

Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting  
held on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015 in the  
Principal's Office at 6.00pm

Present: Katrina Smith (Chair)  
Ollie Clegg (Deputy Chair)  
Sheila Paton  
Jackie Smith  
Bill Smith  
Kristyna MacSween  
Stuart Sinclair  
Anne-Marie Mooney (Minutes)

**1. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minute of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 was approved.

**Matters Arising:**

RRED Campaign

Kristyna updated on the RRED campaign – other schools around Scotland are taking on the campaign. Kristyna has a meeting planned on 24<sup>th</sup> April with Cllr Norma Austin Hart. Jackie advised that a local shop are selling energy drinks to under 16yrs.

SW Neighbourhood Meeting

Cllr Fullerton has raised the issue of prior notification of the Agenda for local meetings with Moira Wilson. Katrina has also raised this before, as the Agenda is distributed too late to ensure a proper consultation process before the meeting. Sheila advised that Council system is that the Agenda is sent out the week before the meeting.

Refurbishment and Building Works

Sheila reported that Block D – Art, Drama and CDT has been handed over, Art Dept will remain in situ in temporary accommodation to avoid disruption and move back at the end of next term.

Staffing

Marie Ritchie, PE returns from maternity leave in March.

ICT

iPads have been purchased for all Cluster primary schools and will be distributed to parents/pupils after the Easter break.

Staff and S3 students are now using iPads daily in lessons and benefitting from increased use of ICT. Sheila has found iPads and using a Maths app has saved time and made teaching Maths easier.

The Art Room

A small group of students have been working with Kevin Harman on an installation in the Quad area of the school. Kevin is a former student of WHEC and the project is being funded by the Art Room. The works will be changing and evolving over the coming weeks.

### Recreation

New spin cycling classes are now running on a trial basis.

### Exchange Teacher

Stuart advised that the exchange teacher hosted by Social Subjects was very proactive.

## **1. Principal's Report**

Sheila advised the Parent Council that she will be taking up a seconded post to work as part of the BOLD Team after the Easter break. She will continue to oversee the Community area of the school. Angela Hendry will continue as Centre Manager. Stuart Heggie will take over as Acting Head Teacher of School. Katrina thanked Sheila on behalf of the Parent Council as she will be missed.

## **2. Election**

After six years Katrina has to step down as Chair of the Parent Council, this will be the last meeting that she will act as Chair. Katrina has been a passionate advocate for the school and the community and has seen the school make progress from being under threat of closure to being in a very good place. Jackie Smith was elected to take over as the new Chair. Jackie is to be added as a signatory to the Parent Council bank account.

## **3. Positive Action Funding**

Sheila informed the Parent Council that the Positive Action Funding allocation that we receive as part of our overall core school budget has been decreased. The Positive Action budget is a set amount of £70/student received from the Authority linked to the percentage of pupils entitled to free meal and clothing grants and to baseline literacy attainment. Sheila has asked the Authority for clarification but has not received a response yet and there is concern that a shortfall in funding could impact on staffing. The Parent Council agreed to write directly to local Councillors and Director of Children & Families.

## **4. AOCB**

Sheila shared some of the results of the recent Pupil Survey with the Parent Council. Results for WHEC are very positive and are a vindication of how well staff work with students to make a real difference.

Katrina asked if Parent Council could provide financial support to the school. Sheila will circulate details of recent Department bids for the Council to decide.

Invitations have gone out to guests for the Senior Award Ceremony on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Anne-Marie to check that Jackie has received an invitation.

Stuart Sinclair advised that he will be stepping down as a staff representative after 20 years. The Parent Council thanked Stuart for all his contributions over the years.

Katrina thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and wished Sheila good luck in her new role.

**Date of Next Meeting is Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 at 6.00pm.**