

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 17 May 2011 in the Staff Room, Balfron High School

Present

Julie McEachern (Chair); John Paton (Vice-Chair); Geoff Forward (Treasurer); Di Blackmore; Jo Skabara; Dot Carswell; Philippa Gray; Mary Clair Brown; Barbara Hillock; Helen McArthur; Thea Hilmi; Val Corry; Phil Slavin; Stuart McKay

Apologies

Susan Cadle; Cindy Gray; Fiona Longley; Moira Anderson

Julie welcomed everybody to the meeting.

1. Minutes of previous AGM meeting

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairperson.

2. Chair's Report

Julie reminded the meeting what the Parent Council does by mentioning that every parent/carer is a member of the Parent Forum and the Council is made up of representatives of the Parent Forum. Would like to have representatives from all the villages in the catchment area and Balfron, Kippen, Killearn have good representation, but would like to mention the role that Fintry members put in a lot of hard work for such a small community. The Council supports the school in all matters; gather and represent the view of the parent/carer to the Rector, Local Authority and HMIE; fundraise and organise events; raise awareness; involved in the appointment of senior staff and attend other groups on behalf of the Council (e.g. Rural South West Forum). Over the last year we have looked at:

- Under the Rector's Report the Council has been involved in all school matters including Curriculum for Excellence; exam results; School Improvement Plan and boys achievement which was an open debate; school uniform; bag storage; change of the day (which will be discussed more fully at next meeting); lunch queues, discos.
- Questionnaire via Survey Monkey is due to go out to all parents seeing parental views.
- The Trust Fund is now up and running and a launch date will be decided.
- Transport has been discussed at great length with regards to safety, seat belts, safer routes to school. This will be taken forward to next year's agenda.
John updated the Council that some of the '20' signs have been moved. Phase 3 of the Safe routes to school will be done when resources are available.
- Craft Fair was held in the school and huge thanks to Jane and Dot for organising this event which was very successful.
- The Head Boy and Girl have attended the Parent Council meetings which has proved successful.
- We have had several speakers throughout the year attending our meetings which have included: PC Andy Faulds (Community Police officer); Mrs Buchanan and Mrs McKay on PSE within the school; Sue Vidits on Seasons for Growth.
- Thanks goes to Philippa Gray who has done a great deal of work on drug awareness and we hope to have a larger presentation in the next Academic year.
- The Parent Council website is now underway with thanks to Geoff and a parent Derek Townsend.
- We were involved in the appointment of new Depute Head (Mr Stuart McKay).
- Other matters have included internet safety; form class time; fire drills and study leave.

Julie thanked Maureen, the Rector and all the staff and pupils at Balfron High School.

3. Treasurer's Report

Geoff reported that the books have been audited and there is a balance of £3000 and it was agreed that £2500 will be transferred into the Trust Fund.

4. **School Funds**

Val explained the school funds. The school gets two budgets from Stirling Council, and there is a devolved budget which pays for school activities. PE department have to pay for transport etc which usually comes from profit made from Xmas dances and also funds raised from the 10km.

Trust Fund – Money for this fund comes from charities and donations from parents and it meets the criteria of the charities. Bids are made for funds which the Trust Board decide.

5. **Office bearers**

Julie was appointed Chair; John Vice-chair and Geoff Treasurer for another year.

6. **AOCB**

- Buses, school trips, timetable, Trust Fund, plan for next session will be discussed next year by the Parent Council
- Hope to work with parents regarding Curriculum of Excellence by getting a database set up.
- Questionnaire to be done on Survey Monkey for all parents to respond.

7. Val would like to give a Julie a big thank you for all her hard work as Chair, which is a very positive group and looks forward to working with the Parent Council next year.