

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Notice of meeting to be held on Tuesday 26 January 2010 at 7.00 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room, Balfron High School

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Drug Awareness evening
5. Working Groups
6. Treasurer's Report / Website
7. Rector's Report
8. Fintry buses
9. AOCB
10. Dates of next meetings - Tuesday 9 March 2010
Tuesday 8 June 2010
AGM – 18 May 2010

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of Balftron High School Parent Council meeting held on Tuesday 17 November 2009 at 7.00 p.m. at Balftron High School

Present

John Paton (Chair); Geoff Forward (Treasurer); Pat Monaghan; Philippa Gray; Mary-Clare Brown; Sheila Watson; Susan Cadle; Jo Skabara; Val Curry; Moira Anderson; Maureen McNee; Chris Whyte (Deputy Head Boy)

Apologies

Julie McEachern; Di Blackmore; Jane Hunter; Charles Fox; Hilary Peddie; Dot Carswell; Fiona Longley

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes having previously been circulated were duly signed by the Chairperson.

2. Matters arising

- Julie has still to attend Kippen Community Council meeting.
- **Bike shed** – Julie and her husband met with Val and drew up drawings and are in the process of costing the project, but it might be expensive.
- **Aims board** – still ongoing.
- **Iron on badges** – Hilary to report back at next meeting.
- Val informed the meeting that pupils are not going to the park as much now at lunchtimes.
- **Roads issue** – John, along with members of the Primary Parent Council, attended Balftron Community Council meeting to discuss the roads issue. There are two separate funds available - one for '20 signs' and one for Buchanan Street crossing points. Both funds have to spent by the end of the financial year. A working group has been set up, of which John is part of. It has been agreed that the Buchanan Street fund will cover up to the top of the Clachan and along to the end of Roman Road.
- **Fintry buses** – John is to arrange a meeting with Colin O'Brien and Fiona Longley a parent from Fintry, for this to be placed under Safe Routes for School.
- Jo now drives the school's mini bus.

3. Drug Awareness evening

Val met with Bruce Crawford to raise the profile and how best this can be taken forward. He is keen to be involved and will find out more information at a Government level. Philippa has met with Eleanor Lawlor (who works with the Health Board and Council) who is willing to help and support such an evening and it was suggested that Philippa speak about their family's personal experience. All relevant organisations need to be involved and the event has to be well marketed Philippa would contact the working group that was set up at the last meeting to try and organise the evening.

AGENDA

4. Working groups

It was agreed that all the working groups are still valid – Careers/Life Skills; Communication and Fund Raising and in future set up on an ad hoc basis. Val to discuss with the Senior Management Team about running a careers week which could be held during school hours and the Parent Council would be involved in getting speakers etc. Target different year groups.

AGENDA

Need to try and hold some fund raising events but raise money for something that the school have requested. The S6 leadership teams are holding a coffee morning in the school on 16 December. Need to raise money for the Trust Fund but this has to be well marketed and the parents need to know the role of the Trust Fund. It was suggested that the Parent Council send

an email (via the school) asking for parents help in organising fund raising events. John and Geoff would give the matter some thought and discuss at the next meeting. **AGENDA**

5. **Treasurers Report**

£1300 in the bank. £4000 from the old PTA will be transferred into the Trust Fund.

6. **Website**

This is still ongoing and Geoff has contacted Douglas Bell to see if a link can be put in the Parents Forum page of the High School website. The logo has still to be chosen and Geoff is open to any suggestions from the Parent Council.

7. **Rector's report (distributed at meeting)**

- **Trust Fund** - has been set up and information received from the lawyers. OSCR have now confirmed that the Trust has been entered in a Scottish Charity register, and the lawyers have written to HMRC Charities to confirm that the Trust is eligible for tax relief.
- The Standards and Quality Report was issued instead of the 'Headlines'.
- All S6 pupils have been interviewed by the Rector and their response on strengths and improvements for the school will be collated and forward to the Parent Council for information.
- **Presentation to S2 on drugs** – a powerful and moving presentation was given by Philippa Gray with two reformed drug addicts and Andy Faulds, Community Police Officer to three groups of S2. Hope to incorporate this into S1 and S3 programmes. Val would formally like to thank Philippa for her presentation.
- S6 have been running assemblies on the theme 'Success'. Gary Nimmo from Stirling Council gave a presentation on 'Youth Voice in Stirling Council' and the aim is to have a Youth Voice representative for Balfron to take forward issues which have been identified by young people in the Council. The top five issues are: things to do; increase awareness of alcohol; leisure and sport; drugs; environment
- **Enterprising mathematics in Scotland** – Balfron came second in a national competition that was held at Glasgow University.
- All S2 pupils attended a presentation of 'Construct your life/engineer you future'.
- **Malawi** – senior pupils were involved in a conference at Stirling High on Global Citizenship with a focus on Malawi. Hope to be repeated in future years.
- **Art exhibition** – the work of Lauren Hunter, S5 has been selected to be displayed at the Glasgow School of Art. She was one of 10 to be selected from 1000 entries across Scotland.
- Mr Pearson and two pupils presented some of the work that is ongoing in the school to promote engineering at the Science Centre.
- **Pupil Councils** – meet every three weeks and the minutes are available on the website.
- **Uniform** – some pupils wearing inappropriate clothes to school. Parents have been informed.
- Second green flag was raised on 8 October.
- **Eco school** – there are still some litter concerns within the school and village. This is being addressed by the Senior Management Team, Mr Rodger and the eco school pupil group.
- A new programme of activities promoting fitness for girls has been launched.
- All Halloween discos were well attended.

8. **AOCB**

Geoff raised the issue about the submission of UCAS forms to universities, especially to English Universities. Moira explained that as soon as the pupil has completed the form it is submitted to the Universities. They do not wait until the closing date and send all forms together. Information about UCAS is on the school website.

9. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 26 January 2010 at 7.00 p.m. in the Community Meetings Room, Balfron High School.

