



NOTES OF THE MAIN MEETING ON:

Date : Monday 5th June 2017

Time : 16:30

Venue: SGS College, Stroud Campus, 4:30pm

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

VOTING MEMBERS

Noella Osborne (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>)	A
Tom Schaffner (<i>Chalford Cubed Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Nyima Trawally (<i>Archway School</i>)	A
Helen March (<i>Archway School</i>)	Ap
Alexandra Parker (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	Ap
Lauren Davies (<i>Stroud High School</i>)	AP
Alex Lin-Vines (<i>Marling School</i>)	P
Isabelle Llewellyn (HWB) (<i>Thomas Keble School</i>)	Ap
George Adamson (L) (<i>Berkeley Vale Youth Forum</i>)	P
Amy Jones (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	Ap
Jonty Fuller (<i>Katharine Lady Berkeley School</i>)	AP
Oli King (<i>Cainscross Youth Forum</i>)	P
Rebecca Hunt** (<i>Cainscross Youth Forum</i>)	P
George Sutton (<i>Maidenhill School</i>)	P
Tom Haynes (<i>Rednock School</i>)	P
Tom Wickham-Basset (<i>Stroud Town & Five Valleys YF</i>)	P
Millie Radford (<i>Stroud Town & Five Valleys YF</i>)	Ap
Holly Hughes (<i>Wotton Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Luna Stephens (<i>Wotton Youth Forum</i>)	Ap

DEPUTY MEMBERS

Tyler Needham (<i>Maidenhill School</i>)	Ap
Wilbur Radford (<i>Stroud Town & Five Valleys YF</i>)	Ap
Lily Haines (<i>Stroud Town & Five Valleys YF</i>)	P
Claire Gee (<i>Cainscross Youth Forum</i>)	A
Evie Bennett-Stone (<i>Wotton Youth Forum</i>)	Ap
Anna Rogers (<i>Wotton Youth Forum</i>)	Ap

EX-OFFICIO

Libby Powell	A
Charlotte Bignall	A

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, Stroud District Council
Cath Warren, Youth Participation Contractor, Participation People

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair gave a special welcome to Cath Warren from Participation People. Apologies are listed on the record above.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 24th April 2017

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record. *Proposed by Oli King; Seconded by: George Sutton.*

3. Matters Arising

- a) **Elections of Co-options** – Discussion was had on how the co-opted roles works and what organisations could potentially provide co-opted members to SDYC. It was agreed that members would forward suggestions to the Leadership Team to subsequently approach, ahead of any formal nomination.
- b) **United Nations Presentation on trip to New York** – It was confirmed that Rebecca and Lauren would give a presentation on their trip to the United Nations in New York at the 26th June meeting.

4. Correspondence

Facts4Life Project

Following recent communication with Facts4Life Project regarding their postponed presentation in January, it was agreed to invite them to either 26th June or 24th July Main Meetings.

5. Presentation of Members Service Awards

Members due to receive these awards were not present at meeting – this item to be add to next meeting agenda.

6. SDYC Election Results

Online elections recently took place via the Mi-Vote portal and the following results were announced;

- a) **Vice Chairperson** - Tom Wickham-Bassett

Tom was congratulated having gained 76.9% of the votes, with 13 voting members taking part in the contest. Nominations will be re-invited for the remaining positions ahead of the next meeting, whereby a similar process will be undertaken via the portal.

7. SDYC Project Teams & Focus Groups for 2017/18

The Mi-Vote portal was also used to enable members to sign up to the various project teams and focus groups, ahead of the meeting. The results were as follows;

Health Focus Group: Issy Llewellyn; Helen March; Rebecca Hunt; Lily Haines; Jonty Fuller; Amy Jones; Oli King

Employment & Training Focus Group: Oli King

Local Democracy Focus Group: George Adamson; Helen March; Oli King; Jonty Fuller; Lauren Davies; Rebecca Hunt; Thomas Haynes; George Sutton

Curriculum for Life Project Team: Helen March; Issy Llewellyn; Amy Jones; Holly Hughes; Lauren Davies; Rebecca Hunt; George Sutton; Thomas Haynes; Lily Haines

The previously agreed list of key projects and issues were outlined in more detail, as follows;

Young People's Health & Wellbeing

The following to be undertaken by the Health Focus Group;

- Maintaining a relationship with the NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, particularly with regards to mental health and emotional wellbeing issues.
- Developing a relationship with local GP (Doctors) Surgeries to help improve their services.

- Find ways to help improve sexual health services.
- Find ways to help improve school nursing.

Young People and Local Democracy

The following to be undertaken by the Local Democracy Focus Group;

- Further develop the Adopt-a-Lord initiative, to increase awareness of our local projects with House of Lord members.
- Develop a relationship with SDC Electoral Services to help increase local 'Voter Registration'.

Employment and Training

The following to be undertaken by the Employment and Training Focus Group;

- Helping to promote the Skills for Stroud Employability Charter to local organisations which provide work experience programmes for young people.
- Individual members to consider being trained as an 'Assessor' for the Charter.

Curriculum for Life

The following to be undertaken by the Curriculum for Life Project Team;

- Participating in the creation of a promotional video to encourage greater awareness of democracy and voting in local and national elections.
- Develop a campaign to encourage schools to teach PSHE curriculum based subjects.

