



## NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

21.04.2008

**Venue:** Stroud Youth Centre

### YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

#### **VOTING MEMBERS**

Rose Horton, Stroud High\*\*  
 Natalie Smith, Archway  
 Freddie Whittaker, Archway  
 Thomas Lydon, Marling\*  
 Rob Price, Marling  
 Meg Brown, Wotton YC  
 Alex Jones, Cam & Dursley YF  
 Emma Mears, Cam & Dursley YF  
 Ellie Cairns, Thomas Keble  
 Liam Baker, Thomas Keble  
 El Linsell, Stroud High  
 Matt Stump, Berkeley Vale Youth Project  
 Luke Smith, Berkeley Vale Youth Project  
 Harriet Dudbridge, Katharine Lady Berkeley's  
 Hilary Dixon, Katharine Lady Berkeley's  
 Toby Gardener, Stonehouse Youth Forum  
 Matt Hellier, Stonehouse Youth Forum

#### **DEPUTY MEMBERS**

Rebecca Redding, Thomas Keble  
 Cameron Patterson, Thomas Keble  
 Kieran Nurdin, Archway  
 Beth Townsend, Archway  
 Rosemary Dickinson, Stroud High  
 Sophie Coleman, Berkeley Vale Youth Project  
 Jessica Howell, Cam & Dursley YF  
 Rebekah Batting, Cam & Dursley YF  
 Sian Ainsworth, Katharine Lady Berkeley's  
 Henry Guy, Katharine Lady Berkeley's

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

#### **EX-OFFICIO**

Ap	Anna Pearson, Stroud College	A
A	Gordon Pritchard, Nailsworth YC	A
P	Mike Green, Nailsworth YC	A
P	Owen Wichard, Stroud College	A
P	Emily Thomas, Stroud High	A
A	Danielle Russell, Minchinhampton YC	A
Ap	Rhian Davies, KLB	A
Ap	James Austin, KLB	A
P	Erfan Fadaei, Marling	A
P	Amy Barker, Wotton YC	A
P	Tinake Van Ginkel, Stroud College	A
P	Ashley Skuse, Wotton YC	A

#### **CO-OPTIONS**

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Steve Miles, Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer, SDC  
 Sinead Chambers, Business Support Assistant, SDC  
 Cllr Linda Townley

## Youth Council Minutes

### Welcome & Apologies for absence

The Vice Chair welcomed members to Stroud Youth Centre and our guest Cllr Linda Townley. Apologies were received from Alex Jones, Emma Mears, Becky Batting, Harriet Dudbridge, Sian Ainsworth, Henry Guy, Rose Horton, Luke Smith, Cameron Patterson and Cllr. John Jeffreys.

### Matters arising

- *Meeting with Cam and Dursley Youth Forum – future of Dursley Youth Centre*  
Members agreed that they still wanted to support Cam & Dursley Youth Forum's work on the relocation of Dursley Youth Centre but most members were unable to commit themselves as exams are due to start soon. Liam agreed that he would go to the meeting when it has been arranged, to discuss how SDYC can help. It was noted that Alex and Emma would probably be carrying out their respective triple role as members of CDYF & SDYC in addition to their Youth Cabinet positions.
- *SDYC Involvement in SDC Scrutiny Process*  
Cllr Linda Townley was welcomed to the meeting and gave an incite to the work of SDC's Scrutiny process and committee's. Whilst she recognised the benefits and importance of involving SDYC members she added that it wasn't an easy task to undertake. However she suggested that the forthcoming review of the Leisure Services could be a good place for SDYC members to begin such involvement. How best SDYC members can engage, will be discussed by relevant SDC officers and Scrutiny members in due course. Hilary, Rosie, Liam and Ellie all expressed an interest in being part of this opportunity.
- *SDYC relationship with UK Youth Parliament*  
At the last meeting it was suggested that SDYC should consider co-opting members from UKYP. Members generally thought that this was a good idea as both youth groups were tackling the same current issues (namely transport and cost of bus fares) and represent the same age range; however some reservations were expressed how effective this would be in light of the broad commitments of UKYP members as highlighted by them at the last meeting. It was agreed that the Youth Cabinet would assess the feasibility of making the relationship more formal.
- *Bus Fares issue and involvement with UKYP*  
Members had previously decided to form a group to tackle this issue long term, but Freddie informed the meeting he was no longer able to be part of it due to a conflict of interest. Rosie expressed a wish to be on this group. A meeting will be arranged when members are available. It was agreed any work with UKYP in this issue would be subject to the outcomes highlighted in the previous agenda item.
- *Hear by Right adoption – feedback from SDC Council meeting Thursday 17 April*  
SDYC members were in attendance for the first time ever; Ellie, Liam, Emma, Jess and Freddie went along with Steve. Members thought that the meeting went well with Jess and Emma giving a verbal overview of current work being done by SDYC. Cllr. John Jeffreys presented the proposal to adopt the Hear by Right concept and the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child – this was voted upon and was passed unanimously by the adult members. Steve thanked members for attending and supporting the Hear by Right adoption, explaining that this was an historical moment for SDYC and the active involvement of children and young people in Stroud district. Steve added that he was hoping to coordinate another HBR mapping and planning event before the summer and

