



NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

Date : Monday 20th April 2015

Time : 16:30

Venue: Stroud Subscription Rooms

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

| | |
|--|----|
| Libby Powell (L) (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Tom Schaffner (ET) (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Lily Clarke (H) (<i>Archway School</i>) | P |
| Ollie Catchpole* (<i>Archway School</i>) | P |
| Holly Abbott (<i>Stroud High School</i>) | P |
| Archie Holley (E) (<i>Marling School</i>) | AP |
| George Gooch (LD) (<i>Marling School</i>) | P |
| Emily Osborne (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>) | P |
| Georgina Burt (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>) | A |
| Toni McNee (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>) | AP |
| Tom Ambury (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</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 |
| Lee Beldam (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Ceren Tüzün (<i>Cam & Dursley Youth Forum</i>) | AP |
| James Lauchlan (HWB) (<i>Stonehouse Action 4 Youth</i>) | P |
| Zara Morgan-Glass (<i>Maidenhill School</i>) | A |
| Tom Brady (<i>Maidenhill School</i>) | P |
| Sophie Wilkins, (<i>Nailsworth & Minch Youth Forum</i>) | P |

DEPUTY MEMBERS

| | |
|--|----|
| Kyle Roberts (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Sabita Burke (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>) | P |
| Sam Barnes (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>) | A |
| Gemma Goodship (<i>Archway School</i>) | AP |
| Nyima Trawally (<i>Archway School</i>) | P |
| Tom Rowland (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>) | P |
| Lily Bryant (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>) | A |
| Tiarna Crowther (<i>Maidenhill School</i>) | P |
| Oli King (<i>Maidenhill School</i>) | A |

EX-OFFICIO

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Kate Jones | A |
| Kirsty Driver | A |
| Millie Jotham | A |
| Sahaya James | A |

CO-OPTIONS

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Alex Lin-Vines | AP |
|----------------|----|

**** = Chair * = Vice-Chair (L) = 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
Cllr Miranda Clifton, Stroud District Council
Jodie Tellam, Young Peoples Coordinator, Fixers

Welcomes and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Archie Holley, Tom Ambury, Isabelle Llewellyn, Ceren Tüzün, Gemma Goodship and Alex Lin-Vines.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Amendments were made regarding the following; the Health Focus Group Report was presented by James Lauchlan, not Holly Abbott. The three reports from the Local Democracy Focus Group were presented by George Gooch, Tom Schaffner and Holly Abbott respectively.

Following the above changes, the minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record: Proposed by; Lily Clarke, Seconded by Holly Abbott.

Correspondence

Neighbourhood Watch Association

An invite for SDYC to continue to have representation on the association's committee, had been received – SDYC members agreed they would like to continue with this arrangement with two representatives in this role.

Made of Money Workshops

A series of workshops relating to making money go further, focusing on young adults and young people. These workshops are said to be relaxed groups which help young people to gain confidence with credit, debit, bills and budgets. They will take place on six continuous Saturday mornings, starting 9th May until 15th June, 10am to 12noon at the Exchange, Brick Row, Stroud.

Stroud Tenant Voice

Stroud Tennant Voice (part of SDC Tenant Services) would like to attend an SDYC meeting to discuss how young people should have more of a say about the services they deliver. Members agreed that Stroud Tenant Voice should be invited to the next meeting or the one after, to discuss this topic.

Make Music Gloucestershire E-survey

Make Music Gloucestershire are offering a £25 high street voucher to any young person who is willing to help them get feedback from young people about the project called. The deadline has been extended until the end of April.

Men and Mental Health Conference: 'Big Boys Don't Cry'

An annual one day conference in Gloucestershire, focusing on men and mental health is on Friday 26th June from 9am to 4:30pm at Churchdown Community Centre. This years theme is; 'Big Boys Don't Cry'. Whilst SDYC had an opportunity to have a facilitating role in this event, following an approach made by the organizers of this event some time ago to, unfortunately the two SDYC members are unable to attend. However, members are still welcome to attend as delegates but special arrangements may need to be made for release from school/college.

UKYP Election Results for Gloucestershire

Two students who attend Stroud High School have been elected as the respective member of youth parliament (MYP) and deputy member of youth parliament (DMYP) for Stroud and the Cotswold's. Alysha Bodman as MYP and Esther Mounce as DMYP. It was noted that despite living in Stroud district and attending Stroud High they will be representing both the Stroud and the Cotswold constituencies. It was also noted that they may be invited to a future SDYC meeting to discuss their role and the issues of concern.

