

**INVERALLOCHY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

WEDNESDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2017

Attended: Fiona Edwards (Head Teacher), Jane Campbell, Michael Tait, Julie Stephen, Sarah Duthie, Claire Buchan, Fiona McKinstry, Alison Tait, Lynsey Gammack, Donna Pesic, Karen Johnston, Diane Sim

Apologies: Cllr Charles Buchan, Cllr Doreen Mair, Cllr Brian Topping, Cllr Andy Kille, Sarah Ritchie, Marnie Laird

1. Proposal/Appointment of Office Bearers

Donna Pesic welcomed everyone. She said she would be happy to continue being the Chairperson, which was agreed. Sarah Ritchie had communicated by email to the Parent Council that she was stepping down as Secretary. Karen Johnston proposed Alison Tait as the Secretary and this was agreed. Lynsey Gammack said she would be happy to continue being the Treasurer and this was agreed. Claire Buchan was proposed as an Assistant Treasurer and this was agreed. Alison Tait noted that according to the Constitution there required to be a Vice Chairperson. Fiona Edwards proposed Sarah Duthie and this was agreed.

New Office Bearers: Chairperson - Donna Pesic
Vice Chairperson - Sarah Duthie
Secretary - Alison Tait
Treasurer - Lynsey Gammack
Assistant Treasurer - Claire Buchan

2. Confirm Parent Council Members

Donna asked whether all of the attendees wanted to be on the Parent Council or if they were only attending for the AGM. Everyone indicated that they wanted to be on the Parent Council. This was agreed.

3. Any actions from previous meeting

Fiona advised that in this and the next term there would be a book fair, 3 different discos and a fundraising quiz. She noted that the Charity Calendar was being used.

Sarah asked about the Group Call app. Fiona indicated that this was expected to be used but had not yet been put in place. Sarah said there was good feedback about it in Fraserburgh South Park School. It was useful for parents texting the school with messages.

Alison noted that basketball stands had been set up in the playground on a Wednesday for the pupils. She also suggested Fraserburgh Storm Basketball Club (Leo Harper) as an option for Active Aberdeenshire activities at the school.

4. Head Teacher Report

Fiona reported that staffing is stable and classes are smaller. There is a straight P1 class. The probationary teacher has settled in well at the school. Michael asked about future staffing levels. Fiona indicated she hoped that there could be 6 teachers over the next few years. However, this would depend on the school roll.

Nursery was full in August. There are 41 children and no space for more. Nursery hours may be extended but this is not a pilot nursery where hours are currently being extended. Michael asked if there was any reason for the increase in numbers. Various reasons were suggested. Michael asked if staffing is increasing to reflect the increasing number of pupils. Fiona indicated that the staff/child ratio is within the applicable limits but that she is continuing to push for more staff. There is a volunteer doing 2 days a week as part of her training.

Fiona noted again that there will be national testing for Literacy and Numeracy in primaries 1, 4 and 7 from this school year. No communications have been received yet from Aberdeenshire Council on when in the school year the tests are to be done.

Michael noted that there were ongoing reforms in Scottish education.

Michael noted that the results for achievement of Curriculum for Excellence Levels in Literacy and Numeracy in primaries 1, 4 and 7 were now being published by the Scottish Government online annually, including for individual schools. It was agreed that this would now be addressed by the Parent Council at the next meetings following their publication.

Michael noted that the results of national tests for Literacy and Numeracy were to be published by the Scottish Government online annually, including for individual schools. It was agreed that this would now be addressed by the Parent Council at the next meetings following their publication.

The block of Coastal Classrooms using the coast to promote learning is going well. Various parents expressed positive feedback from their children. It was felt that it would be good to have this again in future.

The I Bike scheme has begun. The scheme is a 3 year programme which is to be handed over to Teacher Kim Miller after 3 years. It is to encourage children to get out on bikes safely. There is a Bike Breakfast in September for pupils and parents with the I Bike crew. There is training available for parents who want to get involved. It is all free.

Ann Marie Taylor is leaving her role at the school office on 22 September for a role at the Benaiah rehabilitation centre. She has been very dedicated and done a great job at school. It was agreed that the Parent Council would give Ann Marie a card and flowers.

Aberdeenshire Council will be installing picnic benches in the playground.

5. Any other business and future meeting dates

It was agreed Fiona would go ahead and order the School mat in red with some blue as shown in the draft produced at the meeting. It will be paid by the Parent Council (approx £320 + VAT).

Diane brought up the issue of book bags. It was agreed to put this on the next agenda. Donna will bring in one from a previous school.

Sarah suggested Kessock Park (Jackie Buchan) football as another possible option for Active Aberdeenshire activities at the school.

Michael asked about the school's Curriculum Rationale and Design. Fiona indicated that this currently required some changes. It was agreed that this would be taken to a future meeting.

Michael indicated that in his opinion the visiting specialists added real value to the school. Fiona agreed and noted that the Fraserburgh schools cluster presently had a full team. Various parents said their children were enthusiastic about these sessions. Everyone supported retaining this expertise.

Sarah asked about the J Rock inter-schools rock event and said it had been a great experience for Fraserburgh South Park School. Fiona said it uses a lot of time and money and they were already doing a Christmas concert and considering doing the Big Boorachie Doric concert again. Sarah expressed how successful the Big Boorachie had been.

Appreciation was expressed for Sarah Ritchie's work as the Secretary. Sarah remains on the Parent Council.

**Agreed future meeting dates: Wednesdays 1 November 2017,
17 January 2018, 14 March 2018, 16 May 2018**

**Fundraising Meetings at 6.30pm
Parent Council Meetings at 7pm**

