stonehouse VoYS	A
Gemma Durn, VoYS	A
Isobel Tyrrell, Minchinhampton YC	P
Jodie Nixon, Minchinhampton YC	P

### **EX-OFFICIO**

Rose Horton, Stroud High	A
Freddie Whittaker, Archway	A
Luke Smith, Berkeley	A
Matt Stump, Berkeley	A
Natalie Smith, Archway	A
Emma Mears, Cam & Dursley YF	A
Eleanor Cairns, Thomas Keble	A
Harriet Dudbridge, Katharine Lady Berkeley's	A

### **DEPUTY MEMBERS**

Rebekah Batting, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Kamila Gebicka, Cam & Dursley YF	P
Will Loggins, Vale of Berkeley	A
Chantelle Martin, Vale of Berkeley	A
Rob Price, Marling	P
Harry Shankar, Marling	P
Alex Buckley, Thomas Keble	P
Kit Powell, Thomas Keble	P
Cerys Bradley, Stroud High	P
Isobel Holley, Stroud High	P
Kieran Chadwick, Archway	P
Kurtis Herbert, Archway	P
Megan Roberts, Minchinhampton YC	Ap
Amy Neason, Minchinhampton YC	P

### **CO-OPTIONS**

**\*\* = Chair \* = Vice-Chair P = present A = absent Ap = apology**

### OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Miles, Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer, SDC  
 John Meadley, (Climate Change Panel)  
 Cllr David Wride

## **SDYC Minutes – Monday 10 November 2008**

### **Welcome & Apologies**

Tom as Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Andrew Burbidge, Rose Horton, Megan Roberts, Kurtis Herbert, El Linsell and Cllr John Jeffreys.

### **Minutes of the last meeting**

Annual General Meeting, Wed 29 October 2008

These were agreed as a true and accurate record.

### **Matters arising from the minutes**

a) It was noted by members following the formal adoption of the Amendment to the Constitution concerning the two-year membership, that Marling and Stroud High School's were positioned in different 'electorates' – it was considered that this could cause problems regarding the relationship with and representation of, students from the combined Downfield Sixth Form. Following a short debate Rob proposed that Marling should be positioned in Electorate Two, Liam Seconded this – a vote was unanimously in favour of this change.

b) It was noted that the election of Vice Chair would be deferred until Monday 15 December.

c) The recent Voice of Young people event held at Ebley Mill as part of the celebrations of National Youth work Week, were deemed as being very successful. Members expressed how pleased they were about the evening and suggested that it was undertaken again next year. Steve highlighted the various positive comments received via SDC officers and partnership organisations.

d) Annual Review – Final comments – there were no further comments, however Steve reminded members that a glossy document would be produced highlighting the key aspects of the review.

### **Correspondence**

**UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) Elections** – It was noted that annual elections would be held in January 2009 with a candidate's workshop on Saturday 15 November. Steve explained that whilst SDYC didn't have direct representation to UKYP Gloucestershire, some links had been forged in 2008. He added that anyone who was a current SDYC member was considering standing for election to UKYP they should consider their overall workload and commitments before doing so – this was due to previous respective members suffering 'burn-out' later in the year. More information would be available via Steve or the UKYP website.

**Stroud Public Realm Strategy** - Steve highlighted that an exhibition on the progress of this work was being held at the following venues; Council offices, Ebley Mill; Town Council offices; Stroud Library; Stroud College and on line at [www.stroud.gvo.uk](http://www.stroud.gvo.uk)

**Children in Need** - Steve informed members that a special 'Breakfast with Pudsey' would be held in aid of Children in Need Appeal on Friday 14 November in the Riverside restaurant, Ebley Mill; tickets would be £3.75.

**Philip Lawrence Awards** - A letter had been received from the Philip Lawrence Awards, informing us that the nomination for award had been unsuccessful. SDYC was officially nominated by Debbie Miles, Area Team Leader for the County Youth Service. There were hundreds of nominated projects and most were of exceptional quality – only a handful were shortlisted for the annual award.

### **Update from Schools, colleges and Local Youth forums – reports from members**

**Marling** – Rob reported that the Downfield Sixth Form block was to be rebuilt and there was to be an Energy Saving Initiative started, some examples indicated a huge need when it was found that various computers had been left on 'throughout the summer break'. It noted Tom was now sitting on the Sixth Form Student Council.

**Thomas Keble** – Liam reported that Year 10 was not/unable to use the 'Quad Seating Area', therefore a separate area would be created. A Christian based Rock band were attending school in the near future as part of their tour of the South west.

**Vale of Berkeley College** – Lindsey reported that the college were clamping down on bullying. She also highlighted that 'litter' had become a huge issue as did the poor state of the toilets.

**Katharine Lady Berkeley** – Hilary reported that the school were still in need of three other representatives to SDYC and that it was increasingly difficult to raise the issue with tutors. Steve added that he was very disappointed that the school had not taken positive steps towards the facilitation of this requirement. He explained that following his huge efforts to support student participation and representation this year, the school had failed to respond to date. He reminded members that Hilary had been working hard to resolve this issue and needed support from her fellow SDYC members.

