



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON:

Date : Monday 19th December 2011

Time : 14:30

Venue: Museum in the Park, Stroud

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Ellen Wightman, (*Thomas Keble*)
 Kate Jones, (*Thomas Keble*)
 Kit Powell, (*Bussage & Chalford*)
 Robin Ellis-Cockcroft**, (*Stroud Town*)
 Kieran Chadwick, (*Archway*)
 Luka Chadwick, (*Archway*)
 Kathryn White, (*Rednock*)
 Tom Williams, (*Rednock*)
 Shannon Eden, (*Katharine Lady Berkeley*)
 Miriam Smith, (*Katharine Lady Berkeley*)
 Kirsty Driver, (*Berkeley*)
 Roxy Mould, (*Berkeley*)
 Annie Pickering, (*Stonehouse VoYS*)
 Chloe Boulton, (*Wotton under Edge YF*)
 Laura Forrester, (*Wotton under Edge YF*)
 Millie Gardiner, (*Maidenhill*)
 Neil Bond, (*Maidenhill*)
 Max Freedman, (*Marling*)
 Rob Sidwell, (*Marling*)
 Laura Byng*, (*Stroud High*)
 Sally Holditch, (*Stroud High*)
 Stephanie Davies, (*Stroud College*)

DEPUTY MEMBERS

P	Tabitha Smith, (<i>Stroud High</i>)	Ap
Ap	Mary Holditch, (<i>Stroud High</i>)	P
P	Lydia Stephens, (<i>Maidenhill</i>)	P
P	Ruth Pilston, (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i>)	A
P	Eva Gilder-Hodgson, (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley</i>)	P
P	Jessica Fisher, (<i>Wotton under Edge YF</i>)	Ap
P	Abi Lee, (<i>Wotton under Edge YF</i>)	Ap
Ap	Jenny Moore, (<i>Thomas Keble</i>)	Ap
P	Charlotte Bignall (<i>Thomas Keble</i>)	Ap
Ap		
Ap		
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Ap		
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A		
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Ap		

EX-OFFICIO

Lindsey Driver,	A
Emma Sankey,	A
Rosemary Dickinson,	A

CO-OPTIONS

Young Carers Representative (To be confirmed)	A
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Others Present

Steve Miles, Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer, SDC
 Helen Smith, Youth Support Worker, Self Employed

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

Minutes of the meeting

Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Kate Jones, Tom Williams, Kirsty Driver, Miriam Smith, Neil Bond, Steph Davies, Jess Fisher, Jenny Moore, Charlotte Bignall and Tabbie Smith.

Minutes of Last Meeting – 28th November 2011

All minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate recording of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Cultural Olympiad in Stroud; SDYC involvement - Kieran

Kieran explained that he believed Ray Figg was to attend this meeting, although Steve explained he will invite Ray to the next meeting in January due to his current busy schedule. Kieran explained a discussion needs to be held in regards to how much participation is expected and how much the youth council will contribute.

Feedback on Corporate Consultation Event Report – all members

The reports were received by the youth council members via post and emails.

'GoingGreen' Event at Forest Green – Millie/Lydia

At the last meeting an opportunity was announced for members to attend an event at Forest Green Football Stadium where The Cotswold Chef (Rob Rees) would complete a food demonstration around the theme of healthy living. Millie and Lydia explained it was more of a social event with a number of demonstrations that took place include; a cook off between footballers and football coaches explaining the importance of keeping fit, along with NHS representatives. It was not a big turn out, however after speaking to the organisers; similar themed events involving alcohol, drugs and smoking are to be held in the near future.

Feedback on discounted bus fares for Stroud College – Stephanie

Unfortunately Stephanie gave her apologies for today's meeting although she passed her feedback over to Steve. She had found out that Stagecoach West is a sponsor of Stroud College and the arrangement is more than likely to be a commercial/sponsorship type deal.

SDYC Reunion Social Event – Kirsty/Mary/Millie

No further action as of yet – it was proposed that this should be postponed to the summer.

