

Minutes of AHS Parent Council Meeting 8th January 2013

Present: Meeting chaired by Ruth Betley (Vice Chair) (Shiskine), Cil Paul (Lamlash), Patricia Jenkins (Brodick), Alison May (Dippen), Alison Richards (Minutes) (Lochranza), Beth Mowatt (Kildonan), Andrew Walsh (Whiting Bay)

In attendance : Mr Auld (Headteacher), Mrs Gregg (Depute Head), Miss Graham (Administration and Finance Officer)

1. Apologies: Robin Jenks (Chair), Kate Jenks (Clerk), Heather Allison (Lamlash), Debra Robertson (Blackwaterfoot)

2. Minutes of Meeting 26th November 2012

Amendment to 10.2 agreed. Proposed PJ. Seconded BM

3. Matters Arising

3.1 'Temperature Check' Questionnaire – 2010 questionnaire results to be sourced and circulated to PC members. **ACTION DA**

3.2 Community Representative – agreed to invite Rev. Angus Adamson. **ACTION DA** on behalf of PC

3.3 Training - Frances Rodman (NAC Quality Improvement Officer) has offered training on Arran. Other PC Chairs to be contacted.
ACTION RB

3.4. School Handbook – completed and on the school website. Feedback to be sought from new S1 pupils and parents in the coming year. PJ and KJ's feedback on the draft handbook and DA's response were brought to the meeting and will be circulated to PC members.
ACTION PJ

3.5 Emails regarding teaching vacancies – Acknowledgement received from Kenneth Gibson MSP. Mike Russell Secretary for Education and Carol Kirk NAC Corporate Director Education and Skills yet to respond.

4. School General Fund – Miss Graham

Miss Graham described the varying fundraised income and expenditure of this audited account over the course of a school year. Income

includes monies raised from the sale of school uniforms, school show (approx. £100 2012), Christmas Fayre (£1200 2011), concert (£460 2012) and from pupils for transport / trips (£1250 @ £5 per pupil). Expenditure is largely for transport (£3,200 2011/12).

The fund is used for 'additional experiences' to enhance curricular activities. An activities budget no longer exists and the island allowance has not increased in recent years. Teaching staff bid for funds at monthly meetings.

The school has a very good record for fundraising for charity - almost £1,500 in 2011/12. This activity is separate from the General Fund.

It was agreed that travel costs should be the focus of parental fundraising initiatives. Fundraising ideas to be sought from PC members **ACTION ALL** and the Pupil Council **ACTION SG**

5. Parental Concerns – None

6. Chairperson's Report – None

7. Curriculum for Excellence – No update

8. School Improvement Plan

Pupil Profiles – Profiles for S1, S5 and S6 have been sent out and profiles for all year groups except S4 will be sent out soon. Predicted grades were discussed and the difficulty of being accurate with some pupils / subjects. Ways of receiving confirmation that Profiles have been received were discussed.

9. Head Teacher's Report

9.1 HMI follow-through report – Final version agreed last day of term – copy to be circulated to PC members. **ACTION DA**

9.2 Winter Sports Trip – Very successful. All staff concerned to be thanked on behalf of parents. **ACTION DA**

9.3 Comenius Project – This is a themed two year project and exchange funded by the British Council. This has been made possible for AHS pupils over a number of years due to very good links with schools in Muret near Toulouse in France and Kassel in Germany. Ms Costello and Ms Moffat currently run the after school club on Tuesdays.

Full or partial funding is available to pupils.

With a falling school role and parental perceptions regarding safety, fewer pupils each year choose to go to France or Germany. Schools in France do exchange visits at what is exam time in Scotland. Siblings in a household may be revising and this is also a factor. 10 pupils wish to do an exchange this year while a full class of 24 expect to come from France. Including German pupils, 34 host families are needed and there is a shortfall of 17 hosts.

A final meeting regarding the project will be planned and PC parents agreed to appeal directly to parents. **ACTION BM and AW**

10. Finance – No update

50:50 Club to be promoted. **ACTION PJ**

11. A. O. C. B.

Business Studies : PJ requested an update. Pupil progress in Administration is difficult to compare with previous years. Business Management is on a par with previous years. S5/6 will sit a NAB in January. Supported study is on offer with specific dates being sent to parents. Ms Sloan has visited another school for moderation input.

Meeting Dates for 2013

4th February (Mon) 4th March (Mon)

18th April (Thurs) 13th May (Mon)

10th June (Mon)

