



Parent Council

Minute of Parent Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th February 2015

Present: Colleen MacIntosh (Representing Chair), Judith Whitelaw, Hazel Stewart, Isobel Crawford, Jane Campbell, Claire McGruer, Gillian Palmer, Louise McIntosh, Jim Stewart

Apologies: Cllr Carmichael, Andrew Ritchie, Kirsten Petrie (Chair)

In Attendance: Kenneth Morrison, Head Teacher
Susie Locket, Teacher Representative

		<u>Action</u>
1.	<p><u>WELCOME & THANKS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wonderful to see some new faces, welcome.• Very sad news on the passing of Gillian. How are the children coping? Mr Morrison consulted with the Education Psychologist prior to speaking with the children. The psychologist attended school and had 1:1 sessions with any children that requested or the staff felt had reacted badly. The class discussions were very open with the children asking lots of caring and thoughtful questions. A memory tree has been created by the children for Gillian.• The decision to drop elements of the proposed budget cuts. There has been a 'U' turn on reducing the school day, the Highland council have stated that they would not make a decision alone, they would follow the guidance of the Scottish government.	
2.	<p><u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u></p> <p>The minutes approved of the Parent Council Meeting held on 4th November 2014. Isobel Crawford & Hazel Stewart</p>	

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- The expressions of sympathy from parents and carers following the passing of Gillian MacDonald were very well received by members of staff at school. All our thoughts are with her family.
- P3 has received a new SmartBoard and PC, which have been installed. The school also has three iPads in use now across the school – which are networked and can access the WiFi across the school.
- P4 have now installed two ‘Bear Bins’ between the Flat Roof Building and the playing fields. This is with thanks for the many donations and support from parents, carers, pupils and the Parent Council/Garden Group.
- Lydia Michael Trust confirmed that they are prepared to financially support a request to invite Stephen Baron’s Music Theatre to Beauly Primary. It is hoped that this will culminate in a public performance, involving the pupils, supported by a range of professional musicians charting the history of music from the beginning of time. Dates are to be confirmed.
- A Sponsored Dance-A-Thon is being planned by the Fundraising Citizenship Group as a fundraising push for the Trim Track, for which £7000 has currently been raised. This is planned for 11th June.
- Beauly Nursery are at the early stages of planning for a Cooking Demonstration, which adults would pay to come along to as a fundraiser for the Nursery Fund.
- Two more After School Clubs are presently timetabled, Racquet Sports and Netball and Art Lab will return in March. It is also hoped that we will soon be in a position to introduce an Orienteering Club.
- The Beauly Cross Country Championships take place on Thursday 19th February. This is in place following financial support from the Parent Council in 2014. Volunteers are most welcome from 11am.
- Beauly Primary are now U10 Highland Basketball Champions! Jamie and Daisy will also represent the school in the Highland select. Jamie was voted the Most Valuable Player (MVP) in the U10 category.
- Design approval has now been granted for the railings that are soon to enclose the school carpark (between the carpark and the Nursery). It is hoped that this will be in place before the next Parent Council Meeting.
- Two serious leaks have been fixed in the Nursery building. There have now been three serious leaks to the cast iron pipes in the last two years. This problem will be monitored.

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- The Flat Roof Building has had seven leaks fixed in the last eight months. Attempts are now to be made to re-surface the lower section of the roof to avoid further repair costs.
- Two Pupil Support Assistant post advertisements went live on 10th February. These are 5.25hrs and 17.5hrs.
- Twenty pupils are presently enrolled for P1 for August 2015 and fourteen are leaving for Charleston Academy. Two more pupils are set to enrol at Easter. The current projections are for 132 pupils in August 2015, which is an increase of approximately eighteen pupils in the last three years.

5.

CHAIRPERSON'S\FUND-RAISING REPORT

- The school have a fund raising group headed up currently by the P7 teacher Julia Macleod. In a previous meeting - (Sept 2014) It was decided that the Parent Council Fundraising and the School Fundraising efforts would be amalgamated. The use of this pot would be separate from the school fund and would be used for trips and extras. Miss Macleod had a number of fund-raising plans of which the parent council would either attend with a stall or volunteer to help at.

The Parent council is disappointed with the disconnect between the groups. The Parent council had hoped that the school would be able to take all of the children to the pantomime again this year, however the current lack of fund raising means this is unlikely.

In an effort to make this possible,

- Jane Campbell has offered to host a Beetle Drive – 24th April in the Phipps Hall with monies going to the parent council
- Isobel Crawford has offered to run a Ceilidh – 15th May. Isobel has secured a band free of charge and is looking for any raffle donations, assistance on the night.

- A sponsored Dance-a-thon has been organised by the school for 11th June as a fund-raiser for the Trim Track.
- In the event the school has a summer fete (the parent council would take a stall or 2) Louise has offered to try and secure the use of a large marquee oppose to using the smaller marquees. **Action: Possibility of using large marquee**

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7.	<p><u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current balance - £1,569.53 • Parent council paid the £250 donation from the garden group to the school. Can this please be reimbursed. 	
8.	<p><u>SCHOOL GARDEN</u></p> <p>Garden funds stand at £1107.06 in the bank, and £63 in vouchers.</p> <p>Owing to a lack of volunteers the garden is no longer open at lunch-times. Jim Stewart has expressed an interest on behalf of the men's shed group to come in on a Saturday morning and tidy the area. The question of disclosures was discussed, since the Mens Shed attend on a Saturday morning when the children are not present, disclosures are not necessary.</p> <p>Linda Mair (via Colleen) asked about the future plans for the garden. She is happy to volunteer as part of the group to open at lunchtimes however feels the garden group needs to be owned and run by the school. A rota of helpers and duties held by and updated by the school. She feels that if volunteers knew what to expect and exactly how often they are needed, e.g. once a fortnight, planting, weeding, harvesting then more folk would be willing to come along. It was noted, too many volunteers would incur a large cost to the school for disclosures.</p> <p>Classes still make much use of the garden during school hours, especially the nursery children.</p>	
9.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher parking, is it possible for Mr Morrison to enforce parking anywhere other than Croyard road for staff. <p>Mr Morrison explained the school car park is for teaching staff only, learning support and other services (catering, cleaning) are not included. While he is able to ask staff members to be considerate, he cannot enforce where they park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shinty/Braeview park path, very difficult and muddy for children to enter school safely. <p>Mr Morrison has requested dates for remediation from both the council and Beaully Shinty club.</p>	

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- A parent has asked about the feasibility of using the bottom gate only at Braeview park for drop-off\collection to ease Croyard Road.

While Mr Morrison welcomes any possible solutions to the congestion of Croyard road at 2:45pm, the use of the bottom gate only is not feasible. This would mean asking the P1-P3 teachers to walk the class down to the bottom gate. Even if all the teachers were willing to do this, it becomes difficult as teachers already ensure that the pupils with after school clubs are ready as well as bus pupils are ready. Also in adverse weather the pupil would be waiting outside for any late parents/carers oppose to inside the school office.

- Sports day 28th May 2015. Mr Morrison will look in the feasibility of a coffee van being present. While it is recognised as a great opportunity for the school to raise funds, parents would be unavailable to man such a stall as they will be present for sports day. **Action: Feasibility of coffee van**

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING -**
Tuesday 28th April 2015 – 7.00pm

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