

Minutes of the Parent Council meeting held in the Grantown Grammar School staffroom at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16th June 2010.

1. **Welcome**

Mr McCook opened the meeting with a welcome to all present.

Present

Mr Sandy McCook Convenor
Mrs Cath Buxton Clerk
Mrs Heather Tucker Chair Fundraising Group
Cllr Jaci Douglas
Mr Malcolm Smith
Mrs Hayley Muir
Miss Kendal Delaney
Mrs Catherine McAuly-Brand
Mr Robert Brown
Mrs Claire Thom
Mrs Irene Carson Headteacher
Mr Giles Baker
Mrs Liz Amphlett
Mrs Tracy Wharton

2. **Apologies**

Mrs Ann Sullivan
Mr Chris Bremner
Mr Andy Liggat Chair Communications Group
Mr Dugal McCrow
Mrs Kate Young Treasurer
Mrs Helen Tague

3. **Minutes of last meeting**

Mrs McAuly-Brand proposed the adoption of the minutes of the last meeting and MrsTucker seconded the proposal. The minutes were duly adopted.

4. **Matters arising**

Mr McCook said members of the Kingussie Parent Council had been delighted with the joint meeting last month. They have since had a positive meeting with Dr Michael Foxley with regards to new accommodation for Kingussie High school.

Johnny Croall will be organizing the sponsored walk in September.

5. **School Dress Code update**

All the school uniform suppliers have been contacted by Mrs Muir and Mrs Thom and invited to complete a questionnaire about what is on offer. Each supplier will be given the opportunity to send a flier and price list which can be passed on to parents. The school will make their uniform logo available for the suppliers' use. Suppliers are Highland Schoolwear, Stitch Up, The Wee Gooseberry, Yo and Zippy Embroidery

6. Headteacher's report

Building – Meetings will be held on the 17th June with regards to the STEM building snagging issues and plans for the summer work which has recently been approved. This includes completion of the 3rd phase: a covered link to the Craig McLean Leisure Centre. The archway now needs to be replaced following snow damage. Meantime the quotes are awaited for the change in position of the doorway to the leisure centre.

Field maintenance – The field is very bare in places and there is a lot of pressure from all the users. Mrs Carson has emailed the maintenance office to request additional work. The school have agreed to allow the primary football group to hold their matches on the pitch and they will train at the primary school.

Budget – Mrs Carson shared details of the school budget situation. She expressed concern that as yet there was no indication of whether or not we would receive a Better Behaviour Better Learning budget which supports a learning Support Auxiliary. (Since the meeting this budget has been confirmed though at a reduced level). The Determined to Succeed budgets will no longer be available for session 2011-12 onwards which could have a significant impact on a number of opportunities we provide

Staffing – Interviews were held for the Learning Support post, presently held by Liz Gibson. Joanne Blair was the successful candidate. The four NQTs, two for Science and two for English, have all been in touch. The closing date for the temporary teacher of Maths/Learning Support/Making Connections is on Friday 18th June.

Primary visit – This starts on Monday 21st June with a Team Building Day. There will be five Physics/Graphics based activities in the classes they will be going into after the summer. On Tuesday and Wednesday the pupils will follow a timetable to experience their subject classes and meet their teachers.

School/House Captains – the process is almost completed. Announcements should be made in the morning.

Climbing wall, CMLS – There will be training for staff and some senior pupils on Tuesday 29th June. Participants will then do 40 hours of their own time and will attend a further training day.

Outdoor Learning Conference for the North – Mrs Carson attended this and has been asked to Chair a Highland Working Group to advise the Council on how to help best to support schools to meet pupil entitlements in this area. It is recognised that the school is ahead of many others in its provision of Outdoor Learning opportunities

Scottish Education Awards in Glasgow – Mrs Carson, Mr McCrow and two pupils will be attending the finals on Friday 18th June. Runner up prize is £500. If the school is successful the money would go towards outdoor learning provision. The two pupils will be Sam Towers and Tom Strang, winners of the Outdoor Learning Awards.

Graduation – the evening went well. Mrs Carson was pleased to welcome Mairi Robertson as the speaker and praised the musicians who played at the interval.

7. Treasurer's report

Mrs Wharton, who will succeed Mrs Young as treasurer, explained the treasurer's report. A cheque has now been paid into the school fund. Income from the Quiz night is included. Unfortunately this event wasn't well supported.

Mr McCook said Mrs Young is still working through the documentation to go with

OSCR for setting up Gift Aid.

8. Fundraising Group update

Mrs Tucker and Mrs Tague intend to be at the P7 Parents' Evening. They will distribute Lucky Number forms, help forms and webshop handouts. They also hope to have uniform fliers by then.

Sports Day – Four volunteers will be needed to help out. Mrs Young has ordered refreshments and Mrs Tucker will organize the gazebo. Mrs Carson confirmed it will start around 12 noon. S2 pupils plan to hold a raffle, including a signed Celtic ball. Pupils will be informed refreshments will be on sale.

Silent auction – Nethy school organized a silent auction with cheese and wine and raised around £1300 so this could be a fundraising possibility. Businesses could be approached for donations. Entry could be £4 a head and home baking could be sold.

Fashion show – It was suggested senior pupils might like to help S2 pupils organize a fashion show. Any fundraising should involve the pupils but the Fundraising Group would provide support.

Sponsor form – Mr Baker has designed a sponsor form for use on the walk. This was discussed. It was suggested the distance of the walk and a brief resume of the route be included. The paid column and pence column could be omitted. Mr McCook liked the explanation of gift aid on the form.

Businesses – There was some discussion as to how to approach businesses for help in fundraising. Cllr Douglas can approach Kevin Roach from the Garth Hotel, who is Chairman of the Local businesses group, for their view.

9. Communications group update

In the absence of Mr Liggat there was no update.

10. Any other business

Mrs Muir asked if the Parent Council could contribute to the cost of refurbishing the girls' toilets. Some of the doors are not working properly. Pupils should report any problems such as no soap. Mrs Thom will follow this up. The Parent Council can discuss if it is an ongoing problem. The boys' toilets have been refurbished. Perhaps the girls' toilets could be repainted.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 7th September at 7.30pm.

Date of AGM: Tuesday 14th September at 7.30pm.

Mr McCook thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9pm.