Presentation from Fixers - Jodie Tellam

Jodie was welcomed to the meeting. She explained who Fixers were and her role with the organization. Fixers help provide resources for campaigns, with film makers, animators etc. They put on community events and raise awareness about issues of concern. For any campaigns, Fixers help provide resources and also work in conjunction

with ITV television; every month one project is chosen and gets a 5 minute slot on the news, with very good results around educating a lot of young people. They have produced a lot of films about different issues. Other work includes consultation projects; recently they asked young people what their experience are with the Police - data was analysed and recorded dialogues were carried out over a month where young people spoke to police officers. These dialogues created a film which received good reviews.

Current projects include the creation of mental health packs for teachers because it isn't in the curriculum - by law teachers do not have to talk about mental health or suicide issues.

Discussion was held on how SDYC and Fixers could work together, with the possibility of a joint project following the recent work by SDYC on local democracy being developed into a campaign. Jodie will be invited to another meeting to discuss this and/or other project ideas, in more detail.

Review of SDYC Residential Training Event

Generally positive feedback, everyone enjoyed it and thought it was very useful. Certain tasks involved problem-solving and critical thinking, which some members enjoyed more than others. Members stated their learning included; teamwork skills, communication, listening and problem-solving. Although the stormy weather may have affected some people's feelings, it was felt to be overall a positive experience. Some members added that an annual residential was really important for members training.

Updates from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums (All)

Chalford Cubed Youth Forum

We have been planning the 'Party in the Park' event, which was originally proposed to the full parish council who then referred it to their works committee - it was subsequently agreed upon. Party in the Park will be on Saturday 11th July 12-6pm. The forum will need young volunteers to attend the event so anyone who would like to volunteer is welcome and we will be grateful.

Marling

Nothing has progressed regarding the building works, although they did dig a ditch around the entire school. We had a multi-faith day recently, whereby people from different faiths were invited to attend throughout the day and educate students on what others believe in and do, regarding religion.

Archway

The school has had new windows fitted. There is also an issue with cleaning; the school currently employs sixth formers to clean the school, it is undecided whether this will continue or if the school will employ external cleaners. Student Council met before Easter, a youth worker (Cal Williams) came to talk to us about Stroud Town Youth Forum. A tutor had a stroke in school; subsequently an awareness day is being planned, which is likely to involve activities.

Cam and Dursley Youth Forum

The launch event for the self harm campaign, entitled 'In Need Of...' was a success. Hosted at Rednock School, it had a good turnout from adults and young people, with feedback forms were filled out and a lot of cards with help information were taken throughout the event. We still have some areas to look into with regards to self harm; e.g. self harm campaign posters on buses and other public transport to raise awareness. The self harm campaign is ongoing.

Maidenhill

Japanese students came over. Some students from year 8 and year 9 went on a foreign language's 4 day trip to Paris to encourage students to take French as a GCSE. Maidenhill students had the chance to meet up with French students, and were promised that if we took French as a GCSE we would go back in year 11.

Nailsworth & Minch' Youth Forum

A youth consultation event set for the Easter break, regarding the development of a recreation area in Nailsworth was postponed – plans were now in place to hold it at the end of May. Plans are being made to paint a bus shelter in

Minchinhampton.

Katharine Lady Berkeley School

Before Easter, the Sixth Form held an event at school regarding the issue of 'safer driving'. Whilst this was supported by other organizations, the Police delivered workshops on the issue. The BBC also attended to film students driving into the school car park. This programme derived from having had 6 people from our school killed in car accidents in the last 2 years, so students are currently trying to raise awareness of road safety and encouraging students to be safer drivers and users of roads. Other things to report include: French exchange students from year 9 visited; year 7's done a sponsored silence.

Stroud Town Youth Forum

The recruitment of potential forum members from local schools has begun with visits to Archway carried out recently. It is hoped ongoing projects will develop in the coming weeks/months.

Stonehouse Action 4 Youth

There was a litter pick last weekend. Our last meeting was for the coffee morning which went well, hopefully another event will happen. There will be a meeting with Stonehouse in Bloom; they would like us to contact them with details of if we need any flowers or anything along those lines. They will provide what they can to help us. They would also like us to help the elderly people with planting flowers around wherever they wish to help them out as they may not be able to entirely do it on their own.

Stroud High

The school had parliamentary candidates for the Stroud constituency in for a political 'question time' style event. One particular question asked whether Britain should keep its funding budget for nuclear weapons; another was whether immigrants are good for the economy or not; and there was one question about funding higher education. Students felt it was a successful event.

Thomas Keble

Progress on building works have seen new buildings appear where the old buildings once were. A recent school ski trip has had positive feedback. Student council is due to meet soon. Last week we had BBC Gloucestershire in covering a political 'question time' style event. Year 9 students have recently had their jobs.

