



NOTES OF A MEETING HELD ON

10.03.2008

Venue: Museum in the Park, Stratford Park

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 Nurdning, 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

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|----|-------------------------------------|---|
| Ap | Anna Pearson, Stroud College | A |
| Ap | Gordon Pritchard, Nailsworth YC | A |
| Ap | Mike Green, Nailsworth YC | A |
| P | Owen Wichard, Stroud College | A |
| P | Emily Thomas, Stroud High | A |
| A | Danielle Russell, Minchinhampton YC | A |
| P | Rhian Davies, KLB | A |
| P | 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
 Danny James, Senior Youth Worker, GCC Youth Service
 Kevin Ward, Museum Development manager, SDC
 Phillip Douch, Museum in Park Trust

Youth Council Minutes

Welcome & Apologies for absence

The Vice Chair welcomed members to the Museum in the Park and our guests Kevin Ward and Phillip Douch to our meeting. Apologies were received from Freddie Whittaker, Rose Horton, Nat Smith, Luke Smith, Becky Batting, Phil Sullivan and Cllr. John Jefferys.

Redevelopment of the Walled Garden – Kevin Ward and Phillip Douch

Kevin has been working at the museum since 2001 and since then there has been numerous reports on Stratford Park as a whole and they have been looking for short and long term partners to help and support them with the walled garden project. Archaeological research shows that the garden dates back to the 17th century and it was used as a practical garden growing fruit and vegetables.

Phillip explained to members that they are planning to transform the derelict walled garden adjoining the museum in Stratford Park into an outdoor nature-based inclusive play space. They will run free play sessions for families with children of all ages, initially during weekends and school holidays. At designated times parents will also have the facility to leave their children (probable target ages 8-13) with sufficient qualified play workers and volunteers, trained to include and assist children of all abilities.

They plan at least 200 free play sessions per year – not in a 'playground' with shiny metal structures but in a safe and beautifully walled area with trees, plants, logs, undergrowth, paths, water, hay bales, and lots of bits and pieces to move about and make things with. The design of the space will mean that it really is a place for all children – disabled as well as non-disabled. There will be accessible toilet facilities available.

Volunteers, children and families will help in extending our initial ideas and in clearing, preparing and maintaining the space. They will incorporate links to some of the museums exhibits, with beautiful areas for rest and quiet as well as wilder areas for getting messy - splashing, digging, den building and exploring, with other children re-shaping and re-creating elements of their own space. The detailed design decisions will be made after funding is secured and following consultation with play experts – including local disabled and non-disabled children.

The space will be ever-evolving, responding to new ideas suggested by those who come to use it – a truly inclusive community resource for all children and their families.

Members visited the site and discussed initial ideas etc.

Feedback from members -

- Good ideas as children in towns don't get to do things and it would bring the countryside to them
- Health and safety aspects
- Good, lots of different ages coming in to help, support and develop the garden
- Why develop the walled garden when there is a park at Stratford park and you could just build a barrier around that
- Good as it will bring disabled and non-disabled people together
- Good age group to look at as they are generally ignored

- Is the time schedule suitable as there is a lot to be done – *hopefully members of the public will get excited about the project and they will have lots of people to help them clear the garden. They made the schedule tight so that the project wouldn't drag on.*
- Once the Stroud Youth Forum was up and running perhaps they should be asked for there input...