Correspondence

Positive for Youth - Helen announced the British Youth Council (BYC) have made contact to inform members of the soon to be released government strategy for children and young peoples services, entitled Positive for Youth. BYC are asking everyone for their reactions and thoughts, either individually or as SDYC. The statement given hints the government will give lots of support to the youth of today, although no new investment is announced but comments on initiatives for funding the youth. Steve encouraged the youth cabinet to read the document.

Children and Young Peoples Partnership Plan 2012-2015 - Helen announced details in an email from Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) regarding their 3 year partnership plan for children and young people, the current one; 2009 – 2012 has just passed. Currently working towards the next plan, 2012 – 2015, which will be named Children and Young People's Partnership Plan (CYPPP) and their outcomes are similar and will continue to work with the most vulnerable children and young people. They would like to hear views and comments to help shape the plan and decide how it will be delivered. There is an online survey on the GCC website and needs to be completed by 10.01.2012; the current plan is also available on the website.

Health and Wellbeing Partnership- The next Health and Wellbeing meeting will be held at Ebley Mill in the Committee Room on Tuesday 10th January at 2pm would be useful and insightful for members of the health focus group to attend. Please let SM know by the New Year whether or not you can make the meeting.

Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forum's

Katherine Lady Berkeley – Currently exams occurring. Colleges and University's are also talking to the students, and the Head Teacher is retiring after 14 years.

Rednock – Students have attended a meeting with governors, jointly agreed one of the governors will attend the school council meetings every now and again. An ongoing project with the Rotary Club has been set up to create a young person's rotary club to do projects both in the school and local community. Young Ambassadors are now active; tutors have spoken to 20 different classes in the last week to get students to volunteer, so far quite a few applicants have been received.

Stroud High – Figures were released of how much money Stroud High has raised for charity since September 2011. The Christmas Social didn't go to plan; not allowed anymore social events.

Thomas Keble – Currently trying to organise a blood donation centre at the school; students in sixth form, teachers or anyone in the local area can donate. Students took part in the National Physics Olympia event, one student was placed highly.

Berkeley – Announced they have yet to start the consultation with the local community due to bad weather; street based work is postponed to January.

Wotton under Edge – A youth forum meeting is due for tomorrow. Members raised £52 selling cakes, games, etc at the Christmas under the Edge event.

Archway – Held a School Council meeting with the Governors, therefore some members are to attend a governors meetings. A new design for the P.E kits and general uniform has been decided.

Bussage and Chalford – Steve informed members about a recent meeting with Frith Youth Centre Management Committee that he had attended. The committee were considering an application to the Stroud Youth Activity and Development Funds.

SDYC Projects Reports

Votes @ 16 - Kathryn

The team had a meeting recently in which everyone jointly agreed what they wanted to do and achieve; they started to create a plan of action. By the next meeting they would have collated a questionnaire which they wish to distribute to school councils, youth forums and to students online. Questions would involve asking what people feel about politics in general, and finding out what they actually know. The team would meet again in January.

Eat Well, Waste Less - Kieran

The team met a couple of weeks ago, and refreshed the plans to date regarding this intergenerational project. They discussed where potentially they are to source the food from, possible chefs that could help out willingly, venues of where to hold the workshops and the final event itself. The workshops will involve cookery lessons, where a camera will film the group learning to cook; a short film will then be produced and shown at the event. The project will culminate with an invited guest style event with a three course meal cooked and served by participants from SDYC and Stroud Older Persons Forum based on what they have learnt. The potential to raise money for a chosen charity was noted. A progress report will be made at next meeting.

Health Focus Group

The group reported that they have given feedback on the recent Sexual Health Strategy Plan; which included information and action plans about what the NHS are aiming to achieve. Helen announced they have had interest from the NHS regarding further involvement with the group and they are planning to meet with the Health Focus Group on 24th January 2012. Helen has also spoken to Caroline, a Community Engagement Officer for the NHS, who is looking to set something up early February and is really keen to get local Doctors and Surgeries involved. Feedback given to the NHS about Sexual Health Strategy was really positive.

