

Breadalbane Community Campus

Present: Alison Bell, Catriona Christie, John Devine, Libby Hughes, Yvonne Kent, Eleanor Laurie, Elizabeth Leighton, Fiona Macdonald, Fiona MacEwan, Sandra Mackinnon, Elizabeth MacPhee, Mel Nicoll, Andrew Pointer, Tommy Pringle, (Treasurer), Andrew Rae, Heather Rae, Nicola Ross, Alison Steele, Gill Steele, Avril Taylor, Cllr Barbara Vaughan, Gina Wallace, Karl Wright, (Chair), Sarah Yearsley (Secretary).

Apologies: Karen Brown, Emma Burtles, David McClean, Vicky Marshall, Mags Quigley, Sally Robertson,

Agenda Item	Action Noted	Action required	Action By
Welcome & Apologies	As above		
Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Minutes were approved, matters arising to be dealt with under agenda items. The minutes of the AGM will be approved at the AGM in May 2016.		
Headteacher's Report	<p>John Devine</p> <p>JD asked if the Headteacher's Report could be a standing item on the PC meeting agenda.</p> <p>JD will do an open session with parents later in the term, saying where he sees the school going and will work with Karl Wright to do that before the October holidays. He talked about his first impressions of the school, although he knows the school well through his role as Quality Improvement Officer for BA and in 2009 he was seconded in for a few months. So he is not completely new. He is gaining a sense of the school and what the school has done and where it can grow. SQA attainment is a critical measure and we do have good attainment but it could be very good or excellent. We need to push on a little bit and the staff agree. Pupils need to move on with their expectations, the key word is expectation for the young people around what they can achieve.</p> <p>Why are young people here? It's important for staff to understand that it's not just about narrow academic achievement. JD is setting expectations for staff and young people. Good relationships in the school, its climate and ethos are fundamental and</p>	Arrange Headteacher's presentation	JD/KW

