

Durris Parent Council Ordinary Meeting- Sep 25

18/09/2025- Teams Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Welcome/ Introduction: Sam Fletcher Chair, Lynne Gile HT, Katrian Gray, Anita Campbell, Lynne Watson, Sarah Stewart, Gillean Keith, Shona Corbett, Katie Reeves, Li-fen Chen White, Rhona Blackhall
2. Apologies: Catriona Woodburn, Elaine Ingram.
3. Agree minutes from previous meeting: agreed
4. Headteacher Report:
5. Parent Council HT report September 2025 LG
 - All pupils and children have settled well for Term 1 this session
 - We have a PSA advert – fixed term, 25.5 hours. Mrs MacNab will be finishing with us on Friday 10 October
 - Masterclasses and Pupil working groups are starting up again. Pupils are planning and running Masterclasses, including – Arts & Crafts, Coding, Sports, Drama and Science.
 - Continuing our work with our Trios schools this session – HTs from St Cyrus and Glenbervie School. This involves collegiate working and also moderation of classroom practise through observations of lessons and visits to each other's schools.
 - Parents' Information afternoon, Thursday 2 October, from 1.45pm to 3pm. on spelling – led by Mrs Beagrie, hugely experienced member of staff. Looking at some of the research around learning and teaching spelling and then a practical session, visiting all classes to see a variety of teaching activities in action. Will follow this up with uploading a narrated version of the information power point on our website and preparing an information sheet for all parents, with helpful links for home support. Information has been shared via email, please encourage replies/attendance.
 - In support of the previous parental questionnaire surrounding report of pupil progress – have moved our Parent Meetings to after school for Wed 8 and Thurs 9 Oct.
 - As part of our small schools' cluster work, we are hoping to host our Careers' Fair again with a provisional date of Wed 18 March, at Drumoak School. Like speed dating. We need our PCs to help us with volunteers to come and talk about their careers – information will be provided.

-Volunteers in school – would be looking for some regular volunteers to come and support literacy in school – reading, spelling, handwriting etc. Would need to have PVG and be able to commit to a certain day/time – even for a period of approx. 8 weeks (or longer). Would look to have a little bit of training first and then work with individuals/small groups. Thoughts?

-Paying for Sumdog – £210 – Paid, with thanks

-Just2Easy - £240, paid with thanks

-Paying for a cinema visit for Christmas treat - £450??

-White Rose £260??

-Trip – entrance & bus – per class – if so, P5/6/7 – to Gordon Highlanders - £6@ and £80 for bus (already had £100 reduced for travel grant) =£200 total

-J2E – all children have at least 1 parent connected to their account usage – P1 class – approx. 75% families viewing posts, P2-4 – approx. 50%, P5-7 – approx 40%. How could PC help increase this?

-Question on bike shed, LG, can be ordered without VAT, SS is proposing to get windfarm grants. YC recommend that PC apply for all grants available.

ACTION: YC to pass to SS area grants to apply for items not covered by ECS. Tesco Grant? LG: there are time limit how often you can apply, will follow up. SF: outdoor woodland learning group, 300pound of resources for outdoor learning, inc day of training. LG: OWLS gave a big grant to banchory cluster. List of resources available under the grant. Combination also between training and items through grant.

5. Treasurer Report: constitution need to be updated to apply for the Aberdeenshire council's PC funds.
 - a. Update around bank account: to use the same as the PTA, paperwork to follow, last purchase of 250, about 5600 in the account, 400 allocated to the school to use.
2. Subgroups discussion following pre-circulated updates/ reports:
 - Running: good but lower in number, will add p1 after Xmas.
 - Football: 4 coaches, a bit over £700 in bank,
 - Swimming: services agreement for the volunteers to go the course due to cost of cost. Holly Rhodes, Sam Fletcher and Isla Rippiner on the course, need to balance availability in the coming years with people we send to the course (Isla finishing high school soon). Ellen B is also willing to take the course. Dawn R happy to keep going until enough people trained, same for Morag L.

Set a date for parent information evening: can use the big room at Crossroad, the earliest the better to be sure that people get PVG asap. 7th October 7:30pm, also keep in touch with the PVG'd parents.

3. Separate items of business:.

- a. Thoughts/ ideas on wrap around care provision: to progress with subcommittee, working with existing knowledge, balance of time/money cooperation. External hire of professional or/and basic childcare.

ACTION: SF, KG, YC,AC, LC to meet to prepare before next PC.

2. Date for next meeting: 20th of November 7pm