



Draft NOTES OF THE MAIN MEETING ON:

Date : Monday 14th December 2015

Time : 16:30

Venue: Museum in the Park, Stroud

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Libby Powell (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Tom Schaffner (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>)	P
Lily Clarke (<i>Archway School</i>)	Ap
Ollie Catchpole (<i>Archway School</i>)	Ap
Holly Abbott (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	Ap
Alex Lin-Vines (<i>Marling School</i>)	Ap
Charlotte Bignell** (<i>Stroud Town Youth Forum</i>)	P
Isabelle Llewellyn (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	Ap
James Preece (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	P
James Lauchlan (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>)	P
Tom Brady (<i>Maidenhill School</i>)	P
Sophie Wilkins, (<i>Nailsworth & Minch Youth Forum</i>)	A

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Noella Usborne (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Nyima Trawally (<i>Archway School</i>)	P
Lily Bryant (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	A
Tiarna Crowther (<i>Maidenhill School</i>)	A
Ollie King (<i>Maidenhill School</i>)	P
Alexandra Parker (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	P
Richard Harper (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	Ap

EX-OFFICIO

Archie Holley	A
Emily Osborne	A
James Pain	Ap
George Gooch	A

CO-OPTIONS

**** = Chair * = Vice-Chair (L) = Leader (D) = Deputy Leader P = Present A = Absent AP = Apology given**

**Principal Members: (ET) = Employment & Training, (H) = Housing, (E) = Environment,
(LD) = Local Democracy, (HWB) = Health & Wellbeing**

Others Present:

Steve Miles, Senior Youth Officer (Hear by Right), Stroud District Council
Vicki Gamston, Youth Worker, Youth and Community Services
Alysha Bodman, Member of Youth Parliament for Cotswold & Stroud
Ann Taylor, Learning Programmes Officer, Stroud District Council

An introductory tour of the Museum was given by Ann Taylor, SDC Learning Programmes Officer ahead of the main meeting.

Welcomes and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Member's apologies for absence were noted and are listed on the membership register above. Apologies also received from Cllr Miranda Clifton.

Minutes of the Last Meeting – Monday 14th December 2015

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record. *Proposed by: Ollie King; Seconded by: Tom Schaffner.*

Matters Arising

a) *Visit to Stroud by British Council Vietnam – report from 2nd December*

A delegation from Vietnam (adults and young people) on an international study tour, was welcomed to an event at Ebley Mill, hosted by SDYC - Libby, Issy and Ollie K were present. Also present was SDC Chair, Cllr Mark Rees, and representatives from Bristol City Youth Council. Stroud Life and Gloucestershire BBC Radio also attended from the media. Good interactive discussions were had on youth voice projects and youth participation systems and structures in the respective countries, acknowledging the many differences, particularly in local rural areas. The event was deemed a huge success.

b) *Clean for the Queen – further discussion*

As discussed briefly at the last meeting, it is a litter pick event to clean up the country before the Queen's birthday. Scheduled dates: 4th – 6th March, SDC are leading a project team for a local effort – this is an opportunity for SDYC to get involved with the planning. Charlotte, Ollie K, Nyima and Tom S, expressed an interest to be involved.

c) *SDYC 15 Year Anniversary – further discussion*

Members discussed the possibilities of planning an event to mark the 15th anniversary of SDYC, but acknowledged that they were running out of time to mark the date. Ideas on raising the profile of SDYC and getting a project group together were suggested. All members present (bar James Preece) expressed an interest in being involved.

Correspondence

Email from Cllr Miranda Clifton

Whilst giving her apologies for absence for this meeting, Miranda added a message for members; *".....I'd just like to thank you all for your work as youth councillors, and wish you all a very good Christmas. Have fun."*

BYC South West Youth Voice Convention – Monday 21st December 2015

Representatives from SDYC would be attending this regional event. Workshops would cover; issues from the NHS and the Holocaust Memorial Day and activities in relation to the British Youth Council and their work. A report would be given at the next SDYC meeting.

