



Parent Council

Minute of Parent Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21st May 2013

Present: Sharon Brindle, Jane Campbell, Isobel Crawford, Colleen MacIntosh, Linda Mair, Fiona McQuarrie (Chair), Andrew Ritchie, Alison Robertson, Hazel Stewart, Jill Williams (Teacher Representative)

In Attendance: Kenneth Morrison, Head Teacher; Margret MacRae, Clerk

1.	<u>WELCOME</u> Fiona McQuarrie welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Judith Whitelaw.	<u>Action</u>
2.	<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> The minute of the Parent Council Meeting held on 23 rd April was approved. Proposed – Fiona McQuarrie Seconded – Linda Mair	
3.	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further progress has been made with regards to the trim-track. • No update has been received in relation to the feasibility study. A meeting to discuss the outline business case has been arranged for 12th June and it is hoped that further information may be available after this meeting has taken place. • Prices for the cross-country trophies have not yet been sourced. 	CM KM MM
4.	<u>HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Biomass boiler has now been fully commissioned. Mr Morrison reported that it appears to be working very efficiently and creates very little ash. It was confirmed that the heating in the flat roof building, the hut and the canteen are electric heating and not from the biomass system. • The new door entry system is now operational. This will improve security and reduce the need for all members of staff to have a set of keys. Entry will instead be gained by using a fob to operate the locking mechanism, and in order to improve school security a deadlock will come into effect after certain hours. Fobs and lanyards will be issued shortly. • A meeting with senior management of Fujitsu was held in order to discuss potential options depending on the outcome of the feasibility study. It was agreed that the wi-fi system would be transferred. In addition any new investment the school makes can be taken to the new school should this be the outcome of the feasibility study. • The school will be piloting the use of handheld devices (tablets / i-pads). The devices will have firewall protection to ensure they are secure. This pilot will help to inform future decision making and developments. 	

Chair: Fiona McQuarrie

c/o Beauly Primary School, Croyard Road, Beauly, IV4 7DJ
Tel: (01463) 782576 Fax: (01463) 782576

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the outcome of the feasibility study is a new school then all equipment within the school is new – the only equipment which is taken to the new school is IT equipment which is deemed to be in good condition / relatively new. Old equipment will be replaced at no cost to the school. • A paid coach will be providing multi-sports sessions to pupils in P1 and P2 as an extra-curricular activity. After school football will be moving to Wednesdays. • The school office has now moved so that it is by the entrance door. • Mr Morrison reported that Ella Kiel and Niamh Williamson would like to have a sponge throwing stall at the Summer Fete in order to raise funds for the World Land Trust. The pupils were commended for their initiative and the Parent Council approved facilitation of this stall at the Fete. • Mr Morrison asked the Parent Council if they would consider making a financial contribution towards the purchase of a new PA system for the school. It was noted that the school currently has nothing in place which would be fit for purpose for the leavers' assembly. The conclusion of the discussion was that both the school fund and the Parent Council fund are overstretched. A number of alternatives were also discussed. 	
6.	<p><u>PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT</u></p> <p>Victoria Robertson, Graduate Service Information Officer with the Highland Council is conducting a study to see where improvements with parental engagement can be made. Miss Robertson consulted the Parent Council who advised that information was shared by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An excellent school blog • School and nursery newsletters via the school mail bag. Newsletters are also available on the website, and it is hoped to circulate the newsletter via e-mail in the future. • Parent Council members communicate with each other by text. • Parent Council Minutes are available on the school website • Communication regarding pupil progress is being addressed by work which is being undertaken in relation to the curriculum overview • It was also stated that the school website has made a big difference and that pupils enjoy using this too. The blog is set as the homepage on all school computers. Mr Morrison is aware that the Highland Council is currently considering setting a standardised homepage, however, he feels that pupils would benefit more by the school's own website remaining as the homepage. <p>It was agreed that Miss Robertson would circulate a questionnaire to all parents, and that she would be welcome to attend Sports Day / School Fete in order to seek the wider view of parents.</p>	VR/ school office
6.	<p><u>COMMUNITY MINIBUS</u></p> <p>Mr Morrison consulted the Parent Council to see if they feel that there would be any interest in looking for funding for a minibus for use by the wider community. The school is very grateful to the Shinty Club who have allowed the school to use their minibus for attendance at sporting events and other school trips. However, it is noted that the Shinty Club minibus is ageing and it may be prudent to look to the future. Discussion took place on the types of organisations who may require use of a minibus and potential sources of funding. It was agreed to ask the Community Council to consider / discuss this issue. Mr Morrison offered to attend the Community Council meeting.</p>	KM
7.	<p><u>CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT / FUNDRAISING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parent Council agreed to pay for the leavers gift of pens and dictionaries for the P7 pupils. Margret to inform Fiona McQuarrie of the cost of these items 	MM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Fete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pupils to help out with the stalls ○ Andrew and Tracey to organise floats ○ It was agreed that the ice cream lollies could be kept in the canteen freezer ○ School urn and flasks to be available for refreshments ○ Michael Edwards will collect the stalls from the Merkinch Community Centre. Mr Morrison to meet Michael at the Community Centre and assist. ○ The hot dog stall will be placed at the entrance to the flat roof building in order to access a power supply ○ Donations are required for both the adult and children's raffle ○ It was advised that the nursery children will attend the school picnic and their sports day is anticipated to commence at 1.30pm ○ The school fete will be advertised as a community event – members of the wider community are welcome to attend 	
8.	<p><u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parent Council account balance currently stands at £2237. £1120 been set aside to pay for the pantomime tickets and £250 has been pledged to the nursery for their Christmas entertainment. 	
9.	<p><u>SCHOOL GARDEN</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bank balance is currently £1567.86 although there are a small amount of outstanding invoices. In addition to this they also have £55.42 Petty Cash and £120 in Klondyke vouchers. • The Garden Group will purchase a good quality petrol strimmer and would also like a tap installed in the garden. • Volunteers from the Co-op will be re-painting the arbour • P5/6 pupils have weeded the raised bed which is now ready for planting • More volunteers are required in order that the school garden can be opened on Monday and Thursday lunchtimes • The school garden will be open on the day of the school fete. Donations of homebaking are required. 	
10.	<p><u>FUNDRAISING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see Chairperson's report 	
11.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was reported that 13 sacks were collected for the Rag Bag fundraising initiative • Beauly Primary School will be taking part in the Inter-school sports competition • Mr Morrison advised that the school has received 5 new enrolments. 	
12.	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u> - this will be the AGM Tuesday 17th September 2013 – 7.00pm in the school library</p>	

Chair: Fiona McQuarrie

c/o Beauly Primary School, Croyard Road, Beauly, IV4 7DJ
Tel: (01463) 782576 Fax: (01463) 782576