highlighted that this decision would allow greater involvement of members in the work of SDC to develop in the future.

### **Correspondence**

- *Keep it clean* – SDC Caretakers at Ebley Mill have asked members to try to keep the Council Chamber clean and tidy ready for the next meeting. This was with respect to the last meeting in the chamber being left with food and paperwork on tables and the floor.
- *Planet Art* – Steve gave a brief outline to a forthcoming event taking place in Stroud town centre during August and September this year as part of the National Year of Literacy. Planet Arts intend to produce a show entitled '*I don't speak Spanish*' and invite groups to be part of it. The show promises to be part of the Cultural Olympia's *Engage & Inspire* programme launch. Members felt there was not enough details information to make a judgement on this opportunity.
- *Cotswold Canal Update – Bridge to Bridge* – The next meeting regarding this project will be on the 19 May. Alex, Nat and El would be attending.

### **Members Training & Team building events – feedback**

Whilst only 9 members went to South Cerney Outdoor Education Centre for the team building event on 9 April, they reported that they had a great time and got to know each other a lot more thus enabling the skills of working as a team and the solving of problems etc to be enhanced. It was noted that members commitments in relation to studying for exams and family holidays was the main reasons that a greater attendance was not experienced.

### **Updates from Schools and Local Youth Forums**

*Thomas Keble* – Liam asked when the display boards were going out to all schools and youth clubs as his school have previously said they were interested in having one. Steve said that it was all go and they just have to buy the boards.

*Stroud High School* – Rosie reported that Stroud High is introducing a Motivation System where if you do good work you will get a ticket and at the end of the month you will get a prize.

*Berkeley Vale Youth Project* – Matt announced that they now have 'a big tent', the purpose of which was yet to be found out!

*Katharine Lady Berkeley School* – Hilary informed members they now have a 'Talk in confidence' group at KLB.

*Marling School* – Tom asked about the relationship between SDYC and Marling/SHS combined Downfield Sixth Form. It was explained that no formal relationship existed between them, it was noted that whilst Stroud High ensured that a member of the combined Sixth Form Council also sat on the SH School Council there was no evidence of Marling doing the same – therefore excluding male members from Downfield from being represented on SDYC. Steve explained that this was not desirable and needed to be rectified before the September/October elections.

*Nailsworth Youth Forum* – Steve highlighted that progress on forming this local youth forum was going well and the group would be undertaking a team building event in the next week. It was hoped representation to SDYC would be in place by the end of the summer.

### **Youth Cabinet Report**

Last year we gave money to Ark House housing scheme in Stroud for youths aged between 16-25. For various reasons they have not managed to spend the money and have other ideas in which to do so. They have asked the Youth Council if it is possible to spend the money on something's that were not listed in their application. Steve has met with the management of Ark House to discuss the issues and received a breakdown of their new proposal; it is similar activities to the original application with a far sustainable purpose. Freddie proposed on behalf of the Youth Cabinet that they give Ark House one month from notification to start spending the money or they must give it back. El seconded, and the motion passed.

### **Stroud Night Bus Report**

Alex and Emma were absent, so no report was given.

### **Stroud Fringe Festival**

Freddie reported that the Sub Rooms will be holding the 'Kids Fringe' and holding events such as 'Battle of the Bands' etc. If you want to work at the Fringe Festival then you must go on to their website and download the form and send it back.

### **Any Other Business**

#### *Anti-bullying DVD & Workshop –*

Steve informed members that an Anti-Bullying DVD and workshop was being produced in a joint venture between young people from Stroud and Stroud Rural Peer Education Project. This is being done on the back of the broad issues on bullying and hate crime among young people, as featured in many discussions and debates during last years SDYC meetings. He added that it was likely that SDYC would be asked to endorse this venture and could have the opportunity to be involved post production.

**Date of the next meeting** – Monday 12 May 2008 @ Stroud Youth Centre