

Meeting:	Breadalbane Academy Parent Council (BAPC)
Date & Time:	Wednesday 30th March 2022 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Location:	Online meeting – via Zoom
Attendance:	Jason O’Flynn (Chair), Karl Wright (Vice-Chair), Gill Steele (Secretary), Anna Brocklehurst (AB), Emma Allen, Jill Watson (JW), Janet Stott, Karen Brown, Daile Kolesinskie, Sarah Hunt (SH), Calum Martin, Libby Hughes (LH), Emma, Rob Stubbs. Julie Campbell, J.Devine (JD), Vicky Marshall (VM) - (16 attendees)
Apologies:	Jane Carmichael (ASN), Eleanor Laurie

Item		Action
1.	<u>Welcome, introductions and Apologies</u>	
2.	<u>Matters Arising from the February 2022 Meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School to update on Dunkeld bus situation raised by Jess Pepper - Refers to an incident reported where Birnam bus had broken down and, on the replacement transport some kids sat three to a seat, some were standing, others with no seat belts on. - JD stated that Karen Gatehouse has followed this up with the Public Transport Unit (PTU) at PKC. The PTU confirmed that the bus had broken down, the replacement double decker bus had enough seats. However, pupils chose to sit with their friends and stand. - JD Stated that the bus company has a duty of care, but the bus driver hadn’t appeared to challenge this behavior. Asked Public Transport Unit to raise this with the bus company. If kids refuse to sit properly with their seatbelts, the bus company should bring this to the school and Public Transport Unit. JD stresses that parents should always let the school know about any issues with bus transport. He noted that the school does not have responsibility for transport. 	
3.	<u>Minutes of the Feb 2022 Meeting - LINK TO MINUTES</u> Approved	
4.	<u>Headteachers Report</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staffing Update - Nursery – The school has appointed two Early Childhood Practitioners (ECPS) – one is Gail Henderson. Other to be confirmed once appointment finalized. This is good news as there is a national shortage of ECP staff. - Primary – Nurture provision is changing it will now be done now via outreach provision, so Mrs Munro will be leaving BA. Mr Shadbold has been supply Teacher in Primary. Mrs Marshall will be reducing to 4 days a week until summer. On that day Mrs Wallace the PT will be acting DHT and Mrs Thompson will be Acting PT. - Secondary – The PT of Home Economics is leaving after 5 years at BA. Mrs Briony Campbell has been appointed as the new PT of Home Economics. - Business Manager – Rhona Munro is leaving as of this Friday. The school would like to say a huge thank you her for working through the past challenging two years. - JD via Chat - Kelly Leighton our Office Manager will be our acting BM from end of the day on Friday. - Ukraine Appeal – A amazing £1700 was raised by the school last Friday for the DEC appeal. John would like to apologise to parents in Primary because communication about the day was issued very late. - Covid – Covid has impacted on staffing levels over the last few months, with impacts greater than during previous periods. Staff levels were affected at the start of March in 	

