

**Minutes of Breadalbane Academy Parent Council Meeting held on Tuesday 26th May 2009
at 6.30pm in the school library**

Present: W. Olivier (chair), A. Irvine (Vice chair), L. Swan, S. Devlin, L. Gibson, C. Nash (Secretary), C. Bryson, H. Murdoch, C. Murray (Depute head), F. Lumsden, M. Cairncross, F. Broad, J. Riddell, I. Campbell (Councillor), C. Thom, N. Ferguson, J. Middleton (Pupil Rep), F. Lumsden, I. Hulbert.

Apologies: M. Duncan (Depute Head), S. Olivier, T. Pringle, K. Lyall, J. Westwood, S. Beattie, S. Mckinnon, N. McDiarmid, C. Murray (Depute head), J Kennedy,

1.0 Welcome and apologies

2.0 Sheena Devlin – discussed the progress made by the school in relation to the main points for action in the HMle report. There were two points that had come through as adequate in the 2007 follow through report. Whilst no further HMle visit was required a report by the EA was to be published and shared with all parents on the progress made. This report was meant to be published by end April 2009. However, due to an independent review of the English department this has been put back till after the independent review has been finished which will hopefully be by the end May.

Ms Devlin had met with staff and pupils earlier in the year to help form part of the EA report and questionnaires had gone out to parents and pupils.

Ms Devlin offered the PC the opportunity to discuss the two points which are

- *Improve teamwork across the whole school with clear focus on leadership for learning*
- *Improve the effectiveness of pastoral care arrangements, particularly the approaches for dealing with pupils' concerns.*

Ms Devlin asked the PC if she should just use the content from the parent questionnaires, as no one offered any information for her, no objection was made.

Ms Devlin left the meeting.

2.1 English – Ls updated PC that, although teacher been available to teach S4-6 classes in English, junior classes had, until more recently, a supply teacher who was not a teacher of English.

PC discussed challenges of getting supply teachers to come to Aberfeldy. LS had mentioned this problem to the Depute director, Maria walker. PC suggested there might be retired teachers living locally. These would have to go through rigorous security checks and be on the council supply lists. PC to write to S. Devlin to ask if they could advertise locally.

3.0 Mini buses – Mrs Westwood is looking into when the mini buses are due for renewal. It was asked where we are on the cycle of having upgraded mini buses.

Also could we ask if the PC are allowed to raise funds for a new mini bus or if we are only allowed to take one allocated by P & K.

4.0 Planning applications by the developers – there is planning application in for changing the use of a garden into a car park. This will include removal of some mature trees. There is also a planning application in with regards to changing the pitch of the some of the roofs of the new school and remove the stair adjacent to the assembly hall decreasing the overall building footprint.

Mrs Swan said that she is trying to arrange a meeting with Andy Cook and Peter McAvoy
Mrs Swan will let CN know when the meeting is set up and CN will notify the PC and hopefully a few PC members will be able to attend.

5.0 Old School Memorabilia – questions were asked to where the WWI and Dux board were that were in the old school? These are safe in the decant school.

5.1 Bell Tower – this is being incorporated into the new school. This will be confirmed in the meeting with Andy Cook.

6.0 Parent forum Meeting (AGM) - this is set for Tuesday 9th June. All office bearers are up for election. W.O. informed the PC that he will not be standing for re-election. A.I and C.N made no comment of their intentions, although it is possible that they will not stand for re-election either.

6.1 Thanks - Mrs Swan thanked Mr Olivier for all his help and support, since she arrived at the school.

7.0 AOCB

7.1 £4000 Art grant – was raised, LS informed the PC that this it is best not to apply for this until the school is nearer to completion.

7.2 There was mention of incorporating the school logo on to the floor and above the doors to personalise the school part of the community campus.

7.3 Take your child to work day – discussion was held again as to if it could be changed from 4 years to 2 years. It was mentioned about a questionnaire going out to parents to gauge their reaction – but no one said they would be willing to do the questionnaire and collate the replies.

It was felt that 4 years in a small community was too much for the children and the companies who end up having a group of children each year.

7.4 Money left over from the PTA – what happened to this?

LS confirmed that all Departments received the money allocated to them.

7.5 Thrift shop – the fundraising committee have secured the thrift shop for the week commencing 14th June.

7.6 School trips – It was proposed that all school trips for the school year go into the school year book and on the website so parents have an idea of what trips are coming up. This would also give parents a rough guide of cost by quoting last year's costs for each trip.

7.6 School Uniform - should be worn by all pupils.

Talk of a school uniform shop run in the school for the last week of the summer holiday (possibly too late to organise for this summer but worth looking into for future years)

Meeting closed at 8pm

No further meeting arranged for Parent Council

Parent Forum meeting arranged for 9th June 2009.