	<p>we do have that. So that makes it easier to push on. He will talk about the big issues coming at schools later in the term. One key change will be national standardised tests in primary, JD welcomes that. He wants to know how young people are doing and wants that kind of data at primary level. This will help get sense of what young people are capable of.</p> <p>Staff updates – Nicola Ross is new deputy head in secondary. Nicola was acting deputy at Blairgowrie and before that Principal Teacher of art and design and is a trained artist. She consistently had highest exam results for art and design in PKC. She is an excellent addition to the school. BA didn't appoint a new deputy in primary. Vicky Marshall will continue doing that job until Christmas. BA will try to fill the role in the meantime. New maths teacher is Fiona McIntosh – 1 year fixed term. In the Primary Stephanie Kay – P1 /2 has been made permanent. Anna Seward is taking P4, Ruth Cameron is the new teacher for P2/3 . Alison Johnson is teaching P6 as a short -term job share. The school has been unable to fill the vacancy in the computing department and are still looking at it. Mr Canon PT tech is retiring in October and the school needs to fill that vacancy. The school want to appoint additional drama time if possible as the drama teacher, Eve Marie Shore, is going down to 4 days per week.</p> <p>Short biographies of new staff have appeared on the PC Facebook page.</p> <p>A parent asked who will replace Mr Canon. JD responded that BA should be able to cover senior classes with existing staff.</p> <p>A parent asked why BA couldn't appoint to the PT role in the computing department. There are major structural issues across Scotland regarding supply and demand of staff. Computing is one of those areas where it's hard to recruit staff. However the principal teacher's role is more attractive.</p> <p>Parents reported that they had heard that recent departures of PTs are being put down to the amount of paperwork generated through Curriculum for Excellence. JD said that his priority is to recruit staff. He wants to look at why staff would want to leave and indeed want to stay. SMT can input into amount of paperwork staff have to complete.</p>		
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	<p>Curriculum for Excellence is the national curriculum and the school can't pick and choose, although there is some flexibility in its interpretation and implementation. JD doesn't think that CforE is paper heavy. It could be that staff are talking about national qualifications rather than CforE. SQA is trying to trim down paperwork around assessment.</p> <p>We discussed CforE being the theme for a headteacher's presentation, with a more interactive session where people feed in beforehand what they would like to hear about.</p> <p>JD invited a parent who was concerned about recruitment to a specific senior role that could impact on their son's exam year to come into school to discuss it with him.</p> <p>The headteacher's presentation later in the term will be publicised widely, not just through Facebook.</p>																																			
Nicola Ross updated the meeting on recent BA exam results	<table><tr><th>12/13</th><th>13/14</th><th>14/15</th></tr><tr><td colspan="3">S4 - % of pupils achieving 5 at level 5</td></tr><tr><td>43%</td><td>44%</td><td>42%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">S5 - % of pupils achieving 1 at level 6</td></tr><tr><td>57%</td><td>59%</td><td>56%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">S5 - % of pupils achieving 3 at level 6</td></tr><tr><td>34%</td><td>31%</td><td>35%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">S5 - % of pupils achieving 5 at level 6</td></tr><tr><td>21%</td><td>17%</td><td>18%</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">S6 - % of pupils achieving 1 at level 7</td></tr><tr><td>23%</td><td>28%</td><td>24%</td></tr></table> <p>Nicola gave an overview of BA exam results from May 2015 and compared them with previous years. 5 passes @ level 5 in S4 is used as a benchmark as pupils can progress from there to study Highers.</p> <p>Results for 14/15 are good. We discussed how the Curriculum needs to suit everyone including those not achieving at National 5 and Higher. 2012 was a key</p>	12/13	13/14	14/15	S4 - % of pupils achieving 5 at level 5			43%	44%	42%	S5 - % of pupils achieving 1 at level 6			57%	59%	56%	S5 - % of pupils achieving 3 at level 6			34%	31%	35%	S5 - % of pupils achieving 5 at level 6			21%	17%	18%	S6 - % of pupils achieving 1 at level 7			23%	28%	24%		
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	<p>turning point in terms of results and BA has sustained a similar picture since 2012. We discussed what might have led to this change in 2012. INSIGHT is a useful senior phase bench marking tool and is accessible to parents. http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/curriculum/seniorphasebenchmarking</p> <p>BA gets compared to a comparator school, schools are compared like with like and at a national and Perth & Kinross level by Education Scotland. Where there are average tariff scores these don't quite compare like with like.</p> <p>A parent asked what percentage pass rate the school is aiming for. JD replied that he would like to be better at measuring the potential of each cohort/year group. The BA sample size isn't that big. He expects the trend to keep improving. You can have a particularly strong or weak year group which can affect percentage pass rates. JD feels that this kind of target can be a vulgar approach.</p> <p>BA will get a visit from Peter McAvoy Head of Secondary at PKC who will interrogate the trends, by subject area and compare those to the national average.</p> <p>JD – should be presenting SQA results to primary colleagues to support the whole school development.</p> <p>Parents can visit the Education Scotland website/Parent Zone website to see comparative data against a comparator school.</p>		
	<p>Update from Parent Council subgroups:</p> <p>FOG – Fundraising and Opportunities Group. The group aims to raise funds through organising events and contributing to school activities. Last term they wrote to teachers asking what they needed. The Art Department has asked to buy 10 cameras for £490. The process for distributing funds to staff and clubs is that they apply by 15th of month. FOG considers applications up to £250. Recommendations are made to the PC for amounts over £250.</p> <p>Core curriculum items should be paid for by the school.</p>	<p>Seek more information about cameras before deciding at next mtg</p>	<p>EB</p>

