

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of Balfron High School Parent Council meeting held on Tuesday 13 May 2008 at Balfron High School

Present

John Paton (Chair); Geoff Forward; Tom Lane; Karen Merrick; Pat Monaghan; Dino Jaroszynski; Di Blackmore; Jo Skabara; Bill Stoddart; Dianne Smith; Moira Anderson; Val Corry; Jackie Ebsworth, Maureen McNee

Apologies

Paul Henke; Julie McEachern; Shona Everden; Gill McBride; Jane Hunter; Inge Fik; John Keith

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and duly signed by the Chairperson.

2. Matters arising

The 10k was very successful and 100 High School pupils did the 4k.

3. Parent membership

The constitution states that there should be a minimum of 14 parent members. The present list will be updated with regard to where people live, and what Working Group and whether people wish to be a member of the Parent Council or Working Groups or both. At present there is no representation from Strathblane or Drymen. Val agreed to approach the Primary Heads of these schools.

John and Geoff have agreed to attend the P7 parents night on 9 June 2008 to highlight the Parent Council.

4. Working Groups update

Fund Raising – This group (Paul, Geoff and Jane) have met and discussed various ideas. The idea is to hold 3-4 big events over the year and the first event will be a Race Night in September/October 2008. It was agreed that the Fund raising sub-group start organising this event so a date can be given at the P7 parents night. Other events that were discussed were Art Auction, craft evening. Paul was approached by a company who supply labels, tags etc to put on pupils' belongings. Might be worthwhile putting brochures on display at the P7 parents night and whatever is bought, the school would get 10% but the Parent Council would have emphasise that there are other companies that do this.

AGENDA

Trust Fund – Karen, John and Val met with a firm of lawyers and Val prepared a brief overview of the meeting and this was handed out at the meeting. The Trustees would decide on the activities that would be funded. Proposed membership of the Trust Fund would be looked at again re the co-opted members. The firm of lawyers have agreed to do all the paperwork, etc and the Parent Council agreed that Val should contact them to do this and the Parent Council would pay for their services. The Parent Council will have to approve the final documents and also Stirling Council.

AGENDA

It was agreed to put on the agenda for a future meeting how the allocation of monies would be divided between the Trust Fund and the Parent Council for running costs.

AGENDA

Communication – Tom is working on the website for the Parent Council. The draw for the M&S vouchers will take place early next year. New parents will have the opportunity to see the flyers and complete at the P7 parents night. Also want to look at the relationship between the teachers and parents in all areas. Bill, Shona and Tom to meet with Val. Several parents had approached Julie about the fact that the pupils do not know about the “fun things” that are happening in the school, but Val informed the Council that this information is on the web site.

Life Skills/Career development – This group (Pat, Dino and Charles) have met and handed out the minutes of the meeting. Jackie explained that the best year to target were S3 because that is when they make their choices for work experience, and also S4/5/6. This will fit in with in PSE and an afternoon could be set aside to allow speakers, etc to come in and talk to pupils. Try and compile a directory of parents and their skills for future use. Might be worthy trying to organise an event on how to run a business for S5/6. Bill suggested to Jackie that if the school are going to run a Business Dynamics day, which the Rotary Club ran, it might be better to remodel it with fewer pupils. The group will meet with Jackie and Aileen Crawford (Careers Adviser) to take this forward.

AGENDA

5. AOCB

- A letter has been received from David Cameron stating that due to legislation of Parent Councils, every parent should have a copy of the constitution. It was agreed that the school would email parents with a copy and text the remainder of parents who are not on email saying they can collect a copy at reception. The Parent Council would pay for the cost of texts. Give all P7 parents a copy on parents night.
- Every member received a copy of the proposed school dates for 2009/10 and it was agreed to go with option 2.
- There is a “Drug proof for children” evening being held for parents at Bannockburn High School on 15 June 2008. Might be something the Parent Council could look at for future events.
- Val explained that they would like to collect information from every child about their activities in and out of school by getting them to complete a questionnaire. She wants to know if anybody knows how to produce a questionnaire that can be done online and how to collate the relevant data. The Parent Council members to think about this and get back to Val.
- The first AGM of the Parent Council will be held in April 2009.
- Julie enquired if the queues at lunchtime could be reduced in any way. Sometimes the queues are long because the other counters have run out of food. It was agreed that John would write to Jarvis about the provision of food.

6. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 September 2008 at 7.00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Balfron High School.