



**NOTES OF THE MAIN MEETING ON:**

**Date : Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**Time : 16:30**

**Venue: Restaurant, Ebley Mill**

**YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:**

**VOTING MEMBERS**

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

**DEPUTY MEMBERS**

Noella Usborne ( <i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i> )	Ap
Nyima Trawally ( <i>Archway School</i> )	Ap
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	P
George Gooch	Ap

**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  
 Simon Gillings, CEO/Youth Worker, Youth and Community Services  
 Cllr Miranda Clifton, Stroud District Council  
 Cllr Steve Robinson, Stroud District Council

## Welcomes and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, with particular welcome to Cllr Miranda Clifton and Cllr Steve Robinson. Apologies for absence were noted and are listed on the membership register above.

## Minutes of the Last Meeting – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record. *Proposed by: Libby Powell; Seconded by: James Lauchlan.*

## Matters Arising

### **a) *Being You: Corinium Youth Radio - update. (Steve)***

Further to previous information presented at last meeting, Steve confirmed that no dates had been set for this as of yet, but there was a lot of interest in participation. Members agreed that Corinium Youth Radio should be invited to a future meeting to discuss the details.

### **b) *Visit to Stroud by British Council Vietnam (2<sup>nd</sup> December) Update. (Steve)***

Further information about this visit had been vague and the Vietnamese visitors plan to leave at 5pm, thus restricting the time available to interact with them. However they were very keen to speak to the youth council, for advice in setting up a youth parliament in Vietnam. From their time in London, they would have seen the national perspective, but the Stroud view would be a local perspective. The visitors are particularly keen to speak to the SDYC members and the District Council about the ongoing relationship with each other, how the voice of young people is heard and subsequently influences adult decision-making. It was agreed that an extension to their visit from 5pm to 8pm would enable a short event to take place at Ebley Mill. Further information would be sent to members – it would be a fairly informal event to try and get insight and share experiences. Cainscross Youth Forum may also be participating.

### **c) *Stroud Ambitions Event (11<sup>th</sup> November) – Report (Tom S)***

Tom S reported that he was joined at the event by Nyima and Ollie K, where by they spent time talking to employers about the Skills for Stroud Work Experience Charter, encouraging business's to sign up to it, if not done so already. They also had a conversation with the SDC Chief Executive Officer, David Hagg about work experience, the Council in general and the challenges with communicating with schools. David agreed to contact the Stroud Schools Partnership in an effort to gather head teachers together and see if they can help with the issues around work experience. He felt it would help if some of the youth council members were to be involved in this meeting.

## Correspondence

### ***Resignations***

Precious Kennedy-Haulton, the representative from Stroud High, has decided to stand down from her post. There will be re-elections from January onwards. Steve has sent an email to the schools lead tutor, Laura Arstall to highlight the emphasis on these elections in Jan/Feb.

### ***Clean for the Queen***

Stroud District Council (SDC) are encouraged to be part of national project to clean up the country towards the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 - the idea being that, Clean for the Queen is a litter blitz throughout January, February and March 2016. The 4-6<sup>th</sup> March is highlighted as focal dates where a lot of the main events for this project are to be taking place. This is an opportunity for SDYC to take part. Clean for Queen can also count towards volunteer work, particularly as some members may be too young to apply for certain volunteering jobs.

## Election of Chairperson

The following member had been nominated: *Charlotte Bignell, member for Stroud Town Youth Forum*  
*Proposed by: Libby Powell; Seconded by: Ollie Catchpole*

Libby highlighted Charlotte's amazing work carried out in the last year, helping with many changes and projects, showing excellent commitment, determination and leadership. She added that she is a hard worker with a passion for the role. Ollie added his comments and felt Charlotte should continue in the Chairpersons role.

Charlotte Bignell was elected as the Chairperson for the interim period, until the end of March.

### **Election of Vice Chairperson**

As there were no nominations in advance, the election for Vice Chairperson will now take place within the same process as that for the Principle Members during the next few weeks. The nominees will be confirmed at the next SDYC Main Meeting.

### **Election of Leader**

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

Tom highlighted that with Libby previously being Leader it is easy to witness many changes that she has helped make for the good of the youth council. She is a highly valued member who is very helpful, and has overseen our diverse range of work in her role, particularly that of constitutional changes made recently. Charlotte added that Libby was very supportive to her in the role as Chair and is very approachable when a second opinion is required on a matter. At a time of change Charlotte felt everybody was pleased to have Libby as Leader again.

Libby Powell was elected as the Leader for the interim period, until the end of March.

### **Election of Principle Members**

The nomination deadline was confirmed as, 8<sup>th</sup> December; this is also the case for nominations for Vice Chair. Nominations Forms will be sent out soon. The process will remain the same as it did for the Leader and Chairperson. Any voting member wishing to stand for election, should create their own manifesto, which is to be no longer than 100 words, they must also include a proposer and a seconder.

### **Election of Co-options**

There was a suggestion of co-opting the Vietnam Youth Parliament; however during discussion it was stated that they were only coming to Stroud once, so that would make it impossible for a co-option to be effective. However there was a definite chance of the two groups to keep in touch via Skype.

