



## Minutes of the meeting

### Welcome & Energizer Activity

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting, in particular new representatives Ruth Pilston from Katharine Lady Berkeley, former Chair and ex-officio member, Tom Lydon. An energizer activity was held in the gym involving all members.

### Apologies

Apologies were received from Kamila Gebicka, Shannon Eden, Blake Hewer, Jess Lyons-Lynch, Charlotte Kruse, Jens Newton, Kirsty Driver, Charlotte Kruse and Cllr Frances Roden. It was noted that Jens had decided to stand down from his role as representative from Thomas Keble.

### Minutes of Last Meeting – 6 June 2011

The minutes were agreed as being an accurate record.

### Matters Arising

#### **NHS Gloucestershire – report from recent meeting**

Rosie reported on the meeting her, Robin and Shannon had with Caroline Smith, NHS Community Engagement Manager where they discussed proposals for reforms to the NHS and how young people could best give comment. Whilst it was noted that urgent feedback was requested, the time frame was very limited. It was agreed that a members Health Focus Group would be formed in which to look at the immediate proposals and then look to engage with NHS longer term, on issues affecting young people's health. Ruth, Mim, Tom L, Millie, Shannon, Rosie, Rob, Laura B agreed to be part of the group. The group would endeavour to meet next week with Caroline. Tom L added that a public meeting was being held in Stroud on Saturday 2 July at 10.30am to discuss matters with the NHS.

#### **Rural Youth Network Event, 20 July - update**

Steve reported that the offer of delivering a workshop at this event had been declined due to an overwhelming interest from many groups. However SDYC would be very welcome to attend.

#### **Stroud Access Group – report from recent meeting**

Sally attended the Access Group for the first time and highlighted that much of the meeting covered organizational issues that would result in a re-branding of the group. Principally the group has represented the concerns of people with disabilities and subsequent issues around access and have been proactive in getting things changed. Sally agreed to attend the next meeting.

#### **Youth Consultation Event in Cainscross - 29 June**

Rob and Annie highlighted plans for the event taking place at the youth and social centre, in which World Jungle were also attending. The aim was to carry out some consultation with young people from the area about their community and their issues of concern. The drop in session is the first step towards creating a local youth forum there.

#### **Future Meeting Venue for SDYC - update**

Steve highlighted that he was looking to have a meeting with Fresh Ground Café in Cainscross. He added that Stratford Park (band stand) could be suitable for an outdoor meeting for the (optional) meeting in August – this would need to be decided at the next meeting.

### Correspondence

#### **Film Nights – Tenant Services**

SDC Tenant Services have produced a 10 minute film based on involvement of tenants (those people living or working in Council owned property) and intend to host film nights around the district. They would like to show this to youth groups/clubs and will provide popcorn and soft drinks, they would also

like to promote this on the SDYC website and Facebook page – this was agreed. There was a discussion on whether SDYC should request its own viewing – this was also agreed. Arrangements would be made for the next meeting.

### **Pride in Your Neighbourhood Event at Paganhill - 5 August**

A request had been received from the Neighbourhood Wardens for support from SDYC for this event with regards to the distributing the community safety packs and generally networking with young people in the area. It was agreed this could be done and names would be taken nearer the time.

### **Prevent – Act Now**

An opportunity was presented to members to receive an introduction to the ‘*Prevent - Act Now*’ programme – an interactive exercise delivered by the Police to counter terrorism. Whilst the half day training allows participants to gain an insight into how the Police deal with a terrorism incident and subsequently become an ‘investigator’ in a ‘fictitious incident’, they have asked initially if they could attend a SDYC meeting to give an general overview. Members agreed this would be good to take place at the next meeting.

### **Update from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums**

*Archway* – Kieran reported that he had now left Archway following completion of his exams. Luca added that the school council had not met for sometime.

*Cam & Dursley Youth Forum* – No representatives were present.

*Katharine Lady Berkeley* – Mim reported that she would be attending and chairing a school council meeting next week, she highlighted that training for the Talking in Confidence (TIC) mentoring programme had taken place, Shannon took part in this. It was almost definite that the school would become an Academy in the near future. Steve offered to attend the meeting next week.

*Maidenhill* – Neil highlighted that vertical tutoring was due to be launched soon. Millie explained the changes to the uniform. The process of electing the school council was likely to change in September.

*Marling* – Rob reported that he and Max presented their work on women’s rights, resulting from their United Nations supported trip to New York, at an event held at Ebley Mill on a re arranged date. The schools involvement with Tripswich had gone ok, with a huge increase in cycles being used by students and staff. A new sixth form council had been elected.

*Rednock* – Tom reported that interviews for new Prefects had been carried out. A ‘bike week’ to co-inside with Tripswich didn’t really take off. Kathryn added that the school council had discussed the school becoming an academy.

