



Ullapool High School Parent Council
Comhairle Nam Pàrant Ardsgoil Ulapul
Minutes

Tuesday 16th Mar 2021 6:00pm, by Zoom

1. **Present: (PC members):** Seori Burnett (Chair), Christine Crook (Vice-Chair), Dave Maxwell (Secretary), Sue Pomeroy (Treasurer), Anthony O'Flaherty, Fiona Saywell, , Suzanne Lewis-Ing, Andrew MacKay, Susan McSweeney
2. **Apologies** Nadine Lunn, Andrew Lintern, Julia Campbell
3. **Others in Attendance:** Pauline Burnett, Kirsty + John Lavell, Cathy Higginson, Ann MacLeod (parents), Robbie McFedries, Jo Stewart (Depute Head), Andrew Inglis (Teacher Rep),
4. **Approval of previous minutes (3rd Nov)** – Proposed by AO'F, seconded by FS
5. **Matters Arising from previous meeting**
 - **Dundonnell Bus** – resolved
 - **Fundraising:** A “rag bag” collection was held
6. **Treasures Update** – Balance is now £3293.02 including ragbag collection
7. **Head Teachers Update**
 - **On-line Teaching** – the last year has been a steep learning curve and generally teachers and pupils have risen to the challenge with some having excelled. However it was recognised that there has not been 100% engagement in all year groups and the online format does not facilitate learning of all subjects and individuals equally. Despite this RMF pointed out that pupils have also learned new skills which will be needed in later life.
 - **Return to School** – it has been challenging to manage the new classroom arrangements whilst still running some on-line learning for S1-3, however there have been no significant issues with seniors in the first 2 days. Teachers have noticed pupils are quiet, but hopefully this will get back to normal. Some S1-3 have been less engaged so keen to get all back in on Friday.
 - **Assessments** – formative assessments are being planned in the next few weeks to identify gaps in learning followed by classroom based assessments with SQA reduced/modified syllabus in May/June. These will be quality assured by teachers within and between schools. The SQA will quality assure schools in May to ensure schools are assessing and marking to the national standard. Prior to provisional results being sent to SQA there will be quality assurance processes by SMT and Highland Council. Submissions of provisional grades to the SQA will be by 25th June - pupils and parents should be aware of grades at this point. Certificates will be received by pupils on 10th Aug. SQA are currently consulting on an appeals process.
 - **Staffing for 2021/22** – Staffing is being reviewed in line with reducing school role, but hoping for additional “education recovery” funding to allow probationers to be recruited to reduce class sizes. Welcome to Craig Burry new Chemistry teacher (probationer) and congratulations to Katie Parker on the birth of her twins.
 - **Courses** - Hoping to work with new partners to develop new courses (e.g. rural skills and local apprenticeships)
 - **Course Selection** – this is coming up soon; the school have been working through scheduling the choices and the columns were working out well.
8. **AOB**
 - **None**
9. **Date of Next Meeting:** May/June tbc