Matters arising from the minutes

- *Bus Fares – Student Concessions* – Members agreed that prices were too high in general and need to be cut. It was agreed a challenge to Stagecoach and the County Council over transport fees should be made. A working group/project team of members was formed to focus on this issue – Jess, El, Emma, Hilary, Ellie, Rob, Harriet, Rosie to meet and present at the next meeting.
- *Great Gloucestershire Tree Party* – Due to unforeseen circumstances regarding transport and prior commitments, this was unable to take place.
- *Germany Exchange* – Steve had met with fellow youth work colleagues from the GCC Youth Service to discuss in more detail the feasibility of doing an exchange with a young people's group from Germany. Whilst this exchange is still a possibility, some issues around resources and staff time commitment, still need to be resolved.
- *Feedback from Shelter Homelessness Presentation* – At the last meeting the group expressed their interest in having Chris and Marmeena come back and give a day's workshop to the group or include the day in the training residential – this was noted and a suitable time would be found for this to happen.
- *YOF/YCF Celebration Evening – 18 March 2008* – this event was cancelled by the organisers, GCC Youth Service.
- *Canal Restoration Project – Bridge to Bridge Project* – There was no update on this project.
- *Members training* – Steve to look at the Easter Holidays for a provisional training residential and would communicate to members ASAP. A breakdown of who could attend and when was carried out.

Correspondence

It was confirmed that the UK Youth Parliament members for Stroud & Cotswolds would attend the next meeting to give a presentation on their work.

Stroud Fringe Festival

No members from this group were present to give an update.

Litter Recycling Pilot Project - update

Two companies (Broxap and Glasdon) had visited the project team and gave presentations/demonstrations on their products being offered, costings would be sought in detail but it had been felt that the steel construction bin offered by Broxap was more favoured against the plastic bin from Glasdon – a final decision would be made at the next project meeting on Thursday 12 March.

The Highways Agency was being consulted over size of bins and for authorisation on chosen sites.

Campaign slogans had been drafted and the following slogans were voted upon;

Slogan A = 'Recycling...not just a load of rubbish!'

And

Slogan B = 'Recycle now...don't throw away your future!'

Slogan A was voted in favour, by a close majority.

The intended recycling campaign had been discussed in more detail and it was suggested that members T shirts would be produced to complement a 'road show style' activity that visited the schools, colleges and youth groups in the Stroud area. T-Shirts will have various facts on them, about recycling and waste and would include the new slogan.

Stroud Night Bus Report

Following the recent successful re-launch of the Stroud Night Bus it was agreed that SDYC could undertake promotional work in the areas now being served. Tom, Liam, El, Becky, Ellie and Rosie agreed to do this and would await promotional material and further direction.

Youth Cabinet Report

- *Share to Buy* – A proposal had been forwarded from The Graduate Network, seeking the interest of SDYC on this mortgage lending scheme aimed at young people and first time buyers in the housing market. The Youth Cabinet will be looking at this in more detail at their extended meeting in mid April.
- *Shadowing* – The Youth Cabinet are to shadow the adult cabinet and heads of service during the Easter/Spring Holidays.
- *Gloucestershire Youth Offer* – it was again highlighted that the Youth Cabinet would be assessing the recent county Youth Offer as requested by the Area Children & Young Peoples Stakeholders Group under the direction of the Gloucestershire Children & Young Peoples Directorate. This will take place at the extended meeting in mid April.

Hear by Right Group – adoption update

This Thursday 13 March the Hear by Right proposal will be put forward to the adult cabinet and presented by Cllr John Jeffery's as Cabinet member for Health & Wellbeing (and Children & Young People). SDYC members are welcome to attend.

Updates from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums

Stroud High School – El reported that they will hopefully have their 4th representative to SDYC in place in the near future.

Cam & Dursley Youth Forum – Alex reported that the forum will be receiving a local ward in recognition for their input and hard work over the last year; this will be made by Dursley Town Council.

A meeting about the future of Dursley Youth Centre is being held soon as the building is being knocked down so that a new supermarket can be built. Extensive discussion was had on this and it

was agreed that a joint meeting would be held with SDYC to seek how the two groups could work together on this issue.

The local Gazette had called Emma recently to ask her views on the situation.

Katherine Lady Berkeleys – Hilary reported that the school council have their own email address now so any queries can go straight to them.

Any other business

There was no further business

Date of the next meeting – Monday 10 March 2008 @ Museum in the Park, Stratford Park