

Breadalbane Academy Parent Council

Final draft of the minutes for the meeting held on Tuesday 28th June 2011

Attending

Helen Taylor (Chair), Tommy Pringle (Treasurer), Julie Dunbar (Clerk) Elaine Burns, Becs Cameron, Olivia Ingleby, Julie Wardle, Linda McLachlan, Christina Bryson, Cllr Campbell, Linda Swan (Head Teacher)

Apologies

Al Irvine, Dorothy Proctor, Nic Ferguson, Henry Murdoch

Helen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Meeting Frequency & Days

A discussion took place regarding the frequency and the week day that the meetings were held, it was generally felt the pros of having monthly meetings was: the regularity made it easier to remember, you weren't missing much if you missed a meeting, and due to holidays the meetings actually weren't monthly. The general cons were: If you couldn't manage on a Tuesday for whatever reason then you missed all the meetings.

After various suggestions it was the opinion that the meeting day and time should stay the same. Just to clarify meeting will be held on the last Tuesday of every month at 6.30pm (except during holidays)

Scheduled Meetings

As Helen had suggested at the AGM it was felt that a more scheduled approach to the meeting structures would be the way forward and with better communication would perhaps encourage parents from the wider community to attend.

A discussion took place regarding what type of evenings we could have covering the main topics of: Fundraising, Information & Social.

Many suggestions were put forward, Christina Bryson suggested that a ceilidh with a caller could be organised to encourage the less outgoing of the pupils to attend without embarrassment. Linda Swan explained that previous events had been organised to encourage these people and all had to be cancelled. Transport is also an issue as the pupils come from such a wide area.

Linda Swan will take this forward to the new session when the new student council is in place and ask if they can take this forward and ask the pupils how they would feel about it.

Julie Wardle suggested perhaps a masked ball would be a way to get the shyer pupils to take part. This was thought to be a good idea and perhaps it could be aimed at the 4th/5th year pupils.

A talent show was also suggested and Tommy Pringle suggested that a ceilidh could be held to raise funds to support a talent show. Parents and children would be able to attend the ceilidh.

It was also thought that themed ceilidh's might encourage more people to come along as the whole aspect of dressing up in a theme captures people's imagination.

With the various discussions that took place a tentative diary of events was put together as follows:

September	-	Colin Murray, SQA Presentation
October	-	Mary Cook/Harry Davidson, Glow/Internet Safety (Linda Swan also suggested the new Deputy who is a CEOP Ambassador)
November	-	Early November – Beetle Drive Late November – Skills Development for Curriculum of Excellence
December	-	Early December – Thrift Shop in Locus Centre
January	-	Ceilidh (Talent Show Fund Raiser)
February	-	Drink/Drugs Awareness Event.
March	-	Quiz Night

At any of the events if food was required then Tayside Contracts would have to be given the opportunity to give a price for this.

Fundraising

A £20 donation was handed in at the social event in the Ballinluig Town Hall, this was passed to Tommy Pringle who will bank it in the Friends Account.

Elaine Burns suggested that we look at having tables at some of the markets which are held, we could hold a bottle sale or a tombola, asking parents to give donations for such things. She will speak to Henry Murdoch regarding Aberfeldy Games to see if we could have a table at that.

Julie Dunbar mentioned Bags for Schools most people had heard about the project and she agreed to get more information and bring it to the next meeting.

Thrift Shop is fully booked but it was suggested we could have our own thrift shop in either the Locus Centre or the Town Hall, Becs Cameron is going to look into this.

Linda Swan gave some ideas for monies raised at any fundraising events, this list is not exhaustive but included, Duke of Edinburgh, Activities Week, Lochgoilhead, and Drums for Pipe Band. A sub fund raising group could be established.

AOB

Julie Wardle asked if a newsletter was published. Helen Taylor explained that she had been trying to keep a newsletter going but struggles with time due to other commitments, she felt that even an edited highlights of the meetings could be pulled together as a newsletter, any volunteers please come forward.

Communication is the mainstay of the Parent Council, all events will be published on the Website, emails would be sent out a month prior to an event and also a few days prior so people get the information more than once. Comment and Quair will also publish the events in their publications, with this in mind the minutes will have to be approved quickly in order to have them in the comment.

Emails will be sent out with the Agenda for Parent Council meetings at the end of the week before the meeting and on the Monday.

Olivia Ingleby asked if anything was being done about recycling bins, Linda Swan confirmed that the Eco Group were working on it.

Helen Taylor asked if Parent Council could assist the school with building a database of Employers who would be willing to take part in the S3 work experience which is in May/Early June. Linda Swan explained that people had been working on this but it needed some work, it would be helpful if some volunteers could come forward and work on this, both Julie Wardle and Julie Dunbar stated they would be interested but were both unsure of the commitment they could give due to other factors.

It could be put into the newsletter that volunteers were being sought from the Parents of S3 pupils to assist with this project.

Becs Cameron advised that she had spoken to the Community Council and what they are doing with the war memorial is entirely separate to what the school is doing. It was generally felt that the two ideas will compliment each other rather than clash.

With no other competent business the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Next meeting Tuesday August 30th August at 6.30pm