BBC Volunteering Campaign

BBC Radio 1 and 1Xtra have announced plans for #1MillionHours – a year long volunteering campaign that will see both stations motivating their young listeners to pledge 1 millions hours of time to good causes over the next 12 months. With SDYC members volunteering already, this could be a way of being recognised as part of the campaign. Steve will email information to members.

Election of Vice Chairperson

No nominations were received.

Election of Principal Members

a) *Principal Member for Local Democracy*

The following member had been nominated: *Holly Abbott, voting member for Stroud High School. Proposed by: Alex Lin Vines; Seconded by: Libby Powell.*

Manifesto – Holly Abbott – *'Having been an active member of SDYC for four years and a student passionate about politics, I believe that I can fully fulfill the job of being the Principal Member for Local Democracy. I've been a member of the Local Democracy Focus Group for two years and seen it develop into what it is now. I wholeheartedly hope I can help it continue to bring politics and democracy to young people of Stroud.'*

b) *Principal Members for Health and Wellbeing*

No nominations were received.

c) *Principal Member for Employment and Training*

The following member has been nominated: *Tom Schaffner, voting member for Chalford Cubed Youth Forum.*
Proposed by: Libby Powell: Seconded by: Charlotte Bignell.

Manifesto – Tom Schaffner – *‘Over the past year, I have been the Principle Member for Employment and Training. During this time, we have built links with key people at SDC that coordinate work experience schemes, and have talked to employers on behalf of the Council. In the coming months, the group is hoping to meet local head teachers, to discuss the ‘Curriculum for Life’ initiative, as well as working closer to the Skills for Stroud programme to promote the benefits of good work experience. I hope that you will re-elect me as Principle Member, so I can continue to help these projects develop.’*

d) Principal Member for Environment

No nominations were received.

e) Principal Member for Housing

No nominations were received.

Expressions of interest were given about the above vacant roles, but no nominations were received - therefore an email requesting future nominations will be sent again to members.

Election of Representatives to British Youth Council (BYC)

The two representative roles are elected every year. Responsibilities include; attendance at conventions and other key BYC events; receiving BYC weekly newsletters and reporting to SDYC at main meetings. Reps’ previously been involved with lobbying, attending annual council events to vote and discuss issues in the constitution. It was agreed that elections would be included at next meeting.

UK Youth Parliament Update – Alysha Bodman, MYP for Cotswold and Stroud

Alysha updated members on her work over the five months: Attended annual sitting in Exeter, all MYP’s met and discussed what they wanted to put on their manifesto, debated and voted the following day; Mind the Gap research relating to mental health services - researched all available services within the district and put together a report of all of the restrictions available and will be handed to the Minister for Social Care; attended the Department of Education Consultation on the A-Level and GCSE reforms - posted on Facebook page asking for people to come forward about the changes; met with the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner to discuss youth voice; initiated the ‘Make your Mark’ consultation - really proud as received 2,600 ballots, which were included in the South West total of 80,000 ballots; visited the House of Commons in November and debated the top five issues from the Make your Mark consultation - had a vote and the top two were mental health and tackling racism. Future commitments include: a meeting with Neil Carmichael MP (Stroud) and Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP (Cotswold) on February 5th – any issues that SDYC would like Alysha to bring up, please let her know.

Update from School Councils, College Councils & Local Youth Forum Groups (All)

Maidenhill School – Plans are being made for Japanese students to come over in the future to spend a week at the school. The head teacher has given them £500 for the school council.

Archway School – Had a council meeting, complaints regarding the prices of food, manager of the food company met with them, questionnaires will be produced asking students what they would like to see.

Stroud High School – Currently discussing the election of two new deputy members.

Any Other Business

Member and Youth Forum Training

With changes made to the youth council year end and elections to SDYC now being held in January and February, it was felt that a new training programme should be developed. The following was suggested: introductory youth voice training to members of the local youth forums and the representatives from the schools and local youth forums that are on SDYC; greater input from current members on how to develop the programme and what it needs to feature; senior/experienced members would like to get involved with the actual training. It was also noted that a residential event always works better than one day events, as training can be spaced out over three days.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 11th January 2016, venue to be confirmed.