**Cam & Dursley Youth Forum** – Interviews for the appointment of an Architect for the New Dursley Youth Centre project was being carried out on Tuesday 11 November. Further information had been recently requested from Myplace regarding the funding application (this was seen as a positive step), however the final outcome was not expected until January/early February. Meanwhile the project had received £30,000 from the Youth Capital Fund. It was also noted that the old Youth Centre had now closed and was in the ownership of Sainsbury.

**Stroud High** – Rosie reported that the school were involved in a Youth Energy Project being co-ordinated by South West Energy Agency. An Eco Committee had been created and had a membership of 20 students. The school were also running a survey on having a re-vamped uniform.

**Archway** – The development of the new school buildings were progressing and they were hoping to establish themselves as having Eco School status.

**Minchinhampton Youth Club/Forum** – Nothing to report

### **Training Event Review**

**Anti-bullying project** – It was announced at the recent Training Event that Stroud Rural Peer Education Project would welcome further involvement of SDYC in their recently launched Anti Bullying project. Members agreed this would be a good idea and were very receptive to being involved. Steve highlighted he would pursue this initiation. The following members expressed a desire to be involved; Cerys, Rosie, Harry, Kieran, Jess, Kit, Izzy, Kamila.

**Sustainable Community Strategy Event, 28 November entitled 'Tomorrows Stroud'** - The various negative feedback from the training event workshop related to this event was noted and Steve reported that he had fed this back to the workshop facilitator Jeff Bishop. He added that the comments had been actioned and changes had been made accordingly. A discussion took place on the importance of this event acknowledging the involvement SDYC had previously made in getting a young persons event organised. Tom encouraged members to put the less than positive feeling previously gained and asked for a huge support of this event through schools and youth forums. Steve confirmed that invitations and additional information had gone out to all school. Colleges and local youth forums in the district.

### **Climate Change; 'Powerdown at School' – John Meadley**

John Meadley was welcomed to the meeting as a local enthusiastic of all things relating to Climate Change. As a fellow member of the Climate Change Panel he had previously met some SDYC members. John highlighted his current work in Swaziland (Africa) in relation to agriculture, developing essential needs and services in very desolate communities. He highlighted his reasons

for promoting a joint initiative entitled 'Powerdown in Schools' as being essential to reducing the huge consumption of energy in schools. He reflected on previous local initiatives with 'Changing Gear' and programmes through Kings Stanley Primary School, giving examples of each via a presentation. He also mentioned his work on enquiries about 'Line of Credit' and other sources of funding from the Carbon Trust to help off set the initial cost of changes.

John acknowledged the involvement to date of SDYC and hoped to make further progress as a result of this visit – he pointed out that young people needed to 'push' rather than adults 'pull' to enable this to be young person driven. It was noted that SDYC had agreed in principal earlier in the year to work on this proposed project and would be looking to take the next steps.

It was agreed that members representing schools should ask for copies of school energy bills and check out what is currently being done to reduce them – other aspects for example, could be to seek out if they have a 'travel plan' for attendee's/staff etc.

It was noted that Rednock and Stroud High were involved in the SWEA project (as previously mentioned).

Members agreed that they would be happy to be part of a 'project team' with adults. This would be pursued in due course.

### **Litter R4ecycling Pilot Project**

There was nothing to report since the last meeting, however Steve reminded members that a project team meeting would take place soon.

### **Youth Cabinet Report**

Liam reported that at their pre meeting briefing members had agreed to wait until the first extended meeting (to be arranged) before electing a Deputy Leader. He noted that training in relation to managing the Youth Initiative Fund was likely to take place in December through a combined training day with the District Youth opportunity Find Panel – this would be delivered by Youth Bank UK.

He also highlighted that members would be looking to shadow their adult SDC cabinet members and SDC Heads of Service before Christmas. Steve agreed to seek dates and times when this could take place.

### **Website Update**

Steve asked for all members to consider sending in a '100 word' profile of themselves and a photo of their choice, to be placed on the SDYC website – he added this was an annual effort that if completed by everyone would highlight the diversity and capacity of SDYC as a representative active voice for all young people in the district.

### **SDC Budget Consultation 2009/2010 – Cllr. David Wride**

Cllr David Wride (Cabinet member for Finance) addressed the meeting and highlighted the annual request for SDYC members to carry out a consultation exercise regarding the SDC Budget for 2009/2010. He explained that this was an important process and that young people's views formed a key part of the consultation with the wider public and business communities. A draft copy of the questionnaire was circulated for comment - members agreed that this task would be undertaken and a deadline of Monday 24 November was set for returns. Steve challenged members to beat the previous year's record of 200 responses – it was noted that each questionnaire could be completed by up to 5 young people.

### **Any Other business**

There was no further business

### **Date of the next meeting – Monday 24 November at Stroud Youth Centre.**