	<p>The group do need more help and is not a closed shop. They meet once a month, during the week before that month's PC meeting.</p> <p>We need to clarify what we agreed regarding funding individuals</p> <p>Griffin Wind Farm/SSE funding is a source of potential funding. Friends of PC can apply for funding and have applied for the Green Power car.</p> <p>FOG's proposed programme of events is: Autumn: sponsored event, pub quiz, input into Christmas Fair. Spring: children's artwork exhibition or fashion show. Bag packs – for specific events.</p> <p>FOG will refresh the 50/50 club with a super draw to get it going again.</p> <p>Alison Steele updated on Family Fun Day on 1st July which went well. There was a good turn out and a marquee, raffle bake stall etc. Music came from 2 school bands and it was a sociable event as well as raising £500.</p> <p>Primary Parent reps – Alison Steele explained that the aim is to have a class parent rep for each class in primary. The rep will act as a link between the class teacher and other parents. The school will still communicate through group call but this is a way to get help with projects or trips and a quick way of drumming up support. Alison worked with Vicky Marshall and we now have a class rep for each primary class. They held their first meeting after the last PC meeting. They still need reps for P3/4 and P6/7.</p> <p>The meeting congratulated Alison on all her work and feels that this is a very good idea. Alison is keen that someone else step up to take this on as she no longer has a child in primary.</p> <p>ASN, (Additional Support Needs Group) Avril Taylor updated us on this new</p>	<p>Funding re individuals onto agenda next time.</p> <p>Contact Alison if you are interested in becoming class rep for P3/4 or P6/7</p>	
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	<p>group for parents/carers of children with special needs. The group can encompass kids with a wide range of needs, for example those who have been bereaved or who are being bullied. The group offers moral support and held its last meeting in the pub so has a social aspect as well. Parents/carers who have attended have valued the great expertise that the group draws together at meetings in an informal setting. They will offer childcare at the school to enable people to attend meetings more easily. During the summer holidays they worked with Live Active to offer a Drop in club for members of the group and on Thursday 3rd Sept. someone from FIFA, (SFA?) is coming to school to talk about setting up coaching for children with disabilities at Breadalbane.</p> <p>PC will need to cover the costs for using the Sensory Room during the Summer Holidays. Jane Carmichael is chair.</p>	KW to discuss Sensory Room with AT	
Update on Gaelic Medium Education at BA	<p>Gill Steele updated the meeting on GME education. Gill is chair of the group of parents whose children are in the BA Gaelic Medium class and have been lobbying for the Gaelic playgroup to start again. A new playleader has been found and is working with parents at Stay and Play, starting next week. Good news is that the Gaelic Development Officer, post at PKC which has been unfilled for 2 years has been recruited too.</p> <p>The group would like to try to develop a Feis at the school and offer a Feisean Gaelic cultural experience for the whole school involving all children working with traditional musicians, Perth is bidding to get the National Mod in 2019.</p> <p>There has been a meeting to sort out what is happening at secondary level re Gaelic education.</p> <p>Feedback from the parent of a child who has just started at P1 in Gaelic is that it has been exceptional. An important issue being flagged is that BA will need Gaelic speaking teachers in secondary. Timetabling needs to be flexible. Children will need to continue with their language at the right level. There is potential to deliver some learning activities through GLOW. JD is keen to meet with parents about GME. He is</p>		

	<p>already thinking about what this will look like in 3 or 4 years time. JD went to a meeting of Gaelic teachers in June and wants to look at good practice. JD gave the good news that the school's new Quality Improvement Officers is Donald McCleod whose last post was Gaelic Development Officer in the Highlands and Islands. BA parents are involved with the GME national committee as well. The good thing is that the class is growing. They would like there to be a classroom assistant. JD will discuss this with the group.</p> <p>Group of 6th years are playing at the National Mod in Oban.</p>	Invite new PKC Gaelic Dev Officer to attend a meeting when settled into post	GS
PKC Instrumental Music Services	<p>Elizabeth MacPhee updated the meeting on the latest news. Helen Smout from PKC has said that PKC will keep IMS within Education and Children's services and it will not be going to Trust status. This is subject to review before the Lifelong Learning Committee in October. PKC want to increase inclusion, particularly looking at children who are more vulnerable. Savings to IMS of £75k do need to be found and these are supposed not to come from frontline services.</p> <p>Helen Smout should be able to update again late Sept/early Oct. This is an issue across Scotland.</p>	Update in October PC meeting.	
After School Club	<p>Kari Gowan, who manages several after school childcare services in Perthshire did a survey of parents and attended a Parent Council meeting. 19 parents expressed interest but this was never followed up. 19 is not enough unless all take up at least 2 sessions. If people want an after school club we need to start again and see if we can get more people interested. Vicky Marshall got in touch with Kari Gowan. Need to get critical mass of parents. Survey going out next week.</p>		
Update on Communications survey	<p>Parents, Mel Nicoll and Elizabeth Leighton, have offered to kick off the process of improving communications between school and parents. They are keen to see how the Parent Council can work with the new senior team to improve communications going forward, it's an exciting opportunity. They haven't started down a particular route as they were keen to meet with JD and NR first. They have discussed undertaking a survey including different ways of delivering the survey to get as many as possible to respond. They want to look at best practice in PKC and elsewhere. Next steps are to meet with JD and NR and then set up a sub group, including hopefully someone from Primary. There is also an issue about distance from school. Any input from people with expertise in running surveys would be welcome. JD is keen to put together an action plan. MN wants to understand how parents can feel more connected and have easy access to school information.</p>		

