



**Parent Council**

**Minute of Parent Council Meeting  
held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2014**

**Present:** Kirsten Petrie (Chair), Judith Whitelaw, Hazel Stewart, Colleen Macintosh, Isobel Crawford, Andrew Ritchie, Claire McGruer

**In Attendance:** Kenneth Morrison, Head Teacher  
Sharon Brindle – Teachers Representative

1.	<b><u>WELCOME &amp; THANKS</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>
	<p>Kirsten welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself. No apologies received.</p> <p>Thanks given to            Cllr Carmichael for securing funding from the Children’s fund for the Omniken balls            Colleen for volunteering to take minutes for the meetings – trial arrangement to see how it goes</p> <p>Welcome the news of the appointment of a new teacher            Congratulations to Kenneth, Jen and Isla on the arrival of Callum, impeccable timing on the first day of the summer holidays.</p>	
2.	<p><b><u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u></b></p> <p>The minutes approved of the Parent Council Meeting held on 29th April 2014.            Isobel Crawford &amp; Hazel Stewart</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></b></p> <p><b>Updates on outstanding issues from last meeting</b></p> <p><u>Pedestrian crossing &amp; Football pitch</u>            These were initiatives suggested by Murphy’s as a pay back to the community. Jim Stewart from the community council was the contact for the football pitch and Cllr Carmichael for the crossing. <b>ACTION:</b> Colleen to request update  <b>UPDATE:</b> Now that Murphy’s have completed their work in the village they have no plans to return to carry out the work.</p>	CM

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### Minibus

Mr Morrison spoke with the anonymous benefactor regarding the £10k being re-directed to the Shinty Club for a new minibus of which the school could make use of. No objections, the monies have been re-directed. £5k received by Shinty Club.

Complaint re use of memories for Beaully Gala programme, procedure is complaints should be directed to Head Teacher and if not satisfied to the local authority. PC can advise on proper procedure, but not necessary for PC to be involved.

Request from parents about an indication which events will require a financial contribution, and ahead of time – could this be done on the school calendar or on the dates for your diary section of the newsletter? Likewise enough warning for theme days where children are expected to dress up.

Less of an issue this year with fewer composite classes, but not always clear if both age groups in a class participate in the same events, and if they do it is not always appropriate for the entire age range

Those parents whose children finish or start at different times (especially with the changed nursery times) could there be a designated shelter for parents who have to hang around, especially going into winter and darker days/bad weather. Mr Morrison is happy for the parents to request the key from the school office for the shelter next to the bike shed. This needs to remain locked out with school hours as local teenagers would use this space for smoking/drinking etc.

4.

### HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

- **New Staff**

New staff have settled well. Kath MaGregor is a Pupil Support Assistant and Laura Murison and Sharon Brindle are our new Early Years Practitioners. We are also delighted to confirm that our new P3 teacher is in place, who has arrived on an internal compulsory transfer. This means that the job will no longer be advertised.

- **School Roll**

Our School Roll presently sits at 121 in the Primary School and 40 in Beaully Nursery. Projected figures indicate a steady increase in school population and the school is confident that numbers will exceed 130 for the start of academic year 2015/2016.

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- **Site development**

Several projects were undertaken during the summer:

- The main corridor in the main building and the children's toilets were painted.
- The 'Flat Roof Building' was painted externally
- The new nursery work took significantly longer than expected, however this opened on Monday and the Parent Council are welcome to look round the new space after tonight's meeting.

- **Free School Meals**

P1-3 will receive FREE school dinners starting in January as part of a government initiative. Feasibility studies have been carried out across the local authority, however projected figures do not indicate that there will be any operational or logistical implications on the Beauly site.

- **Rag Bag**

Since May 2013 the school community have collected 2112kg of used textiles and this has contributed an incredible £752.30 towards the Beauly Primary School Fund. Thanks to Hazel Stewart for starting this initiative!

- **Book of Poems**

'Let There Be' is a book of poems written by the 2013/2014 pupils in Beauly Nursery and Beauly Primary. A mock-up has been made with a view to publishing these poems. Rhoda Dunbar (a member of Lydia Michael Trust) has indicated that even though Lydia Michael Trust supported the poetry workshop, she would like to go further and support the school in publishing the works, which the school could in turn sell for School Fund monies. Miss Dunbar is presently engaging in the project personally and has been in discussions with Janet MacInnes regarding the possibility that she will edit the book, with possible design implications prior to distribution.