*Stroud High School* – Sally reported that she had made efforts to communicate with lead tutors regarding the school council but had been unsuccessful. Steve added that he had been approached by Nigel Prenter (District Councillor & tutor at the school) in which to deliver a presentation about SDYC and student participation on 11 & 12 July to various year groups.

*Stroud Town Youth Forum* – Rosie reported that communication had been made with Andy Wilkins (from Andy’s Skate Shop) in which to invite him to a meeting with them and SDC Public Space Manager regarding potential lighting at the Skate Park – this would hopefully take place soon.

*Thomas Keble* – Kit reported that she had carried out her last meeting as Chair of school council recently and highlighted that new representatives to SDYC had been decided upon in which to replace her, Jens and the vacant deputy role. Elly would remain as voting member. Votes at 16 had also been discussed further. Elly added that the sports day had been condensed. The school was also due to shut due to potential strikes.

*Vale of Berkeley College* –No representatives were present.

*Voice of Young Stonehouse* – Annie reported that whilst the youth forum had not met due to the GCC youth workers being made redundant, it was likely to be re-launched once new facilitators were found.

*Wotton under Edge Youth Forum* – Laura reported that a new meeting venue had been found for the youth forum and following the imminent closure of the youth centre, a new venue for a one night a week club session would take place at the Baptist Church Rooms. No youth work staff had been put in place yet.

Tom L asked members representing schools, how involved they had been in the process of them considering Academy status. Feedback was given with a variety of experiences given.

### **Votes at 16 Campaign – report from Focus Group**

Kathryn reported on the group's first meeting, which considered the wider aspects of lowering the voting age to 16 and the national campaign led by the British Youth Council. They recognised the resources available and began the process of what the aim of the work should be. They concluded that political and social education was important and that young people needed to become empowered in which to transfer the idea into reality. They also noted that this issue will be discussed by SDYC members at the meeting with Stroud MP, Neil Carmichael next week.

### **Tripswitch 2011 – Progress Report**

Robin reflected on the programme that had now taken place in a number of schools. Publicity was not great but those that promoted it the most were unsurprisingly most successful. A project debrief was likely to take place soon.

### **Live Band Night at Fresh Ground Cafe**

Robin gave an overview of an idea shared with him regarding the potential of holding a live band event for young people at the cafe in Cainscross. He explained that Dan Hart (the café owner's son) was looking for opinion on such an event which would be aimed at young people and local bands. The venue is run on a not-for-profit basis and wanted feedback from members. It was generally agreed this would be a good idea and something needed in the area.

### **District Network Group Event – 13 June – Report**

Rosie gave a report on the event held at Cheltenham Borough Council Offices, which she attended with Lindsey. The event involved invitees representing youth projects and communities from across the county who were being affected by the youth service cuts and involved specific workshops, information/opinion sharing sessions and presentations from key agency/organizations including SDYC. Rosie reflected on Lindsey's presentation on 'what young people want' and highlighted the questions put by them to adult speakers regarding the cuts and the Big Society idea. Steve added that this was a hugely important event, during which SDYC had made a substantial impact.

### **Future Delivery of Youth Work**

Steve highlighted that work was being done by SDC to put in place the grant funding process regarding the £50,000 (devolved from GCC) as well as give ongoing support to those communities affected. He added that this was the last week for many youth projects and various 'ending' processes were being carried out. He reminded members of the sensitive nature of such changes which was affecting some members and asked for those not connected to support those that are. Robin added his condolences but thanked Helen and Jemma for their work over the years, members gave a round of applause.

### **Youth Cabinet Report**

In Lindsey's absence, Annie reported on a request from a Parish Councillor in Cheltenham who (following a conversation with Lindsey on 13 June) has asked if a few SDYC members could attend a

meeting to discuss the youth participation model in Stroud including youth forums and youth partnerships – this was agreed. She highlighted that SDYC had been asked if they would be involved in the decision-making process for the devolved grant funding from GCC in a similar way to that of the former Youth Initiative Fund. Steve added that SDC had acknowledged that SDYC was best placed to be key decision-makers for this grant. It was thought that the Youth Cabinet would serve as group for the subsequent work. Members agreed unanimously to take on this work.

Annie also reported that the SDC Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee had invited representatives from SDYC to attend a future meeting (date to be confirmed), in which to discuss the cuts to youth services. Once the date was known a few representatives would be decided upon.

### **Any Other Business**

Jemma promoted the annual Scratch and Skate Festival being held on 6<sup>th</sup> August in Cam and highlighted the programme to include; DJ'ing workshops, face painting, live bands, skateboarding and much more.

Steve reminded members that they agreed to attend Stroud Show and confirmed a space would be made available within the SDC area in which to promote themselves. The following members agreed to attend; Millie, Tom L, Kathryn,

**Date of the next meeting was confirmed as being Monday 18 July 2011 in the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill, 4.30pm.**