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<p>Primary. Secretary staffing was affected three weeks ago with at one stage, 25% secondary staff off. In some schools in PKC impacts were such that entire year groups were sent home. The school managed to avoid this happening in BA, with Heads/Deputes standing in and teaching as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Headteacher Letter was emailed today and was primarily about changes with rules around Covid mitigation, at school. The most significant is that Parents can now come in to schools. School is planning to have forthcoming events in person, but note that PKC H&S still to supply maximum numbers for the school hall, JD is hopeful there won't be too many limitations in reality because it has a large capacity. - Secondary Uniform – From the new timetable starting onwards- Tuesday 3rd May, children are expected to come to school in a cardigan/jumper and no outdoor jackets. - SQA exams will be happening but are different from 2019,2020 and 2021. The school is holding an information evening for parents about what is proposed. <p>Questions Raised by the Issues Raised in the PKC Parent Council Chairs meeting – Karl Wright attended on behalf of BAPC. Date 23.03.22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>How will the budget cuts impact Breadalbane (for instance, are we one of the schools that will lose a teacher or significant teaching hours)?</i> - JD Do not think cuts will have any particular impact on staffing or inclusion. - <i>Will the reduction in budget carry-over, or any other aspects of the DSM changes, appreciably impact the school?</i> - Don't think the budget will be reduced. But the amount schools can carry over will be cut to 2.5%. JD says this will be enough. Even in big carry-over years, the school tends to carry over 1.8 – 1.9%. If carry-over was eliminated that would be a big problem, might lose outdoor learning etc. - However, there are separate discussions underway in PKC about not allowing any underspend/carry over, if this happens this would significantly affect how BA delivers extra staff. - <i>How many exclusions have occurred in the last year</i> - JD exclusions are the only mechanism in Scotland and these can be for between 1-5 days. Exclusion has happened once in Primary, and eight times in Secondary but some are repeat exclusions not different children. Also, to note two of these followed on from the malicious setting off of Fire Alarms, the school felt it was important that the seriousness of these incidents needed to be conveyed. - <i>AB – Is there anything the PC can do regarding staffing?</i> - JD – No probably not, he hopes the school is over the worst of it. - <i>AB – Are parent meetings going to happen?</i> - JD - The school has had the last ones already. 	
<p>5. <u>Is the school ready to welcome Ukrainian refugees?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AB – Provided an update from the community on what is happening. 'Highland Perthshire Welcomes Ukraine' has been set up as a community organisation. Across Highland Perthshire over 100 families have offered to support refugees. The process has been impressive. As of this week 13 families have already been matched with a local sponsor in Aberfeldy, Kenmore, Grandtully and Pitlochry. They are 'good to go', however visas are still being processed by the Home Office and this is preventing the refugees from coming across. - JD – General discussion around preparation. If for example there were 30/40 families with children coming then it would need further work on support structures in the local schools. - JO – Have there been any specific discussions about this yet, within PKC Education that John is aware of? 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JD – No at the moment, but it will probably be on the agenda at the upcoming Heads Meeting in April. AB has been in communication with the school from the community group. - Secondary capacity is 734 (currently 400) so there is capacity in BA. At Local Authority level there are people who will be involved in planning for this, PKC also have experience of providing English as an additional language (but these are small resource). Possible ASN needs will also be required. Planning will commence once more information is available and things are moving forward. - KW – Any practical support the PC can offer to the children/parents coming AB? - AB – Possibly create a welcome group. - LH – There are different teams looking after different areas. Support team looking after provision of clothes, shoes etc. Welcome team looking at practicalities with this. They will keep the PC updated 	
6.	<p><u>Funding for the Comrie Croft Trip</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KW – PC proposal is that the PC tell BA parents they can pay just £50. The school then tells the PC how many parents paid £50 instead of the full £75. The PC then make up the shortfall, up to £75. This will only be open to kids at Breadalbane Primary. Up to max of £450. Asked if school can administer that. - JD – It's for all S1 pupils, there is a subsidy already of £20 from the school towards the trip and access to a hardship fund. It will be unfair if its only subsidising BA P7 pupils. BAPC is an all-though school Parent Council. JD doesn't think that the school can administer that. - JW on Chat - Surely other schools do fundraising for their own primary kids trips? - AB on Chat - I think that is true. that other schools do fundraise to support the trip. - JW on Chat - No P7 parent now is going to want to take up this small discount offer if its opened a huge can of worms! - KW – It would cost £2,000 to subsidise all of S1 (based on 90 pupils) which is too much for the PC. In future years we need to contact other Parent Councils from other schools to organize joint funding for this. What to do this year? - JD – Proposed the school look at match funding the PC contribution, to bring it up to help all P7 pupils. - General support for this proposal - JW on Chat - Do we hold off paying for Comrie Croft now until the revised cost total is put through by email? <p><i>Action: JD to look at match funding the PC contribution of £450 towards the trip.</i></p>	JD
7.	<p><u>Update from mental health and wellbeing sub-group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JO – There was an online chat with Karen Gatehouse, about the impacts on children of the pandemic. The school is taking steps to mitigate these. Noted a counselling service is supplied 3 days a week from PKC. There is no waiting list for this, pupils are offered 6 sessions, but these can be extended if required. Peer led buddying system was discussed and the group will explore possibilities of it. - Pupil day around mental health – The group will explore this idea to further encourage Parents in to school. - JO - Question for John on pupil funding arrangements via Pupil Equity Fund - JD- Welcomes opportunity to work with parents/pupils but PEF is very small in terms of the overall school budget - JD – PEF in BA is used for outdoor education which provides universal benefits for all pupils 	
8.	<p><u>Update from bullying sub-group</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PC has convened an anti-bullying sub-group. Two priorities of the group are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o To arrive at a common definition of bullying. PKC has not re-defined it yet (school waiting on this); and 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To survey parents. The group are hoping to send out a survey to parents and want approval of PC to do this. A professional questionnaire would be adapted to Scottish setting. This was approved by the PC. - SH – The group will not survey the kids, it's quite a difficult safeguarding issue. There are clear reasons why it's very difficult to survey kids. Main outcomes from the meeting are that there are ways that parents can support the communication about bullying, the school is doing a wonderful job but how as parents can we communicate better on this? - JD – Proposed the next sub-group meeting date in early May. In addition, the national survey has 5/10 questions on bullying asked to all children. So, it will be useful for comparators. PKC have this data so by May JD can share the PKC data/school data on this. What is bullying? Definition - we need to ask are we happy with that?. - JD wanted parents to be aware that there is a continuum of this, so sometimes it's about developing resilience in pupils. Bullying is nearly always not physical. 80%+ of incidents are between pupils who had been friends. - SH – Read the definition of bullying out (LINK). - JD – This is a very wide net, needs careful thought behind it. - JD – Bullying is a complex issue and parents don't always know the signs of it. - SH – Hoping the group can make progress on these things. 	
9.	<u>Update from playground-renovation sub-group</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KW – EL has secured funding moving forward with £80,000 from Griffin Community Fund Biodiversity funding from PKC, the project parts have been ordered. Waiting for PKC to identify project manager 	
10.	<u>Treasurers Report</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main Parent Council account currently £6,940.00 – including the £730 grant from PKC for £1,185 annual support – no treasurers report 	
11.	<u>Funding for NSPCC child safeguarding courses for office holders</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KW (standing in for Jane); Summarised the cost for the courses is £25 each. Initially, the PC would need to pay £75 for FoB office holders but its required for some funding applications. - Spend approved 	
12.	<u>Update on proposed joint meeting with Pitlochry Highschool</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KW – Awaiting decision and communication from PHS parents on this 	
13.	<u>AOB</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None 	
14.	<u>Time & date of next meeting</u> Wednesday 27th April 2022 – This will be a hybrid meeting so in person at the Campus and also via Zoom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KW - The plan is to have tea and cakes. Please come along, We want to make this, as much as possible, a really positive meeting. Do you have ideas about how to improve something in the school life? Send us any ideas you have - JD – suggested Break out group discussions to break it up. 	

Actions

- *John Devine to look at match funding the Parent Council contribution of £450 towards the Comrie Croft trip*