Other Issues and Initiatives

- Increased support from SDYC for LYF's projects and recruitment from LYF's – connecting issues with representatives role (LYF to SDYC & vice versa)
- Young People's input into SDC procurement process for next contractor
- Create youth grant giving panel
- Young Drivers course to be offered to SDYC & LYF members
- Increased social media activity and website development
- Be consulted on future of Stroud Sub Rooms (inc input from Stroud Town & Five Valleys YF)
- Representing SDYC on Neighborhood Watch Association
- Mental Health First Aid training to be offered to all SDYC members

8. British Youth Council (BYC) Report

BYC Governance

BYC have been reviewing their approach to governance. Thanks to all who participated in the consultation on their proposals. A document from the Board of Trustees explains the changes that are being made, which is available on their website www.byc.org.uk

Youth Select Committee calls for evidence on Body Image

BYC's Youth Select Committee has announced a new inquiry into body image. The committee is calling for evidence from a wide range of witnesses, including organizations and interested parties, as well as young people who have been affected by body image issues. Now in its sixth year the committee will look at issues including:

- Does the government have responsibility to discourage the use of social media, the internet and communication platforms in ways in which promote poor body image? What should it be doing this regard?
- Do internet companies, social media platforms or other platforms have a responsibility to tackle trends which entrench poor body image? What are they doing in this area? What more should they be doing it?
- Are particular groups of young people doing particularly prone to poor body image, or less likely to seek help? What causes these trends?
- To what extent is dissatisfaction with body image contributing to the increase in Mental Health problems amongst children and young people?

The committee's call for evidence closes on 16th June 2017. SDYC members agreed that Cainscross Youth Forum should be encouraged to submit information regarding their mental health project.

Young peoples vision for a better country

BYC have launched 'Our Vision, Our Parliament', a manifesto which outlines their vision for the next parliament. It sets out the six priorities that they want the next government to address, including:

Young people want the voting age to be lowered to 16; mental health services for young people to be improved; the

introduction of a real living wage for everyone; the restoration of funding for youth services; first aid taught in schools; and the opportunity to actively participate and meaningfully engage in the brexit negotiations.

SDYC members were informed of this information via BYC website.

British Youth Council rejects Government response on votes at 16

The UK Government has confirmed they have no plans to introduce a lowering voting age of 16 for the general election which will take place on Thursday 8TH June 2017. BYC are disappointed to learn that yet again 1.5 million 16 and 17 year olds will be denied a vote.

9. Updates from Schools, Colleges and Local Youth Forums

Stroud Town & Five Valleys YF – A Presentation to Stroud Town Council on their ‘Day In The Life Of A Teen’ Event in July is being planned. They are also considering their next project.

Archway School – The School Governors have approached the Student Council to ask for their involvement with reviewing safeguarding policies – this was deemed very positive. Some students visited GCHQ in Cheltenham to receive an award.

Stroud High School – Preparations are under way for Green Flag award. Students have spoken to the Caretakers about ‘bike racks’. It was suggested that Access Bike may be able to support any such issues with parking bikes etc.

Rednock School – The recent press coverage regarding bullying and self harm at the school was discussed. It was reported that various conflicting views had been expressed by students, parents and the school management. It was noted that self harm had been an issue that Cam and Dursley Youth Forum had done a campaign on a few years ago in the hope that the school and community in general would become more aware of the issue. Members felt that SDYC should try and do something to advocate on behalf of students / young people in the local area – it was agreed that further discussion would be had at the next main meeting.

Cam and Dursley YF – An exciting project is emerging with Dursley Library, whereby £1000 has been dedicated to renewing resources with the help of CDYF, following some consultative work recently.

Maidenhill School – The annual Japanese exchange is underway. The reliability and general condition of school buses has been raised as a concern, with a particular impact on exams. Vandalism has been presented by students as an issue following recent activities and damaged caused to the value of £10,000. It was also noted that the recent press coverage on school staffing was incorrect.

Cainscross YF – There has been some recent filming done for the youth forum’s mental health project. Further ideas noted were to capture SDC’s Leader (Cllr Steve Lydon) and Chief Executive (David Hagg).

Berkeley Vale YF – It was reported that the forum was making enquiries about the potential of holding an event at Berkeley Castle. A recent ‘speed watch’ initiative led by the local PCSO / Police, involved forum members which were educative and fun.

10. Any Other Business

General Election Hustings Event - Oli reported that the event (coordinated by The Door Youth Project) held locally last week ahead of the General Election was a success.

Local Play Programmes – Oli highlighted the work of Play Gloucestershire (whom he is a volunteer for) and explained why he was raising the profile of play work programmes being needed to continue in Cainscross.

Molly Jones Leaving – whilst most members had been aware that Molly (Participation Officer) was leaving in the near future, it was confirmed that her last day would be 12 July.

George Sutton Retirement – George confirmed that he would be retiring from his role as representative of Maidenhill School in the near future and that this would probably be his last Main Meeting. George thanked everyone for enabling him to participate, get to know them and be part of a team. George was thanked for his work covering the last year or so and wished well for the future.

11. Date of the Next Meeting - Monday 26 June 2017