

MINUTES

GLENURQUHART PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARENT COUNCIL

Thursday, 16 June 2016 at 7.00 pm

Present:

Hugh Montague (Acting Chairperson)
Fiona Knotts (Vice Chairperson)
Nichola Christie (Treasurer)
Janet Murchison (Secretary)
Mrs K Laird
Mrs A MacPhee (Acting Head Teacher)
Lisa Cetiner
Sally McCloskey
Jenny Neill
Tom Neill
Michael Thorp
Lorraine Young

Apologies:

Audrey Graesser
Julie MacLeod
Miss K Mullin

1. Apologies

Noted.

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2016 were approved and seconded with one amendment to Item 8 (i): "the P1 parent/carer information evening had now been moved from **September to June**" should read '**June to September**'.

3. Head Teacher

A warm welcome was extended to Mrs Kerrie Laird and she was thanked for attending the meeting. She had already visited the school since her appointment and had also attended the recent Summer Fair. She indicated that changes would take place in the coming Session but at a gradual pace and in consultation with staff, parents/carers, pupils and the Parent Council.

4. Matters arising

(i) **staffing** - Mrs Menzies (P4) who had a temporary contract at GUPS had today been offered a permanent contract by Highland Council and would be leaving at the end of the term. A newly qualified teacher had been appointed for one year. Ms McLoughlin would remain as maternity cover until Christmas 2016 after which it was expected Mrs McLean would return. As yet staff had not been allocated to classes but the Parent Council was keen that consistency in the staffing arrangements was maintained for Session 2016/17. Mrs MacPhee would return to her position as ASN 3 days per week full time. Mrs B Girvan had applied for a career break which would be unpaid. Her post would be held for 2 years after which it could not be guaranteed that she would get her job back. A new post of Principal Teacher would shortly be advertised internally. The purpose of this

post would be to support the Head Teacher, build leadership skills, mentor probationers and allow for training in management skills.

- (ii) **Gaelic unit** - Miss Green was expected to be signed off until the end of the term. Ten children were continuing to attend Bun- Sgoil Ghaidhlig in Inverness. A recent meeting with parents of children in the Gaelic unit had considered three options with parents advising the Highland Council of their preferred option. If Gaelic education continued at GUPS Mrs Laird envisaged the pupils moving into the main school building.

5. Acting Head Teacher's Report

- (i) **standards and qualities report** - this was now available for parents to see. It was suggested that this could be also put on the website.
- (ii) **school improvement plan** - Mrs Laird intended preparing a school improvement plan.

6. Treasurer's Report

Following a successful Summer Fair which raised £1546.12 the balance to date was £4011.05.

7. Fund raising

The Summer Fair had been a great success. Local businesses had been very supportive in providing generous raffle prizes. The sub-Committee were thanked for their organisation of the event. Nichola was thanked for her organised approach to parents and others.

8. Any Other Business

- (I) **Mrs MacPhee** - the Parent Council wished to record its indebtedness to Mrs MacPhee for her dedication and hard work during a difficult school Session. She herself wished to record her thanks to the Parent Council for supporting her.
- (ii) **Office bearers** - Hugh wished to step down as Acting Chairperson. Janet was willing to remain as Secretary although she would no longer have a child in the school next Session.

9. Date of next meeting

The AGM would take place on Thursday, 8 September 2016 at 7.00 pm followed by a meeting of the Parent Council.