

MINUTES

GLENURQUHART PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL

Thursday, 28 April 2016 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Hugh Montague (Acting Chairperson)
Fiona Knotts (Vice Chairperson)
Nichola Christie (Treasurer)
Janet Murchison (Secretary)
Mrs A MacPhee (Acting Head Teacher)
Miss K Mullin
Lisa Cetiner
Sally McCloskey
Julie MacLeod
Lynn Milton
Lorraine Young

Apologies:

Miss L MacDonald
Audrey Graesser
Michael Thorp

1. Apologies

Noted.

2. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2016 approved and seconded.

3. Treasurer

Lisa Cetiner had indicated her wish to step down as Treasurer. Nichola Christie was nominated and seconded to take on the duties of Treasurer.

4. Matters Arising:

(i) **Head Teacher post:** a closing date of 3 May for online applications and 5 May for postal applications had been set by Highland Council. The post had been re-advertised as a non-teaching post and this had attracted a number of new applicants. Initial interviews would take place on 18 May 2016 with appointment interviews taking place on 25 May 2016. Hugh, Fiona and Janet would attend the latter as representatives of the Parent Council.

(ii) **Other staffing matters:**

Gaelic Unit - Ms Laura Green, had recently been off work and the PSA was on maternity leave. Should Miss Green's sick leave continue it would be necessary to find a supply teacher to cover until the end of term.

Congratulations - the Parent Council wished to congratulate Mrs McLean, P6/7 teacher, on the safe arrival of her baby son, Rory. She was expected to be on maternity leave until January 2017.

ASN - Jim Steven, of Highland Council had confirmed that finance would be available for an ASN member of staff (2 days).

(iii) **Soirbheas grant:** an application to Soirbheas had been successful and a grant of £388.54 had been approved for the purchase of cameras for use by staff and pupils.

(iv) **Tesco:** it was agreed to reapply for a Tesco grant with a sub-Committee set up to deal with the application process. Input from teaching staff and playground supervisors was essential.

5. Acting Head Teacher's Report

(i) **school security** - new security fences and gates had been installed and would be padlocked after school hours.

(ii) **toilets** - as a result of damage to the newly decorated pupil toilets a letter had been sent home to

parents of pupils responsible.

- (iii) **school kitchen** – Mrs MacPhee had been advised that the kitchen refurbishment may not be ready in time for the new Session. It was hoped to introduce the cashless system for payment of school meals (already in use by many Highland schools). Dinner times had been adjusted to allow the older pupils at the second sitting more play time after their meal.
- (iv) **Sports Day** – provisionally booked for Thursday, 2 June 2016 and to be an all day event at High School and Astro turf.
- (v) **inter-school sports** – it was important to emphasise that any pupil could participate in this event and not just those attending the Athletics Club.
- (vi) **parking banners** – the JRSOs were running a competition for parking banners with winning entries to be turned into banners for display outside the school.
- (vii) **P7 dance** - the Head Teachers of the 3 primary schools had suggested a dance at the High School for the P6/7 classes. The Parent Council, whilst in favour of such an event, **agreed** that it should be for P7 pupils only. Mrs MacPhee would discuss with her counterparts.

6. Treasurer's Report

The balance to date was **£2308.93**. Miss Mullin asked if the Parent Council would be willing to financially assist in the purchase of new reading material for the upper classes in the school and the Council **agreed** to do so.

7. Fundraising Committee

(i) **Disco** – a school disco would take place in the Blairbeg Hall on Saturday, 7 May 2016.

(ii) **Summer Fair** – to take place on Friday, 10 June 2016 in the school and grounds.

The next meeting of the Committee would be on Thursday, 19 May 2016.

8. P7 Leavers' Gift

Discussion took place about whether to gift scientific calculators or pen drives for the P7s. Janet would find out from the High School office whether or not GUHS pen drives could be purchased and, if so, the cost.

9. Highland Parent Council Partnership (HPCP)

Janet had attended a HPCP meeting in November 2015. As GUPS Parent Council was not currently a member an invitation to join had been received. Fiona Knotts **agreed** to look into this.

10. Any other business

Julie raised the issue of cycle proficiency for P7 pupils which had been discussed in previous years but had not been pursued. Mrs MacPhee **agreed** to discuss the matter with the current Active Schools Co-ordinator.

11. Date of next meeting

Thursday, 26 May 2016 at 7.00 pm.