

Gloucestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Services

Affiliated to



Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of GCVYS held 9th May 2011, at Chequers Bridge Youth Centre, Gloucester

Present:

David Wallace (Chair)	Cheltenham YMCA
Marilyn Jennings (Vice Chair)	Gloucester YMCA
Tracy Clark	Young Gloucestershire
Simon Gillings	GCC Youth Support Service
Peter Guns	Gloucestershire Boys Brigade
David Hall	Scouting
Debbie Long	Girlguiding
Pauline Merchant	Girlguiding
Dawn Quest	Minute Secretary
Steve Robinson	Nailsworth Youth Club
Andy Stratton	Gloucestershire Boys Brigade

In attendance:

1. Apologies and Welcome:

Steve Bullock	Gloucester faith based initiatives
Lynne Speak	GCC Youth Support Service

Action

2. **Declarations of interest:** MJ working with Churchdown Parish Council to support their youth work. SG due to leave GCC and may become a training provider.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th January 2011

approved by the Executive Committee and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

- a. AS: website needed more contributions.

5. Update from Committee Members

MJ: Gloucester YMCA had completed a bid for building funding.

DQ: wanted to know what support existed for voluntary youth groups now that GCC was only services to specific targeted groups of young people.

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DH: Scouting had a new Commissioner in Gloucestershire, Paul Trott. Very few groups had been affected by GCC Youth Support Service cuts. Noticeable less funding around. Also suffering from fewer commercial bookings, especially over the last 6-9 months at Cranham. He felt it was a time of role changes, but a positive time.

AS: No comments to make, deferring to PG.

SR: Nailsworth YC owned its building. Would miss opportunities to apply for grants from GCC. It had 1 F/T and 2 P/T workers on contract until the end of June, who would then work for the youth club direct from July. SR is supervising F/T worker, and she was supervising P/T staff. YoungGlos provided payroll support. Posts were being funded by the Town Council, and other grants. NYC would like to access some of the £50k district funding

TC: Child Protection can be done free on line via NSPCC, also via the Safeguarding Board. Young Glos (YG) was growing again after having to make some redundancies. Three Princes Trust schemes and a summer scheme had been secured. YG were working with 20 to 25 organisations helping them to continue their voluntary youth groups (VYGs). TUPE was still an issue, and to help YG would soon be offering a seminar. YG are supporting some VYGs with qualified workers, insurance, building management, etc. VYGs provide the venue. YG looking into providing training, working with GCC at the moment.

PG: The Boys Brigade was interested in taking over Horizons youth centre, but Churchdown Parish Council was now running the VYG there. The BB was independent of GCC funding, raising funds through activities such as back packing. Their Exmouth site was progressing, with the planning permission issue now resolved. They were still looking for venues for Boys Brigade groups in the Forest of Dean.

PM: Girlguiding County Commissioner had stood down, and had been replaced by two people undertaking the duties. They were meeting in early June to organise roles. Financially they were ok. Forest of Dean groups were worst hit by loss of grants and venues, but all groups had found somewhere to go.

DL: Nothing further to add.

DW: Cheltenham YMCA was making some changes, with more focus on young people and housing. Youth work was not being developed as intended. YNCA was not really affected by the funding cuts, but it was still reviewing services and reducing duplication. Chelt YMCA has submitted a bid to government for housing funding.

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6. Treasurer's Report

Steve Robinson reported the following account balances:

Cash Account: £4,177.07

Gold Deposit Account: £4,783.92

The previous year's accounts had been audited.

7. Reports

- a. **Youth Support Service:** in Lynne's absence, SG reported. The new Youth Support Service was expected to be in place from 1st July. It will be targeted at specific groups of yp, with a structure being issued soon. Some staff were still taking part in the selection/allocation process. There were 50 P/T youth worker posts to be filled, with a minimum of 9 hours offered. It was not likely that there would be a link worker for VYGs. Francis Gobey is the lead commissioning officer responsible for working with District Councils to distribute the £50,000 for VYGs.

On Monday 13th June, an event is being held about the future of youth provision in Gloucestershire. GCVYS has been invited to provide a workshop (with CCP and GRCC) entitled 'Starting a youth group from scratch'. SG was willing to be the link between GCVYS and Rosemary Lynn who is co-ordinating the event.

The group discussed what approach it should take and several people agreed to put together a programme and useful literature. YoungGlos were willing to share their VYG start-up pack with GCVYS. The event was an opportunity for groups to make a display if they wanted too.

- b. **Training and Standards:** there was discussion around which funding would be available. DQ commented that some training, eg, from GAVCA was still too expensive for small VYGs. It was suggested that GCVYS could provide basic. SG had discussed the training gap with Lynne Speak as a large number of VYGs had made use of Youth Service Training before it had been cut. SG was considering offering a service as a training provider. It was noted that there were plenty of trainers out there; the issue was being able to afford the training. Some uniformed groups have trainers, but these are usually volunteers, so it's difficult for them to cover many sessions.

University placements scheme is going well. Issues around rise of Uni fees. Likely to have a negative effect on Youth and Community work courses.

- c. **VCS Strategy Group:** this group is on hold? – no-one seemed to know. The VCS Commissioning Group was looking for members to join the Commissioning and Grants Board. MJ should be nominated if possible.

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- d. **GIG:** DW reported GIG had lost their funding for their staff, and he was not sure about their current status.
- e. **NCVYS:** Nothing to report.

8. Any other business

Dawn would confirm the venue for the next meeting, as no-one was sure of the status of Chequers Bridge. TC offered the use of YoungGlos offices if necessary.

9. Date of Next Meeting (Executive Committee)

Monday 7pm, 13th June 2011 (Executive Committee only) at Chequers Bridge Youth Centre.

Future meeting dates:

NB Venue subject to change after 30th June 2011 due to proposed budgets cuts in Youth Support Service

Monday 11 th July 2011	AGM / Full membership meeting
Monday 5 th September 2011	Executive Committee and full membership meeting
Monday 21 st November 2011	Full membership meeting