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- **Vandalism**

There has been a notable increase in litter and vandalism on the school site since the end of the 2013/14 summer term. One window has been broken, the 'toast rack' in the cycle shelter was removed and the cycle shelter gate removed. Also, the Perspex in the roof of the cycle shelter has been burned in almost twenty separate locations.

- **Parking**

Concern is once again mounting amongst parents regarding parking on Croyard Road. On more than one occasion the HT has been informed of parents parking in front of peoples driveways and one occasion completely blocking the road. A plea will be made in the next newsletter for more consideration.

- **Accident**

It was brought to the HTs attention that a pupil from Beauly Primary was seriously injured in the failure of the zip slide in Braeview Park. This matter was passed on to Cllr. Carmichael, who intervened and escalated the matter within Highland Council

- **Policies**

A large volume of policies were shared with the Parent Council as per previous discussions, with a view to these being read and approved by the Parent Council before being formally adopted as Beauly Primary School policies. Details of Parent Council involvement would also be documented in each policy.

- **Badaguish**

This year pupils returned to Badaguish for their P7 Outdoor Residential. This was a huge success and the children's behaviour was exemplary.

- **Fundraising**

Class Teacher, Julia Macleod will be running the Fundraising Citizenship Group and would like to meet with a sub-group/individuals for a meeting regarding the streamlining of fundraising between the school and Parent Council.

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- **Sir Duncan Michael**

Sir Duncan Michael, the school's contact for Lydia Michael Trust has welcomed an approach for some funding. In particular educational, cultural and performance related initiatives have captured the LMT imagination e.g. Firebird, however the school library and school WiFi was also paid for by LMT. The HT requested that the Parent Council considered this offer and contacted him directly with any ideas.

**5. CHAIRPERSON'S\FUND-RAISING REPORT**

Mrs MacRitchie the P7 teacher is heading up the fund-raising group this year. A separate meeting to discuss the following:

Parent council funding for Panto/school trip alternate years, where the parent council would fund half the ticket price for the whole school to go to Landmark and next year 2015-16 will fund the full ticket price for the whole school to go to the Panto. The school would fund the transport.

Halloween Lantern making – run by the Gala committee, £1 donation to the school – Tuesday 2nd Dec, 4pm – 5pm Phipps Hall

Christmas Fete – Thursday 4th Dec Parent Council will do teas/coffees/cakes and wrap a present

Christmas carols at Lifescan – 10th Dec, Mr Morrison to organise transport arrangements.

Christmas Carols in the square – Thursday 4th Dec

Review of DVD production – has been fairly successful at Christmas nativity, not as much at the summer production. Very labour intensive – editing, burning etc., even when paying for professional videographer.

Summer fete – struggled to get volunteers for this. Do we want to move to a formal arrangement for the p6's to manage the raffle to raise funds for their residential and review whether we do something other than the summer fete? Suggestions – another event altogether or maybe even provision of refreshments, hotdogs etc. for parents attending sports day without any stalls in the afternoon?

Bag packing in the Co-op

**7. TREASURER'S REPORT**

- Current balance - £1,793.64
- Money raised by Summer Fete - £387
- Money raised by Firebird DVDs - £110

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8.	<p><b><u>SCHOOL GARDEN</u></b></p> <p>Garden funds stand at £1107.06 in the bank, and £63 in vouchers. 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.</p> <p>Classes still make much use of the garden during school hours, especially the nursery children.</p> <p>The Parent council have agreed in the absence of a garden committee to donate £250 to P4 for their fund-raising towards extra recycling bins.</p>	KM / HC
9.	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>Involvement of more parents – social media is heavily used by a number of people, many who do not traditionally get involved with the parent council or school events. Would like to investigate the possibility of setting something up for the school blog to feed to Facebook, this would be a secure page, any comments would be directed through the School web-site. <b>ACTION:</b> Kirsten to investigate options and draft a letter to gauge interest.</p> <p>School website PC page out of date – <b>ACTION:</b> Mr Morrison to update</p>	KP KM
10.	<p><b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING -</u></b> Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014 – 7.00pm</p>	

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