It was agreed that a co-option place would be offered to each of the following:

*Play Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire Young Carers, Gloucestershire Young Farmers, St Roses School and Allsorts*

### **SDYC Project Teams & Focus Groups for 2015/16 – further updates of group / team membership**

**Health Focus Group:** *Libby, Issy, Nyima, James Pain and Ollie King* – James Lauchlan wished to be added.

**Employment & Training Focus Group:** *Tom S, Nyima, Issy, Holly and Richard* – Ollie King and James Lauchlan wished to be added.

**Local Democracy Focus Group:** *Holly, Tom S, Charlotte, Richard, James Preece and Nyima* – Ollie King and James Lauchlan wished to be added.

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

#### ***Chalford Cubed Youth Forum***

The 'Party After Dark' event was generally a success but it could have gone better with more people attending. However because it was only the first attempt there were mixed opinions on it - some thought that it did form cohesion between the different groups, however others thought that the groups were segregated and kept to themselves. The review has suggested that future events of this kind may be slightly more formal - this could be in instances such as 'sit down' events. They may also a litter picking event at Frith Youth Centre soon.

#### ***Cainscross Youth Forum***

There has been a recruitment of new members and the introduction of a new youth worker. In February there is a community based event taking place at the Community Centre – it was going to happen just before Christmas however decided it may be too little time to make it a success. Ollie has visited the Cashes Green Youth Club and has been successful in arranging dates for outreach work with youth forum members.

#### ***Archway School***

Money raising events have been taking part for Children in Need.

### ***Maidenhill School***

A total of £250 was raised for Children in Need this year. Students were able to wear a novelty tie in replace of their normal school tie. They have also been given a £500 budget from the head teacher for opportunities for the school, e.g. new chairs in the colour black to match the uniform. Ollie K has met with the head teacher regarding work experience programming – the issues of concerned, involve funding a member of staff to do health and safety requirements.

### ***Stroud High School***

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is now on offer for year 9 and above, however one issue is that some of the year 9's are not old enough for the volunteer work, e.g. shops cannot allow them to work there due to insurance reasons – this relates to aforementioned Clean for the Queen project. French exchange students have just arrived back. There has been a venue idea for the sixth form Snowball, it may be held at Pittsville Pump Rooms.

### ***Marling School***

Alex reported that he had recently been elected as the rep' for SDYC as a replacement for George Gooch who recently retired. A by-election would be encouraged for the remaining vacant representative roles.

## **Reports from Project Teams and Focus Groups**

### ***Local Democracy FG meeting on 29 September 2015***

*Local Democracy Consultation Report* – members were asked to note, that a final draft copy had been recently circulated to members for comment. Once finalised, it is likely to be presented to various bodies, inc. SDC, LSP, Schools Partnership and the Lords adopted by SDYC.

*Structure of SDYC Meetings* – the group discussed how the main meetings operated and principally how group cohesion could evolve with new members being included. Recommendations were;

- Trial a restructure of the agenda, with view to increasing discussion
- Implement a mentoring system whereby experienced members sit alongside new members, with view to increasing confidence and active involvement
- Communication to and from members
- More time for guest speaker section to allow for small group discussion
- Representation to SDC Council – however it was noted that the Chair, Vice Chair or Leader have the remit for this

It was agreed that the Leadership Team would consider these points at their first series of meetings in 2016.

### ***Employment and Training FG meetings on 12 October & 2 November 2015***

*Stroud Ambitions Event* – members were asked to note, that thorough preparations were made ahead of SDYC attending this event on 11 November. For report see Matters Arising agenda item above.

*Skills for Stroud* – members were asked to note, that to develop the relationship with SDC regarding their Work Experience Charter, Fiona Hammond (SDC Learning Development Officer) would be invited to future meetings.

*Visits to Bristol City Youth Council (BCYC)* – members were asked to note, that some members visited BCYC at their Campaigns Meeting on 2 November. The differences between the two youth councils were discussed e.g. the structure of the council and the similarities and differences in member roles. The SDYC delegation also met with the Bristol Youth Mayors to discuss 'work experience' as a common issue of concern. Their young mayors explained they are planning to have a hub in Bristol for people to go to for careers advice. SDYC members also observed BCYC's meeting with the City Councillors. A second visit to BCYC, took place on 18<sup>th</sup> November, whereby Tom S and Nyima attended and observed their Main Meeting – again similarities and differences were noted, in particular the aspect that members don't represent 'groups' in their communities, but more so geographical areas. Elections to BCYC are done through a formal democratic system. Links with BCYC would continue.

## **Any Other Business**

### ***SDYC 15 Year Anniversary***

Alex L-V highlighted that discussion a year ago on celebrating the SDYC 15 Year Anniversary had not come to fruition and asked if members felt the milestone should be acknowledged. Comments were made about how long it took to organise the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and that by the time plans are made, it will most probably be the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary, i.e. March 2016. Some ideas shared included; celebratory posters, a small group event, connection with past members.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at Museum in the Park, Stroud