

BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of Balfroon High School Parent Council meeting held on Tuesday 25 November 2008 at 7.00 p.m. at Balfroon High School

Present

John Paton (Vice-Chair); Tom Lane; Shona Everden; Julie McEachern; Pat Monaghan; Dino Jaroszynski; Susan Cadle; Philippa Gray; Christine Robinson; Jane Hunter; Dianne Smith; Moira Anderson; Maureen McNee; Katrin Little

Apologies

Di Blackmore; Jo Skabara; Val Corry; Duncan Riley; Gail Falconer; David Brown

John informed the Council that Paul Henke has resigned as Chair of the Parent Council. John Paton was proposed by Philippa Gray and seconded by Jane Hunter to be the new Chair and Julie McEachern agreed to be Vice-Chair.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

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

2. Matters arising

- Ø **Depute Headteacher post** – John and Julie attended the meetings which got to the shortlist stage. There were no suitable candidates and the post is being re-advertised in March / April 2009. Dr Lawrence will stay in post until June 2009.
- Ø No parents have come forward from the Blane Valley or Drymen areas for the Parent Council.
- Ø Dr Lawrence has resolved the problem with the Vale of Leven buses and no further incidents have been reported.
- Ø The questionnaire about pupil's activities in and out of school has been put on hold, as the school is getting a new programme SEMIS and as yet do not know what information is available.

3. Working Groups

To make sure meetings finish on time it was agreed that each Working Group will send a report to Maureen about three weeks before the Council meeting and she will email the report along with the minutes and agenda.

Fund Raising – Jane informed the meeting that the Xmas Fayre will now not go ahead as a suitable date could not be found to get as many stalls, etc involved. It has been decided to hold a Spring Fayre at beginning of March and offer cream teas and maybe get some of the pupils to provide music. Also plan to hold an auction in May 2009 and once Jane has dates for both of these events she will email members. To email Jane with any ideas, etc.

Communication – This group has met and the web site is now ready. Douglas Bell has a copy and it was agreed to let Val see it before launching it. Tom will email all members with the live link. To be mentioned in the next issue of Headlines which is due out in January. There will be a link from the school and back to the school. Might be an idea to get pupils to design a logo and John will ask Val if she can ask the Art Department.

Five parents returned the flyer which was sent out and a winner was picked for the M&S voucher. Shona would organise payment for the voucher. Maureen will write to the five parents and thank them for their interest and send them dates for the Parent Council meetings.

Life skills/career development – These lectures are proving to be very successful but more speakers need to be identified and not just from the academic field, also need speakers from practical careers. This group will contact Jackie Ebsworth, to get a list of what has been done and what is needed. If any member know of anyone to contact Jackie at ebsworthj01s@stirling.gov.uk.

4. **Balfron High School Trust**

Good progress is being made and all the information has been passed to the lawyers. Directors' liability needs to be checked. Jim Bissett and David McPherson have agreed to join the Trust.

5. **AOCB**

- Ø Val attended a Community Council meeting and gave a presentation which was very successful. Paul Rodger will attend the next meeting.
- Ø Katrin informed the meeting that S6 pupils are holding a fund raising day in December in the form of a coffee morning for the community. Charities committee still to chose the charity.
- Ø Julie was approached by Daye Tucker to ask for representation from the Parent Council to sit on the Community Planning Partnership Committee and both Julie and Tom have agreed and will attend the next meeting.
- Ø Julie's husband Gordon, is one of the parent representatives on the music group cluster meetings which are held in Stirling with visiting music teachers. If any members have any questions, etc to email Julie and Gordon will take this to the next meeting. One issue to raise would be why there are no pupils from Balfron High in the Stirling Schools Pipe Band (this has been a long standing issue). Also Moira agreed to find out what the criteria is about pupils who play a musical instrument joining the school orchestra.
- Ø Julie asked what the criteria was if pupils are missing lessons to do music or sporting activities. Moira said sometimes pupils are missing for quite a few weeks at a time, and it is really up them to decide to go or not.
- Ø Dino wondered when the school dance dates were set as there are a few pupils from Drymen who are involved in the local pantomime and would miss the dance. Moira said dates were put out at the beginning of term and are also on the website.

6. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27 January 2009 at 7.00 p.m. in the Meeting Room, Balfron High School.

Dates of future meetings:

Tuesday 10 March 2009

Tuesday 9 June 2009

AGM – Tuesday 28 April 2009