	<p>A parent recommended a website for doing homework online – ‘Show My’ homework. It was acknowledged that this could be an issue with parents not having access to the internet. PC are keen to lobby PKC if it’s felt that the school need additional support and resources, say in updating the website or using other new technology.</p> <p>The school needs better communications with new parents.</p> <p>The school is planning a regular newsletter so it was agreed that a PC update could be included in that.</p>	<p>Share My Maths website link.</p> <p>Put Mel and Elizabeth emails on PC Facebook page</p> <p>Feed in re PC newsletter</p>	<p>KW</p> <p>KW</p> <p>KW?</p>
AOCB	<p>Update on 50/50 Club As discussed under the FOG update the Club does need a push to up the membership, particularly as we have to cover licence costs. FOG are taking it on and will start again from scratch.</p> <p>Activities Week – feedback from kids was that not all activities were as good as others. There were issues with paid activities and concerns raised around parents not being able to afford activities. Maybe now is the time to review how Activities Week works. Parents were unclear why Activities Week exists and what are the benefits. There have also been grumbles from Primary. We discussed asking the kids what they want. We then moved on to discuss the fact that there is currently no way for young people to bring their voice to this group although in the past Pupil Council reps used to attend meetings. JD felt that is was a reasonable question for parents to ask about the reasons for Activities Week. Previously it was around widening achievement and to give pupils different opportunities. This doesn’t need to mean going to amusement parks. CforE is about the totality of children’s experience and that should be inclusive. This might involve tough decisions around what we don’t do as well as what we do do.</p> <p>A parent pointed out that they appreciated the huge amount of work put into running Activities Week and Communities Day by the school staff and that we shouldn’t forget that.</p>	<p>KW and TP to meet to sort it out.</p> <p>Activities Week – put on agenda for future meeting. JD and NR to respond on when to discuss.</p> <p>Update</p>	<p>KW & TP</p> <p>JD/NR</p>

	<p>A parent wanted more clarity on how the House System at BA works</p> <p>A parent wanted it to be minuted that at the beginning of the school year it should be possible for the school to give an overview of what the school trips that year might be and what the costs would be ie French Exchange, Battlefields trip, etc.</p> <p>Pupil Council – JD and NR confirmed that this will be sorted out. Pupil Councils can have a negative connotation and we need to look at suitable mechanisms for pupils to feed in.</p>	<p>parents on how House system works. Mrs Gatehouse to bring a paper to next meeting.</p>	KG
	<p>A parent asked if there are any ongoing issues with school buses as he has seen lots of children hanging around in town, seemingly waiting for a later bus since the withdrawal of the 23 at school time.</p> <p>There were also issues with children still waiting for a bus pass. School passes were distributed on Tuesday afternoon. Follow up with Jenda Westwood re passes and buses.</p>	<p>JD to follow up with TP</p>	JD & TP
	<p>A parent asked what counselling was available for young people through school.</p>	<p>JD/NR to check availability/ what services are available.</p>	JD/NR
	<p>A parent asked what support parents can be given to help young people with studying? How can they support boys in particular with attainment.</p> <p>A parent raised a concern around the transition from P7 to secondary, are there changes afoot this year? JD confirmed that the status quo exists until the school change it.</p> <p>Parents would like to know more about GLOW.</p>	<p>Discuss at next mtg</p>	SY/KW
	<p>A parent still wants a sign saying Breadalbane Academy in English and Gaelic – JD</p>	<p>Signage on</p>	

	<p>needs to look at protocols as he doesn't know how this works. He can't promise it will be there by next meeting. BV to take it back to PKC and ask if there's any reason why we can't have a sign naming the school rather than just the campus.</p> <p>Query re start back date after Christmas hols. Clarify at next meeting.</p>	<p>agenda for next meeting.</p> <p>Confirm start date in Jan 16</p>	<p>SY/KW</p> <p>JD/NR</p>
Parent Council Meetings	<p>Proposed meeting dates:</p> <p>Tuesday 27th October 2015, 6.30pm Wednesday 25th November 2015, 6.30pm Tuesday 26th January 2016, 6.30pm Wednesday 2nd March 2016, 6.30pm Tuesday 29th March 2016, 6.30pm Tuesday 26th April 2016, 6.30pm Tuesday 24th May 2016, 6.30pm</p>	<p>Discuss peripatetic meetings at next meeting.</p>	<p>SY/KW</p>
Next Meeting	<p>The next meeting is Wednesday 30th September at 6.30pm in Breadalbane Academy. All welcome.</p>	<p>SY to book room and catering</p>	<p>SY</p>