



MINUTES

Monday 23rd September 2024
Munlochy Primary School

Present

Ben Sharp (Head Teacher), Arlene McNeil (Co-Chair), Gemma Fraser (Co-Chair), Karen Cameron (Secretary), Murdoch (Active Schools), Hannah Barrows and Mairead Fleming.

Apologies

Lynda Dalgetty, Karen Duncan, Mhairi Lloyd, Frances Sutherland, Jackie Sutherland, Yasmin Myles, Morag Stewart, Ruth Nichols and Rachael MacLeod.

Arlene welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.

Review of the Minutes from Monday 20th May 2024

The minutes were approved from the last meeting.

Active Schools

Murdoch from Active Schools thanked Arlene for getting in touch with him and inviting him to the meeting. He is going to try and get more parental support for the running of school activities at Munlochy. He will get in touch with Melissa to ask about the arrangement for the hire of Ben Wyvis for Hockey. As far as we know this is all done through Highlife Highland. We have dealt with Clare Bale, Deanna, John Mann and Tim in the past. Registers are completed and sent at the end of each term. It was advised that the booking system doesn't work. Murdoch is going to look at new equipment for the club – possibly some new sticks, stick bags. Karen will chat with Melissa and see what kit is needed.

Actions to Previous Meeting

Uniform Recycling

Ben to advise the Parent Council what is required, and it was agreed that we would buy a clothes rail/boxes – anything that is required to start this up. Ben will get in touch with Ruth to see what all uniform we have.

Line Painting

This is ongoing and with Highland Council. Ben to chase this up with Rebecca and Sheena.

The bollard has now been replaced.

Smart Phones in School Initiative

This is ongoing

North Kessock Football Club

Munlochy could possibly train with North Kessock Primary on a Saturday, but they need parent volunteers from Munlochy before this can happen. Murdoch will try and recruit parents.

Treasurer's Report

Funds Available in Bank

£6429.37

Headteacher Report

Staffing changes

P1/2 – Mrs Criosaidh Finlayson, will be with us until at least Easter as maternity cover for Mrs Martin.

P3/4 – Miss Laurie Gordon will be the main class teacher (Mon-Wed), and Miss Alisha Spear will be teaching on a Thursday-Friday.

P5/6 – Mr Gavin Cormack will be the main class teacher (Mon-Thu), and Miss Eve MacLeay will be teaching the class on a Friday.

P6/7 – Mrs Beca Irvine is back after her maternity leave as Principal Teacher and the main class teacher for P6/7. Miss Spear will be covering her management time on a Wednesday.

This year we have a new PE teacher from Fortrose academy on a Thursday morning – Miss Katie MacClelland. She has been teaching PE for many years now at Fortrose, so we are very fortunate to have her.

Pupil Equity Fund

This year our PEF funding has been used to support the raising of attainment in Numeracy alongside our wider school numeracy development, especially mental arithmetic.

A majority of the fund has been used to pay for a PSA to work on targeted intervention for three days a week.

Mrs Irvine will be heading up the Numeracy development this year, both through PEF and across the school.

School Improvement Plan and Standards & Qualities Report

Both plans submitted and uploaded to the school website.

The Standards and Quality Report gives a clear summary of the previous year and where we have succeeded and needed to improve.

The School Improvement Plan sets out our plans for the next year and the developments we wish to achieve.

Main priorities are: Numeracy, beginning a National Writing Improvement development, Outdoor Learning, Digital Profiling, and building on pupil leadership and self evaluation.

Parental Engagement: Session 24/25

We have an open afternoon on Wednesday 25th September, Wednesday 26th March (TBC), and a Parents' night in November.

End of year school reports will be sent out as usual in June, and digital profiles (when launched) will be available all the time, with High Quality Assessments completed each term.

Safer Routes to Schools

There is no update on this.

Items for Discussion

Summer Fete

We have run out of time to do a Summer Fete – we would like to try and do something before Easter – possible date Saturday 29th March.

Halloween Disco

We will try and book the hall for Friday 1st November for a disco. This will be after school. Rachael has kindly offered to do the music for us again.

Buses

Karen explained that there are no longer 2 buses and that a few parents have emailed Sneckie Taxis and Highland Council about the pick up times. There has been no response from either.

Staffing

Covered in The Headteacher report.

Leavers Hoodies

The Parent Council are happy to pay for these. They will also order more of the leavers autograph books.

Race Night

This would be a great fundraiser. A few parents have attended one, it is family friendly and a great way to involve the community. Hannah raised that the children may need to be spoken to about gambling awareness if this event was to take place. We would be looking to try and run this in January or February next year.

Ross County

The parent council agreed to pay half of the costs of getting Ross County to come into the school to do football. Ben to book this. It will be after Christmas.

Any Other Business

Connect membership

Connect has been purchased by Highland Council for 2 years and offers weekly briefings to anyone that wants to attend. It offers Parent Councils insurance and event forms if needed.

New Munloch Facebook Page

The parent council are looking to start up a new facebook page. We have no access to the current one as past members have left and passwords are unknown.

Shed Lock

The Parent Council have had to change the lock on the shed. Pupils were trying to crack the code on the padlock most days and the shed was being left open. The padlock has now been replaced with a key lock. Gemma and Arlene have the keys for it.

Parentkind/Asda

Norma has set up the cashpot for Schools with Asda. You just need to download the Asda rewards App and opt in to Cashpot for Schools and choose Munloch Primary School.

Class Fundraising

The School have started to design their Christmas cards for this. Norma is going to arrange to do the school tea towels again. These are a lovely keepsake. The kids draw their portrait and they all get put on a tea towel.

Christmas Market Fundraiser P7s

As we are not running a Summer Fete this year it was suggested that we could maybe run a Christmas market with stalls. Gemma has done this in the past for the Nursery and it was very successful. The P7s could have a stall at it and try and raise funds for their trip to Loch Insh. Ben to check dates with Becca. It would be good to do this in November.

Ben advised that the teachers are in talks of doing something different this year instead of the Christmas show. The Christmas show takes up a lot of time for the pupils. Karen raised she was disappointed with this as the kids have waited for this moment to get the bigger parts in the show. It is also a huge fundraiser for School Funds. Ben will go back to staff with this.

P7 WhatsApp group Fundraising

Rachael would like to set up a whatsapp group for the P7 parents and discuss some fundraising ideas to help with costs for the Loch Insh Trip. Parents to keep Becca Irvine in the loop with this.

Parent Council Trophy

The Parent Council would like to donate a trophy to the school. This would not be a sports trophy or academic trophy.

Tesco tokens

The School are looking to do an Art Initiative. Ben will look into the tesco tokens for this.

Playing field

Hannah Barrows advised there will be a meeting session on 29th October to discuss the field.

Date of next meeting

Monday 4th November 2024 7.30pm – it hasn't been decided if this is online or in person.