

MINUTES

Glenurquhart Primary School

Parent Council

Thursday, 15 September 2016

Present:

Hugh Montague (Acting Chairperson)
Fiona Knotts (Vice Chairperson)
Nichola Christie (Treasurer)
Janet Murchison (Secretary)
Mrs K Laird (Head Teacher)
Margaret Davidson (Councillor)
Lisa Cetiner
Audrey Graesser
Julie MacLeod
Sally McCloskey
Lynn Milton
Jenny Neill
Michael Thorp
Lorraine Young

Apologies:

Miss K Mullin

The meeting was preceded by the **Annual General Meeting** and the Chairperson's report was circulated (see Appendix I).

1. Apologies

Noted.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2016 were approved and seconded.

3. Office Bearers

Hugh Montague wished to step down as Chairperson. Lynn Milton was nominated and seconded to take on the role and she accepted. The Parent Council wished to record its indebtedness to Hugh and also to Clelland McCallum for ably chairing its meetings during the past year which had been a particularly challenging Session. Janet was willing to stay on as Secretary until a replacement was found. Mrs Laird would ask in the next school newsletter if any parent would be willing to take on the role.

4. **Matters Arising**

- (i) **Staffing** - Miss Kirstine Mullin had been appointed as Principal Teacher and the Parent Council wished to pass on its warmest congratulations to her. Her new role meant that one day/week she would be carrying out management duties. Mr D Brown, probationer, was teaching P5 and Mrs L Johnson would be teaching 3 days/week until Christmas.
- (ii) **Gaelic Unit** - Ms Laura Green was still on sick leave. Should she return to work it would not be to GUPS but to BSGI. At the end of last Session the Education Department had decided to close the Gaelic unit for one year after which a review by the authority would take place. Permission would be required if staff wished to use the now empty unit and it would also need to be cleared of past pupils' materials.
- (iii) **Tesco funding** - it was agreed to reapply.

5. **Head Teacher's Report**

See Appendix II

6. **Treasurer's Report**

Balance to date is £3985.82.

7. **Fundraising**

Suggestions for a disco, ceilidh and a bingo evening were proposed and would be followed up by the sub-Committee.

8. **Any other business**

- (i) Mrs MacPhee's letter of thanks to the Parent Council for the gifts presented to her at the end of last Session was read.
- (ii) Parents were dissatisfied with the postal service for ordering school uniform and it was **agreed** to find a local supplier.
- (iii) Mrs Laird would put a request in the next school newsletter for any parents who would be willing to undertake training for cycling proficiency tests (P7 only).
- (iv) It was important to ensure that all pupils were given the opportunity to participate in any inter-school sports competitions and not just those who attend after school sports clubs eg athletics.
- (iv) Participation of pupils in the Inverness Music Festival was also discussed and would be looked into further.

9. **Date of next meeting**

Thursday, 10 November 2016 at 7.00 pm.

APPENDIX II

HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

Parent Council 15.9.16

Nos in school currently exactly 100 children.

Main focus of **school improvement** is building the curriculum for Glenurquhart – formulating a curriculum rationale, progression pathways and looking at assessment. School Improvement Plan and Standards and Quality Report will be posted on school website for all to view.

Part of Authority **training** for assessment along with Balnain and Cannich Bridge, with Miss MacDonald taking the lead. Inset training will focus on.... Miss Mullin was appointed P.T. and will take the lead on curriculum development around Literacy. Miss McLoughlin will be trained in French.

As part of **Curriculum Rationale** – review of vision, values and aims..... best way of coming up with logo (competition)

School **committees** have all been elected and will meet this week/next.

The children have drawn up a wish list.....

Funding has been applied for playground markings.

Football – helpers from High School

Natural materials in **playground**

PSAs – Playground games

New **behaviour** system ‘Good to be Green’ up and running and children seem motivated by the incentives. Supportive, individual systems still running alongside this for children with additional needs.

Behaviour policy will be drawn up detailing this.

All classes now have class **blogs** which will be updated weekly and parents/carers/family can ‘follow’ by clicking on button. They will then receive an email each time a new post is updated.

Gaelic classroom – hoping to clear over Inset days, timetable and use properly. Had wanted to wait and allow Mrs Green to do this but, she remains signed off ill. Just waiting on clearance from Authority for this.

Work will commence on the **kitchen** at the end of the month ~ 16 week project. Daily/weekly meetings.

Arranged for the children to work closely with the team....interviews/jobs/ building section in playground ...Developing the Young Workforce.

First **tea with HT** went really well – bribed with tea and cakes. ☺ Main issues around parent helpers for football which I am working with and requests for RME focus – this will be looked within the first subjects for curriculum progressions.

Christmas cards?

Outdoor learning?

Baking?