Youth Cabinet Report - Annie

Annie announced that no meeting had taken place recently, but the Youth Cabinet needed to arrange a meeting for early in January, particularly as the deadline for the next round of grant funding is approaching (4th January). Steve highlighted the need to complete a review of the last funding round to tie up 'a few loose ends', the review group need to consider whether anything needs immediately changing, for example the way the panel works or how decisions were made, etc. It was agreed to convene a meeting as soon as possible in January.

Local Strategic Partnership Report – Robin/Kathryn

Robin and Kathryn attended the recent LSP meeting and reported that Gloucestershire Rural Community Council are carrying out a consultation on the usage of broadband in rural areas with view to improving the access and general usage of the internet in the county; Robin to send a link around to get people to spread the word. The Stroud Older Person's Forum is attempting to raise money for a new minibus that costs £16,000, they are hoping local groups will help with the fundraising or suggest the Forum when schools, colleges, etc are raising money. The Valley & Vales Business Partnership are planning an event at Stroud College in February about potential career pathways, all major businesses along with smaller ones around the district will participate, covering all categories such as engineering, arts, production, etc. Steve mentioned the potential to attend as SDYC members rather than as students, with it being more of a networking event.

Update on Future Delivery of Youth Work - Steve

Steve reported on the sad news on the recent passing of Karen Toole, (the SDC Strategic Head of Community Services) following a long battle with an illness. She was the strategic champion in the Council for young people. Members asked for their condolences to be passed onto her family.

It had been proposed at the recent SDC Cabinet meeting last week, their budget proposals for the next 3 years. Within the proposal was a budget of £50,000 a year to help develop services for young people (in addition to current spending). The total investment of £150,000 is going to full Council as part of the overall budget, and with this proposal is the idea that Stroud District Youth Council will help decide how this money is spent. Steve highlighted that this would mean members having an input into the creation of a strategy for this funding. Work would begin soon on drafting ideas.

Steve noted that following some recent meetings, it was evident that not every group/community/organization wishes to apply for grant money within the funding process. It is fast emerging that what they really want and require is a professionally skilled youth and community worker to work with them and to help the community. It was well known that few grant funding programmes will allow such groups/organizations to employ people of this nature.

Employment Working Group Report - Robin

Robin reported that he had been attending meetings of this group in his role on the Local Strategic Partnership. He added that unemployment in the district has increased over the past month, whereas the national average has decreased. The group would be holding a similar event to the one organised at Stroud College, but it will be at Rednock School Sixth Form Centre on 21st February 2012, Robin will send out information in due course.

The work involved with representing SDYC on this group was increasing, so it was noted that somebody else within the youth council could attend meetings as well; they meet every two months. This interested should let Robin know by the next SDYC meeting.

Stroud Access Group Report – Sally/Kit

Sally and Kit reported that lots of interesting points were raised at the last meeting but had questioned since how the youth council cater for the disabled at events and meetings. Steve highlighted that a disability isn't necessarily visible but measures were taken to find out if participants required special requirements. A strong view evolved from member's discussion suggesting there is potential to build allegiances with young disabled access groups, e.g. All Stars. It was noted that the Access Group also wish to hold an event next year, possibly during the Stroud Fringe; however Sally and Kit are already involved.

Members Training for Spring 2012

Steve informed the Council that a date is scheduled into the calendar for a training event during February half term. He will circulate some information and definite dates in due course for parents and guardians to know about the event beforehand.

Any Other Business

Steve announced the purchase of a new 9 seated minibus and nearly new 7 seated 4x4 vehicles by the SDC Community Safety Service both will be available to use in the New Year for transporting members.

Steve also informed the group of the latest opportunity he has been given, to put more members through the British Youth Councils Youth Voice Award. The fairest way to decide who should benefit from this was to look at individuals active participation within SDYC work including that of local youth forums over the last six months. Those chosen have already been notified. However it was expected to be another opportunity for other members in 2012.

Date of the Next Meeting – Monday 16 January 2012, 4:30pm @ Fresh Ground Cafe, Cainscross