



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

23.06.2008

Venue: Council Chamber, Ebley Mill

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

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

DEPUTY MEMBERS

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

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

EX-OFFICIO

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

CO-OPTIONS

OTHERS PRESENT

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

Youth Council Minutes

Welcome & Apologies for absence

The Vice Chair welcomed members to the Council Chamber at Ebley Mill. Apologies were received from Luke Smith, Sophie Coleman, Matt Stump, Cllr. John Jeffreys.

Matters arising

a) *Watersplash 2008*

The SDYC team was Rob, Jess, Ellie and Rosie – they had a fun and enjoyable day and helped win the dragon boat race for the district - the trophy is going to be held at Stroud Youth Centre.

b) *Stroud Sustainable Community Strategy Event*

Steve gave out a copy of the strategy for 2008 – 2028. It is a sizeable document. An event regarding this, co-ordinated by SDC on behalf of the District LSP, was supposed to happen on the 23rd June but was postponed until October.

SDYC is represented on the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) by the chair and youth cabinet leader. The LSP want to consult with young people about the strategy for a sustainable community across the whole Stroud district.

Steve explained that to enable the LSP to effectively communicate and consult with young people they have to involve them right from the beginning - it was suggested that the youth council could be a part of the design team of that event.

Tom attended the last LSP meeting a few weeks ago where it was claimed the LSP had contacted SDYC earlier in this year regarding their input, members felt this hadn't taken place but agreed it would be something that the youth council would like to get involved in.

Steve asked for comments on the strategy document. Feedback included; 'Members needing more time to view and understand the document' and 'why put something in place for such a long period of time when things are changing so fast around us?'. However it was highlighted that as it is a strategy, it can be reviewed and not something that is set in place.

Rob, El, Rosie and Tom agreed to sit down and look through the document. Steve would communicate with SDC officers working with the LSP with view to facilitating SDYC member's involvement.

c) *Visit to Ark House*

The visit will be on the 7th July at 4pm but Ark House has suggested an age restriction on under 16's. There are a number of risk assessments that Steve has to do with the policies that they have in place. Steve will check this out to enable under 16's to go as well. Rosie, Ellie, Hilary, Liam and Jess are interested in visiting Ark House.

d) *Primary School Forum*

Rosie reported that the event went very well and students were made to feel very welcome. Students from seven primary schools attended and gave a presentation on what they were doing to help the environment. They had all done lots of work and it was very impressive. Initiatives ranged from one school weighing the amount of rubbish that they had been saving from going to landfill, to fundraising, using recycle bins in the school etc. Rosie attended and helped Steve facilitate the event session.

Correspondence

a) *Youth Theatre Project – Dramarama and Woodchester Mansion*

Steve has recently met with a person that is delivering a youth theatre project called Dramarama. There are just 2 members of staff involved with this project based at

Woodchester Mansion. They are looking to put together a project for 11-18 year olds, there are about 25 in the group and are currently looking into the project and seeing how it can run, how it can involve young people and how the participation of young people can take place. Steve wasn't sure where this fitted in with Stroud District Youth Council; however it is important for members to know about it as they are applying for a large amount of money from the Heritage Lottery Fund potentially making it a massive project. They may be applying to the Youth Initiative Fund but they are also looking to set up a youth arts forum as a spin off from this group. There is also a direct link to The Space art centre in Stroud from this project.

b) *Kick Racism Out Of Football – Campaign event*

The campaign is about kicking racism out of football and issue related to racism. It is a campaign that has been going on for quite a few years. In terms of bringing it locally and linking up with Forest Green Rovers FC, the idea is that it is centred on the whole Hate Crime issue. There are some initial plans that have been put to together to run an event between the 16th – 28th October. The campaign will coincide with a match day event at Forest Green Rovers and there are a number of people who have said they will support it.

The ideas that are kicking around at the moment is based on a discussion or debate between various people (including young people) that will be put out on BBC Radio Gloucestershire throughout the week leading up to the main event itself. SDYC members have been invited to be a part of this. It hasn't been confirmed exactly how it's going work.

