

Breadalbane Academy Parent Council Minutes Tuesday 24th

November 2009

1 Welcome and Apologies

Present:- L Swan, A Irvine (Chair), C Nash (secretary), H Taylor (Vice Chair), T Pringle (Treasurer), R Morris, Cllr A Wylie (Strathtay Ward), A Lole, C Burnett, B Burnett, N Lumsden, A Evans, A Laing, T Myles, S Myles, C Bryson, A Steen, R Nathan, J Riddell, W Olivier, V McIntosh (Head Girl), H McDade, H Murdoch,
Apologies: - M Duncan, C Murray, S Beattie, C Thom, M Cairncross, F Broad

2 Review and Approval of Minutes

Approved

3 Communication

Website maintenance/update – discussed, with reference to contacting M McShane re software. Could the pupils help with this, possibly part of the children's' activities? W. Olivier had talked to Linda re. Web site update and progress. It was agreed that he would head up the website subcommittee, and report back next meet on issues, progress, and a roadmap for the future.

The new administrative assistant will liaise with M Turnbull re keeping the website updated.

GLOW was also mentioned as a common resource for the future.

Press/external communications – Mrs Swan read out a report from Mrs Westwood (Business manager). There is a wide use of Groupcall (text messages), the school have sent approx 24,000 texts and we have to a contract for 12,000 so anything over 12,000 have to be paid for. Groupcall discussed in more detail.

Email capture and processing - News letters were also discussed. If these could be sent out by email this would save money, paper etc.

The parent council now has a generic email address parentcouncil@aberfeldy.info

4 School Uniform – school has come a long way in re introducing uniform and everyone is very appreciative of this.

It was asked if some Aberfeldy tartan could be incorporated – e.g. a tie for 'dress' occasions. But we were aware of not wanting to rock the boat, and overcomplicating the issue

The Aberfeldy tartan came about from the local Gaelic choir.

5 Fundraising – Due to lack of fundraising committee at the meeting this will be added to the next agenda

6 Transport – A discussion was had on transport situation of placing request and entitled children.

Entitled children have been moved off No 23 bus to dedicated buses. There is occasionally a double decker put on, which does ease the situation, however this can cause other issues re behaviour of pupils on the upper deck.

Cllr Wylie is happy to look into the situation and try and help.

Parents concerned that the Council cannot discriminate between different types of fare paying customers - and presented evidence from a number of sources to back

this up. It was agreed that **A Irvine would write to Mr Warrington** and explain that the situation as it stands appeared to be acceptable to the parents and that if there was an issue it appeared to be a transport issue and not a school issue

7 Headteacher Update

Staffing – 2 full time English teaching posts and 1 PT English teacher post being advertised. (Interviews to be held soon)

1 Primary teacher post advertised

Mrs Watson is on maternity leave and Mrs Port is acting PT for Business Studies.

New posts – commence in December for a fixed term.

H Young – Administrative Assistant,

C Nash – Pupil Care & Welfare Officer

A Gibson – General Assistant

Homework Policy – is being worked on and will be up and running in the New Year.

A homework calendar and timetable of all subjects will be going on the website.

Minimum of two pieces of homework per month per subject.

ICT Problems – there have been issues with the internet being down and meetings have been arranged to get this resolved.

8 AOCB

Issues with temperature in the classrooms and leaks in the ceiling – the heaters in the classrooms are controlled by the teachers. The leaks are being dealt with

A Irvine had received a list of items and prices that the Pupil Council would like to buy. – **A Irvine to look into these for the next meeting.**

C Nash – resigns from the post of secretary, although will stay on the Parent Council. So a new secretary is required for the next meeting in January – Please contact A Irvine in the first instance if you are interested in this role (please note that this role is paid a nominal fee).

Next meeting

Tuesday 26th January 2010