

ACTION NOTE OF MEETING

Present: Karen Brown, Christina Bryson, Ricky Caplan, Franny McGrath, Henry Murdoch, Caroline Nash, Nicky Nicoll, Andrew Pointer, Tommy Pringle, Linda Swan, Avril Taylor, Helen Taylor, (Chair), Karl Wright, Sarah Yearsley, (Clerk)

Apologies: Ian Campbell, Olivia Ingleby, Nanette Menzies

Agenda Item	Action Noted	Action required	Action by
Welcome & Apologies	Welcome to Karen Brown, Karl Wright, Ricky Kaplan. Apologies as above		
1. Future of Parent Council	<p>HT has received 54 responses to email about Curriculum for Excellence information evening. Good response. CforE eve to be held on 28th February, for parents of children in P7, S1 & S2 to discuss new exam/assessment system.</p> <p>HT proposed new ways of working for PC: Split into primary and secondary sections Recruit reps from each year group to facilitate communications between school and parents Have secondary reps from different geographical areas, ie Dunkeld, Bankfoot, Aberfeldy etc. AT felt that splitting on primary/secondary lines wouldn't work – sends out wrong message about school as a campus.</p> <p>HT suggested using online tools such as Big Tent as way to communicate with parents and create sense of a parent community. 75% of parents have given school an email address. SY was concerned that using online/social networking alone could exclude some parents.</p> <p>It was agreed to explore the parent rep idea further. LS suggested PC members to attend parents' evenings as a good way of communicating with parents. SY suggested splitting the PC along policy and fundraising/social lines. HM said we needed a critical mass of parents to</p>	<p>HT to create online forum for whole of PC and subgroup for ctte. Posts will be moderated by HT to begin with but can have more than one administrator. HT happy to let others do this. Meeting agreed to give this a try as a vehicle for discussions around topics such as uniform, outside meetings. Make link to Big Tent/PC forum from school website front page.</p>	

	<p>make any of these options work.</p> <p>RK wanted to know where info on PC is – not enough on school website about PC.</p> <p>HT suggested asking parents if they know what PC does and what they would like it to do.</p> <p>We discussed using school website – people tend to use it to check on weather related closure.</p>		
2. School Uniform	<p>LS met with Doigs and discussed possibility of them stocking key items of school uniform so that parents could buy appropriate uniform without having to travel to Perth. We discussed ways of arranging ordering via pro formas issued during the summer term so that uniform could be collected from school during holidays. Prices seemed reasonable but the meeting was concerned that they would need to compete with Asda/Tesco in Perth and could understand why Doigs might be reluctant to hold the level of stock needed when not sure of potential sales. LS is keen to make something work and would be happy for the school to do it but also happy for PC to be involved. After an extensive discussion about the likelihood of people buying uniform locally LS agreed to meet with Doigs again. HM suggested a thrift shop idea for second hand uniform.</p> <p>LS mentioned that Primary school children had completed a questionnaire about uniform and the P4 – 7s were overwhelmingly in favour of wearing shirt and tie. However several parents had expressed concern about the practicality of this and LS confirmed that older children could choose whether to wear polo shirt and sweatshirt or shirt and tie. Andrew Pointer expressed concern that ongoing discussions about enforcing uniform were a distraction from more serious matters around the new curriculum and education more generally. TP felt that there would be a lack of pride in the school without uniform. LS clarified that as headteacher she sets the tone and ethos for the school and feels that uniform is very important. Needing to wear uniform develops important skills for life – at work students may have to wear uniform that they don't particularly like or</p>	<p>LS to meet with Doigs again.</p>	

	<p>wouldn't normally wear. Students in S6 have the option of wearing a black shirt.</p> <p>Some parents raised issue of primary children being given demerits for not having the top button of their shirts done up. LS clarified that this should not happen.</p> <p>KW suggested running a competition for parents to win a free uniform to encourage people to order from Doigs. RK asked whether we want to encourage kids to wear uniform or support local business. LS said that she recognised that there's a diversity of opinion amongst parents about uniform.</p>	<p>LS to check with teachers and put note out to primary parents re wearing polo shirts.</p>	
<p>3. Employer engagement evening</p>	<p>Franny McGrath and Nicky Nicoll set out plans for an employer engagement evening supported with funding for 16+ Learning Choices. Aim is to engage with local employers who may be able to offer work experience opportunities to students. Highland Perthshire is losing young people who don't see opportunities to find work locally. Roddy Renfrew from PKC can advise on health and safety liability for potential work experience offers – this is much more straightforward than previously and there may be funding available to help employers if necessary. FMcG wants to run the session before the end of March. Happy to enlist employers from further afield, ie Dunkeld and Bankfoot. LS asked if there is a link with Modern Apprenticeships. FMcG confirmed the funding/programme will run for at least a year. Cold look at S5/6 doing day release. Employers engagement event could involve young people and employers but focus will be on attracting employers first. There are different rules for under and over 16s. Other suggestions: approach local artists/craftspeople who may be able to offer skills sessions but not full placements. Corbenic community could be of interest to those working in care settings.</p>	<p>AT to put on agenda Aberfeldy Small Business Association meeting on 8th Feb.</p> <p>Employer engagement evening to take place 27th March. 7pm. LS to arrange room booking. 6.30pm – 8pm Small Lecture Theatre and activity space. LS to check re Tayside contracts providing wine.</p>	

4. Fundraising	Agreed to hold Quiz Night on 14 th March at Aileen Cragghan as last year. Tickets sold on door - £5 per team. Made £200 last year. Min 4 per team.	Caroline Nash and Henry Murdoch to organise. CN to do quiz, HM to bring microphones. HM to book with Craggs. Ask Pete Butter to compere.	
5. AOB	<p>War Memorial – LS showed Angus Ross’s design for the refurbished memorial. The memorial will be hung on the wall outside the library.</p> <p>AT raised issue of parents receiving texts from school saying that their children were absent. CN and LS explained the system whereby if children haven’t registered school will contact their parents by text to let them know the children aren’t in school. One set of parents had approached AT to say that they weren’t happy with how the situation was handled when they received a text by mistake. LS encouraged these parents to contact CN directly. LS and CN felt that it was a good system but accept that there is always potential for human error.</p> <p>Accounts – TP went through the PC accounts. There is £2486 in the account. The Pipe band has received £4819 from the Griffin Wind Farm to pay for drums so the PC money is no longer needed for this. The funding can now be allocated to Forest Schools and chanter lessons. TP has had no information from PKC on funding from them for PC this year. Avril Ker is the contact at PKC. LS has been invoiced £50 for the late licence for the Ceilidh, school will pay for this. TP still need to pay for kilts.</p>	LS to ensure text for memorial is proof read.	