



Ullapool High School Parent Council
Comhairle Nam Pàrant Ardscoil Ulapul
Minutes

Monday 29th Nov 2016 7pm, Ullapool High School

1. Present and apologies

Parent Council members: Anthony O'Flaherty (Chair), Christine Crook (Vice-Chair), Dave Maxwell (Secretary), Sam Richards, Nellie Collins, Andrew Lintern, Stephanie Sutherland, Sue Pomeroy

In attendance: Robbie McFedries (Head Teacher), Anne Hunter (Depute), Caroline Thompson (Pupil Rep, S5), Carla Lees (Pupil Rep, S4)

Apologies: Joany McGuire, Sot Otter, Julie Allen, Helen Meek (Treasurer), Fiona Saywell, Anne Wood, Janis Patterson, Ian Williams (Teacher Rep),

2. Announcements or late additions to the agenda. None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting (26th Sep 2016) Proposed: SP seconded: SS

4. Head Teacher's report (RM)

- New, twice yearly pupil Tracking and Monitoring reports have been introduced in the Broad General Education. The 1st was this term and received very good feedback from parents.
- Attendance at Parent's evenings tends to fall-off as pupils move up the school and various suggestions for improving this were discussed.
- Currently there are 3 Mentors who are helping pupils with school and family issues. This is proving very successful and more volunteers are requested. **Action:** Parents to contact RM if they want to find out more.
- Lorraine T has started a Visioning Group looking at school and community values. The group includes pupils of all ages, teachers and parents.
- A number of S1 pupil volunteers have been helping at the New Broom
- Senior Pupils have been working with the Youth Philanthropy Initiative and will be pitching for a local charity to receive a £3000 grant.
- Teachers are progressing the Improvement Plans identified following this year's exam results.
- Subject selection for S4-6 will begin at the end of Feb and every effort will be made to allow pupils to select the subjects they need and are committed to.
- School periods are now aligned with other schools which could permit "virtual learning" options for subjects not offered at UHS. Also, the school will part-fund pupils joining the Open University Young Applicants in Schools scheme.

5. Treasurer's Report (HM, post meeting) - The most recent Bank balance on Oct 3rd was £551.67

6. Matters arising from previous meeting

- **Astro turf** – CC sent a number of emails to Brian Porter and Steve Barron (Chief Exec at the HC) about the state of the pitch and replacement work is now expected to commence at the end of Mar.
- **Dress Code Letter** – AO sent a letter to the Ullapool News asking parents to support the dress code and show pride in the school **Action** RM to consider offering a blazer if there is a demand from pupils (e.g. when representing the school).
- **S4/S5 English Reading Material** – Lorraine Thompson sent a letter from the PC to Education Scotland complaints departments and is awaiting a response.
- **Pupil Reps** – Caroline and Carla attended the meeting and contributed on a number of items. **Action** AH to work with pupils to decide how they should be represented going forward.
- **Sound recording studio** – Training has now begun, but school funding can only cover up to Feb. **Action:** SR + AW to look into Award for All funding as well as additional fundraising by pupils.
- **Youth Work:** Yvonne Boa was unable to attend, but sent an email summary of her work and Carla went through the key items.
- **Review and Approval of Constitution** – PC approved subject to minor rewording. **Action:** DM to update and put on school website.
- **Funding** - Easyfundraising now set up. **Action:** Parents to sign-up before Christmas.
- **Overseas Trips** – RM has received more feedback from parents and is developing a school policy on types and costs of future trips.

7. AOB – none

8. Date of next meeting: Mon 13th Feb 2016 @ 6:30 pm **NOTE EARLIER TIME**