Members asked how the organisers want the youth council to be involved. Steve explained that they probably want to pre record sound bites to go out on the radio and maybe hold a live broadcast debate at the weekend, or even attend at the match day itself. BBC Radio Gloucestershire are involved because it is more of a county wide campaign and if SDYC supported this, it would be about keeping things as locally as possible to make as much impact whilst linking in with the county resources.

Members agreed this was something SDYC should be involved with. Liam expressed a keen desire to lead on this.

c) *Chlamydia Screening Programme*

Steve has met with the County Chlamydia Screening Officer, Lorna Griffiths. She is delivering a programme across the county with fellow health members of staff. She would like to come and talk to the youth council about Chlamydia. Whilst Chlamydia is a sexually transmitted infection, it is curable. Lorna would like to come in and do a presentation on the programme and would welcome input from young people on how the approaches could be received by young people. It was highlighted that the actual screening programme would not be something members would be asked to be involved in.

d) *Rotary Club – Stonehouse*

The Rotary Club in Stonehouse have sent an invitation to the youth council to attend their members at a meeting/dinner as guest speakers. Steve agreed to ask what the rotary club are about and what they are expecting from SDYC members if the invitation was accepted.

e) *Climate Change Panel Event – 25th June*

The all day event takes place at Egypt Mill in Nailsworth. El, Hilary and Alex agreed to attend.

Updates from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums

Katharine Lady Berkeleys – Hilary – The whole school has an online learning programme that you can access at anytime through any computer. Hilary asked if it was possible if they could have the minutes of our meetings put onto their website so students can access them any time. Steve recommended that a link to the SDYC website was set up.

Thomas Keble – Liam – The Science module test and subsequent lesson was an hour and a quarter long! Secondly, Stroud Fringe Festival as part of the schools Art Project has been creating flags which will be hung up at our Thomas Keble stand. The flags have been made out of industrial waste.

Bi -Election of SDYC Officers

a) Acting Chair or Chair and Vice Chair

EI proposed that Tom stay as the Acting Chair until the October Annual General meeting, Freddie seconded it.

b) Youth Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion

Hilary proposed Rosie for the youth cabinet member for Community Cohesion and Freddie seconded. No other nominations were received. Rosie was elected.

c) Youth Cabinet Leader

EI proposed that we postpone the election of Youth Cabinet Leader until the next meeting as there was no nominations, Hilary seconded.

Youth Cabinet Report

We have received 3 youth initiative applications which will be reviewed at the next meeting on the 7th July.

Stroud Fringe Festival – Update

Freddie reported that the planning is going very well and they are currently doing fundraising as Stroud District Youth Council is (at the moment) still the only organisation to pledge money. Freddie asked for members to spread the word about still needing applications in for bands to perform. The deadline is 30th June. Anyone wishing to help out over the weekend please come forward. The dates are the 12th, 13th and 14th of September.

Litter Recycling Pilot project – Update

The bins are currently being graphically designed and then they will be ordered in the spec that has already been decided. What is important is that the project team meets to assess progress. The team is led by EI, Tom and Rob, Steve asked if anybody else wanted to come on board and help with the promotion. Tom was told at the last LSP meeting by a member of the Federation of Small Businesses that there are a number of recycling bins available from Cotswold District Council free for good use.

Any other business

Youth Opportunity Fund Application

Harriett stated that we have applied for some money from the Youth Opportunity Fund to pay for the training residential; the outcome from the Youth Panel would be known soon.

Steve has drafted a budget totalling £8-9,000 for the whole programme. This is for two residentials and it is for the year starting October 2008. It is really important that we do get this as without it, members training will be difficult to deliver. Alex and Jess are representatives from SDYC on the YOF Panel.

Two Year membership

Tom reminded members about the discussion the group had on the two year membership, Tom asked if this is going to be implemented this year and when are we going to decide about going about it? Steve agreed to draft a document on how things can move forward. It will have to be proposed at the next annual general meeting which takes place at the end of the autumn training residential. The meeting at the end of July will be when proposals should be put forward.

Freddie's farewell

Freddie reminded members that it was his last meeting as he will be pursuing a career in journalism. Tom on behalf of the youth council thanked Freddie for his 4 years of hard work and loyal service.

Date of the next meeting – Monday 14th June 2008, at Stroud Youth Centre.