



ULLAPOOL HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL COMHAIRLE NAM PÀRANT ARDSGOIL ULAPUL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held: 11th November, 2015

1. **Present:** Cathy Higginson (Chair), Helen Meek (Treasurer), Anthony O'Flaherty, Sam Richards, Ian Williams (Teacher Rep)

Apologies: Christine Crook, Joany McGuire, Ailsa Strange, Lorraine Thomson

In attendance: Robbie McFedries (Head Teacher)

2. **Announcements or late additions to the Agenda:** None

3. **Minutes:** Minutes of 2014 AGM were approved. Proposed: Anthony O'Flaherty Seconded: Helen Meek

4. **Report on the work of the Parent Council and its committee(s):**

Cathy Higginson, as Chair, reported the following:

The Parent Council has held four ordinary meetings since last year's AGM including one outreach meeting in Lochinver. A wide range of topics have been discussed including wifi provision in school transport; vegetarian school meals options; staffing issues; Highland Council budget cuts; the School Improvement Plan; and tracking and monitoring students' progress in both S1-S3 broad general education and in the senior phase.

As a Parent Council we are currently looking at more effective ways of gathering views/input/feedback from parents/carers, and keeping a close eye on the impact proposed Highland Council cuts will have on the school, an impact which thankfully has been relatively limited to date.

Once again we have seen fantastic achievements by pupils at all levels of the school, including some excellent exam results, and would like to congratulate both pupils and staff for these well-deserved successes. Thanks too to all the staff for their hard work supporting our young people over the past year.

We see the potential challenges which lie ahead for us and the school over the coming year centering particularly on mitigating the impact of budget cuts; setting up a system of regular parental feedback; getting parents more involved in the life of the school and in the Parent Council; and possibly taking on more of a fundraising role.

At present the Parent Council does not have any sub-committees.

5. **Selection of new Parent Council:**

Name	Position held	Area represented	Proposed	Seconded
Cathy Higginson	Chairperson	Ullapool	Anthony	Helen
Helen Meek	Treasurer	Dundonnell	Co-opted after AGM	
Christine Crook	Secretary	Ullapool	Cathy	Ian
Anthony O'Flaherty		Ullapool		
Ailsa Strange		Ullapool		
Lorraine Thomson		Ullapool		
Sam Richards		Ullapool		
Ian Williams		Teacher Rep		
Helen Munro		Community Member		
		Pupil Rep		

Actions arising from election of office bearers:

- **Cathy** to look into whether we can pay someone to act as secretary from the Highland Council allocation.
- The idea of asking a group of pupils to meet and pool ideas and then one/two of them to come along to each meeting was discussed. **Robbie** to follow this up. Also the idea of a reciprocal arrangement where a member of the Parent Council attends Pupil Council. Cathy said she would be happy to attend these meetings on behalf of the Parent Council. **Robbie** to follow up.

6. **Approval of the accounts and appointment of the auditor:**

The bank account has a balance of £403.82. £50 is still to be paid to the School Fund towards the Spanish trip led by David Crook. **Action: Helen and Cathy** to sign a cheque for £50 to the School Fund immediately after the meeting and give to Robbie. The accounts have been audited by Laura Talbot. The Highland Council allocation is still to be received. **Cathy** to complete the application form for this asap. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Helen and seconded by Robbie.

7. **AOB:** None

8. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 12th September, 2016 at 6.30pm.

DRAFT