

Glen Urquhart High School Parent Council

9 June 2015

In Attendance:	PM	Paul Milton	Head Teacher
	SK	Sodi Kakouris	Chairperson
	LI	Lesley Inglis	Treasurer
	MW	Morag Watson	Secretary
	EC	Emma Cooper	
	MF	Morag Fraser	
	KH	Karen Hookham	
	LS	Laurna Stobo	

Not Present:	Paula Cooper
	Laura Quinn
	Roni Smith

		Action
1	Welcome and Apologies	
	Apologies were received from Paula Cooper.	
2	Minutes of Meeting of 21 January 2015	
	Minutes were approved subject to correction of item 5.2 to show that Calum Scott-Woodhouse had been covering Laura Fraser's maternity leave and is leaving to take up a 1-year post at Millburn.	MW
3	Matters Arising	
	There were no matters arising.	
4	Correspondence	
	<u>Email from Sharon Binnie – Leavers' Fund</u> LI had received a request from Sharon to use leftover funds towards their after party. As the additional money they raised had gone towards photobooks (see item 7.2.1 of last minutes) there were no further funds. PM also confirmed that the after party was never arranged through school or parent council as it was a private party. LI had issued the tabled response to Sharon which gave a clear explanation of what funds were and were not used for.	
5	Head Teacher's Report	
5.1	<u>School Website</u> PM had issued a link to the new school website which was due to launch at the end of June, and thanked everyone for their feedback. It was hoped the office would take on the upkeep thereby ensuring it remained up-to-date and serve as a useful resource for current and prospective parents.	
5.2	<u>Standards and Quality Report</u> PM had circulated the draft report which he talked through as detailed below. Any comments on the report should be passed to PM to enable him to finalise and submit the report in a fortnight.	All
5.2.1	There is a report "Developing Scotland's Young Work Force" about developing youth in practical experience as well as academically.	

We have worked towards this with the introduction of the “Bridge to Employment” programme and “Young Enterprise” this session and the forthcoming introduction of the Skills for Work Travel and Tourism Course.

5.2.2 The Work Experience placement is currently a compulsory part of S3 though it may become optional as more pupils work outwith school. GUHS is keen to keep it available in some form so that all pupils have the opportunity to gain some work experience.

The work experience week is valuable if a quality planned experience is provided by business in a field of interest to the pupil. PM hopes to involve Partners from the Community in working out how to improve the experience for the 2016/17 session.

ASDAN, Young Enterprise, Bridge to Employment and the Vocational Preparation Pathway with day release to college are all alternative ways we can tailor the experience to suit individuals.

5.2.3 Covered the development of the ten new Higher courses which had been/would be introduced over this session and next.

5.2.4 The Key Adult support provided to S1-S3 pupils had worked well and would roll out to S4 pupils so they could be mentored through their exams.

5.2.5 A practical-based course in gardening had been added to the range of modules offered as part of the ASDAN Award.

5.2.6 The Health & Wellbeing Working Group ran successful days for S4-S6 pupils focussing on mental health, and for S1-S3 pupils focussing on more general topics such as food, fitness and screen time.

5.2.7 Under “Improvements for Next Session” there will be development of the BGE (Broad General Education) system and SEEMis to track pupil progress so that SMT, Guidance and Key Adults can monitor pupil achievements and performance, use the information to motivate pupils to improve further, and provide useful feedback to parents.

5.2.8 The school will introduce the Youth & Philanthropy Initiative (YPI Scotland) to strengthen wider achievement.

5.2.9 Parent emails will be gathered so that reliance on postal mailings can be reduced (costs around £100 per mailshot) and more frequent communication with parents can take place.

5.2.10 The views of parent, pupil and staff will continue to be sought to enable a fuller self-evaluation process and inform future planning.

5.3 Staffing

- Calum Scott-Woodhouse was leaving.
- Laura Fraser returning.
- Charlotte Murray, a former pupil, had joined the office.
- Ian Fulton, Principal Teacher at Lochgilphead High School, will replace Iain Graham as Principal Teacher of English. This appointment will enable us to offer Advance Higher English.
- There had been lots of positive feedback for Iain Graham

via the Inverness Courier and Facebook.

5.4

Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Council will no longer fund the DoE Award, although PM has secured a final year of support from Highland Highlife to run the Award this year. Two teachers are involved as part of their investment, but volunteers are needed from the community to enable the programme to continue. A meeting held this evening had generated some interest in offering support.

5.5

Activities

- The date of the Musical Showcase has been moved from 23rd to 29th June.
- The Activity Week had been enjoyed by all.
- £421.36 had been raised through Christian Aid's fundraising for Nepal.

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Treasurer's Report

No change to the balance, though KH is due £58.45 for medals and inserts and LI is due £14 for postage.

LI / KH

It was agreed to fund a gift valued at £10 to each of Donald Mcdiarmid and Cait Gordon for their help with events, and a box of biscuits/chocolates for the office staff for their help.

LI

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Events

7.1

Film Theme Night Update

SK cannot manage along to the start of the Film so KH volunteered Jamie Hookham to act as projectionist. JH and SK should meet and JH should familiarise himself with the new sound system in advance.

SK / JH

SK will get the drinks to us and KH will top up popcorn, ice-cream and tea box supplies. MW will bring a lucky bucket.

KH
MW

7.2

Leavers' Celebrations Update

7.2.1

Leavers' Presentation

SK will speak at the Leavers' Presentation and will include the Parent Council's thanks to Iain Graham.

SK

7.2.2

Meal at Loch Ness Inn

Invitations have been issued with an rsvp for the end of this week. LI will email invitation to PM to arrange for it to go on the website.

LI

The invitation includes a link to the location of the photos of the evening. These will include those taken at the start of the evening as they receive their medal from the Head and Deputy. LI will check with Cait whether Donald is also taking photos.

LI

The menu has been improved with additional savoury, salad, bread and sweet items. Juice will be on the table. Cost is £10 per person.

7.3

Refreshment

Volunteers are requested to serve refreshments at the following events:

- Monday 15 June – LGBT Parents' Consultation Evening
- Thursday 25 June – P7 Transition Parents' Evening

- Monday 29 June – Musical Showcase Event
(leavers may run a raffle)
- Wednesday 1 July – Leavers' Dance

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AGM Arrangements and Agenda

The standard items of Welcome, Minutes, Matters Arising, Chair's report, Treasurer's report, Approval of Accounts and Appointment of Auditor, Events Group update and Election of Office Bearers would be included.

LI wondered who could audit the accounts this year as Donna Green had audited last year as a favour. EC would ask Donna again, just in case, though anyone with alternative suggestions should make them known to LI. Nikki MacLennan's name was put forward.

EC
All

MF had a prior engagement so tendered her apologies in advance should she not make it to the AGM.

MW

PM/SK would publicise the Parent Council and AGM at the P7 Parents' Evening and the Musical Showcase.

PM / SK

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Any Other Business

Baxter's Challenge

MF advised that the next Baxter's Challenge would be on 27 September and there would be an opportunity for the new S6 to volunteer for the bag packing and/or assisting at Bught Park.

LI would like to hand over the Leavers' Event arrangements and EC agreed to learn the ropes over the next year.

LI / EC

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Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be the AGM to be held at 7pm on Wednesday 16 September 2015. PM to book meeting room.

All note
PM