

Ullapool High School Parent Council
Comhairle Nam Pàrant Ardsgoil Ulapul

Parent Council Minutes Thu 9th March 6.00pm, by Zoom

1.0 Present and apologies: Seori Burnett (Chair), Sue Pomeroy (Treasurer), Suzanne Lewis-Ing, Janis Patterson, Nadine Lunn, Susan McSweeney, Andrew Hayton, Lorna Howarth Hayton, Siobhan Beatson, Caroline Boyd (Head Teacher), Jo Stewart (Depute Head),
Apologies: Kirsty MacLeod, Elaine MacAskill, Esmée Lunn, Andrew Inglis (Teacher Rep)

2.0 Minutes of meeting 22.09.2022: Proposed by JP, seconded by SP

3.0 Matters arising from previous minutes:

Potential parent council support with co-ordinating transport to outlying areas after extra-curricular activities ongoing. **ACTION ALL**

SP forwarded signed set of accounts after the last meeting (see attached).

School has made improvements to the female toilets following the previous meeting.

4.0 Head Teacher's update:

CB advised that it has been another very busy year for the school so far.

CB thanked JS and the staff for all the work involved in carrying out assessments. CB noted that the pupils also deserve credit for coping well. As part of the self-evaluation processes, JS will be gathering feedback from pupils and staff about the assessment window. Parental feedback will be included in the next academic year.

CB and JS have also been holding Post-Prelim/Assessment Attainment Meetings with PTs. This is an opportunity for departments to discuss individual pupils and interventions, as applicable. Also working on a whole school tracker to support this process going forward.

The school said farewell to two Swiss student teachers after successful placements at UHS.

Celebrating success and wider opportunities:

A large number of pupils were involved in the Christmas Assembly including two young people delivering inserts in Gaelic.

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A group of Gaelic medium pupils entered a film and attended the Gaelic Film Awards in Glasgow (the PC contributed some support funding to this trip)

S2 pupils are currently involved in the Hill to Grill project.

The DoE S3 elective is taking place this term and the Gold practice expedition takes place at the end of the month.

Morven MacDonald (Personal Development Coach) has been working with S6 pupils. This has included mock interviews.

The Science Department also been busy with UPS P7 workshops on electricity and First Aid training for pupils involved in the Health Sector course. S3 John Muir pupils also completed their 1 day first aid training.

The school hosted the 'Faces of Kabul' photography exhibition and some pupils also attended the Scottish Opera evening. Thanks to Mrs Strachan for facilitating both of these opportunities.

The boys' football teams have continued their winning streak with the S1 boys - winning all their matches in a recent tournament at Alness Academy. Well done to them.

HC Quality Assurance Visit and Parent Survey

Info out to parents yesterday. **Could parents please complete the survey.**

Consultation has taken place on the new Vision and Values and Poppy is making a short film to illustrate.

Timetable choices

A number of parents have expressed concerns over potential timetable clashes and lack of realistic choice within the S4,5&6 options.

The final options choices and meetings with guidance teachers are about to take place which will give a clearer picture for the coming year.

A detailed discussion around timetable issues and available subject choices took place and parents were able to talk about specific issues affecting their own children but also relevant to the wider school population.

CB advised that providing a breadth of curriculum choice within the context of budget constraints and a falling school roll remains challenging. The teaching staff and pupils will be working on how more creative approaches to structuring the learning experience can be achieved.

Developing a curriculum which delivers for all pupils will be an ongoing task involving, staff, pupils and parents.

AH suggested that additional support may be required to cover for loss of teaching due to adverse weather and industrial action.

5.0 Treasurer's Report

The current balance in the PC account stands at £4,437.14.

SP said that she would be happy to introduce a new volunteer to the role of treasurer as she may be stepping down at the end of this academic year. SP emphasized that the role is not complicated or particularly time consuming but there are some details that a new treasurer will need to be aware of and the role is integral to the running of the parent council.

AH reported that Tesco operations have been going through some restructuring and a final decision on the second rag bag in the Tesco car park is on hold until 28th April. Thanks to AH for following this up and we look forward an update on progress. **ACTION AH**

A detailed discussion on how the parent council can attract and utilise funds to support the school and extra-curricular activities.