Election of Vice Chair

The nomination deadline was Monday 9th March. One nomination was received.

Ollie Catchpole, *Voting member for Archway School* - Proposed by; Charlotte Bignall, Seconded by; Tom Schaffner

Ollie was elected as Vice Chair.

British Youth Council Report

Positive stories - Each month, youth representatives are invited to share their stories and positive activities which they have been engaging in recently – SDYC member were encouraged to forward such stories to Steve.

Youth vote undecided - This month there was a poll commission on young voter attitude regarding the general election revealing it is undecided what candidate would be voted for, i.e. 2 out of 3 young people are undecided on which candidate they would vote for on local consistency.

Sponsorship for a Mental Health Campaigner - sponsorship for mental health campaign is available to attend a boot camp for campaigners. It takes place over a year involves training on how to run a big campaign. It will have an intensive one week which will be taking place on 7th-12th June 2015. Members didn't have a view on this, but may look into it further via the Health Focus Group.

What if 16 and 17 years could vote on 7th May? - Another piece of news is that the Government produced a comprehensive well argued report on voting at 16 which leads on from their campaign and doing something for local democracy. The youth vote is currently undecided.

The Duke of Gloucester's Volunteer Award - There are six award categories, as well as an overall winner who will be invited to their Gala Dinner at Kensington Palace on 7th July 2015. Applications will close on 30th April 2015.

Win a £40 Voucher - The British Youth Council is focusing on five issues in the lead up to the general election and a chance to win £40.

LiberTeas Event / Magna Carta – A series of events on Sunday 14th June are to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the sealing of the Magna Carta, acknowledged as being the beginning of democracy. The events entitled, LiberTeas are community based and could be through a street party, lecture or debate or a picnic in the park, event could be anything, as long as at 3pm there is a tea moment.

Dates of Future Project Teams & Focus Groups

Dates for each focus group and project team from May onwards need to be set.

- a) Local Democracy Focus Group – George highlighted the need to start working on the vote at 16 campaign, there is also the voter registration and political education to be spoken about. Efforts before the general elections to hold open debates/discussions may be addressed again. It could make more sense to meet after the elections, on a Monday or Tuesday. It is preferred to meet during May half term.
- b) Health Focus Group Report – James highlighted that the group need to meet with school nurses and in preparation we should get a summary of questions together. We will also need a meeting afterwards to feedback. This could take place the week before half term, so as a date can be set to meet with school nurses, maybe during the half term or soon after. We also need to meet with Facts4life and Healthwatch Gloucestershire. The Facts4life meeting and school nurses meeting are priorities.
- c) Employment & Training Focus Group – Ideally meet during in the half term break. We could have 2 focus group meetings on the same day with a break in the middle. It was suggested to do this on 18th May.
- d) Perspectives Photography Project Team – Mondays or Wednesdays are still good for everyone. Wednesday 6th May, or Tuesday 5th May.

Any Other Business

Youth Grant Funding Panel - It was noted that the panel would need to meet again very soon. A date would be fixed amongst relevant members.

Highlighting Leadership Team on Minutes - A while ago it was discussed whether principal members should be identified on the members list of the minutes to enable new members to know who led each Focus Group etc. The majority of members felt it should be changed, although they acknowledged it may make the listing more complicated and suggested a coding similar to that of Chair and Vice Chair.

Youth Friendly Doctor's Surgeries - members requested that this item be on the next agenda.

Representation from Rednock - Rednock School should have a representative in SDYC, all schools have the opportunity but some chose not to take it. A deputy head of the school will be spoken to in regards to getting a representative from the school onto SDYC. Members from Cam and Dursley Youth Forum are going to help this to happen.

Voting and Voter Registration (Cllr Miranda Clifton) – Cllr Clifton felt the youth council’s work on local democracy and voting was impressive. She added however that when canvassing door to door she was disappointed with the amount of people saying they are not going to vote. Although acknowledging that most of the youth council membership couldn’t vote, she asked members to encourage those old enough who had not yet registered, to do so and vote - they have got until midnight tonight to do so.

Cllr Clifton also highlighted that people tend to give a lot of reasons as to why they are not going to vote, the main one being that they do not know much about it. It was noted that although there are a lot of ways to find out information, people claim that if they don’t vote they can’t complain. Primary schools have had polling booths to help them understand the democratic process; they may see it but not understand it.

SDYC Facebook - At the training residential members discussed having a SDYC Facebook group for members only, to enable more open communication at a social level, not just at meetings. The idea was just that because we only see each other at meetings, by communicating on Facebook we could begin to communicate on a less formal, social level. Charlotte agreed to pursue this with Steve.

Date of the Next Meeting – Monday 18th May 2015 (Changed from 11th May)