SP questioned the formal process for UHS requesting funding from the parent council with particular reference to whether individuals could request funds or there would be an internal UHS process to bring formal requests to the parent council. This remains to be formalized. It was noted that any requests for funding would have to include as full a breakdown of cost as far possible. **ACTION SB/UHS**

It was questioned whether the parent council should be funding capital expenditure that might be considered the responsibility of THC. The realities of decreased funding from THC were also acknowledged. On balance it was agreed that parent council funds could be used to support capital expenditure if it was considered directly beneficial to the pupils and staff.

CB outlined costs to replace the cubby holes and existing lockers which do not work with a complete set of new lockers for all the pupils.

JP suggested that we could approach various organisations to sponsor/fund specific capital items in addition to or instead of PC funds. JP and SB to discuss options and approach.

ACTION JP/SB

As agreed previously the parent council will donate a gift of £100 to each department to use as they see fit. SP to forward cheque to the school. **ACTION SP**

It was suggested that the PC make a further contribution of £100 per pupil to the DofE gold exhibition particularly as these pupils had missed out on a school trip due to COVID. This was generally agreed and it was acknowledged that this would likely be an ongoing commitment to support DofE trips for following years.

It was agreed that the remainder of current funds (approximately £2,000) should be used to support other projects such as the lockers, final amount dependent on success of sourcing

funds from external organisations.

JP suggested that it was important to publicise the financial support that the parent council is giving to the school and other youth organisations. It was generally agreed that this would demonstrate the effectiveness of the parent council and potentially attract new members and increased parent support. **ACTION SB**

6.0 Summer Term Event

It was agreed that with the exams approaching in the summer term and the work required on further funding (as discussed above) there is not currently sufficient time or resource to devote to organizing an event.

An event shortly after the start of the next academic year could be considered. However, it was generally agreed that it would be more productive to raise funds from other sources as discussed previously and hold events primarily as social occasions to celebrate success.

7.0 Timetable choices

Refer to discussion above

8.0 General allocation of space for study, distance learning and recreation

Study spaces are being planned and common room spaces are under review.

9.0 Cubby holes/lockers

Refer to above

10.0 Subgroups

To be discussed at the next meeting

11.0 AOB

It was agreed that the involvement of pupil reps Poppy and Esmée had been very welcome and it would be good to have a pupil representing the BGE S1-3 group. **ACTION Pupil Council/UHS**

12.0 Date of next meeting: TBA

Ullapool High School Parent Council Balance Sheet

Date	Deposit	Withdrawal	Balance	Description
02/07/2021			3498.24	Opening balance
14/07/2021	22.40		3520.64	Rag bag
26/07/2021	58.80		3579.44	Rag bag
03/08/2021	58.80		3638.24	Rag bag
04/08/2021	16.17		3654.41	Easy fundraising
07/09/2021	42.40		3696.81	Rag bag
14/09/2021	38.80		3735.61	Rag bag
29/09/2021	0.45		3736.06	Interest
26/10/2021	17.20		3753.26	Rag bag
17/11/2021	14.00		3767.26	Rag bag
23/11/2021	46.80		3814.06	Rag bag
06/12/2021	218.96		4033.02	Highland council
14/12/2021	42.80		4075.82	Rag bag
30/12/2021	0.48		4076.30	Interest
11/01/2022	52.80		4129.10	Rag bag
08/02/2022	52.80		4181.90	Rag bag
18/02/2022	32.24		4214.14	Easy fundraising
16/03/2022	33.20		4247.34	Rag bag
30/03/2022	0.51		4247.85	Interest
20/04/2022	50.00		4297.85	Rag bag
10/05/2022	42.40		4340.25	Rag bag
28/06/2022	45.60		4385.85	Rag bag
29/06/2022	0.97		4386.82	Interest
05/07/2022	52.40			Rag bag
06/07/2022		225.00	4214.22	David Crook Ingleston
26/07/2022	46.80		4261.02	Rag bag

Agreed and verified from documents
presented and found to be in
agreement

Julie Pyke
JULIE PYKE
11/11/22

Table 1

26/07/2022			4261.02	Closing balance for year.
TOTAL	934.98	225.00		
02/07/2021			3498.24	
Add income and with drawals			709.98	
Balance@26/07/2022			4261.02	

Agreed and verified from documents presented and found to be in agreement

Julie Pyke

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