



MINUTES

Monday 25th September 2023
Online 8pm

Present

Ben Sharp (Head Teacher), Gemma Fraser (Co-Chair), Arlene McNeil (Co-Chair), Karen Cameron (Secretary/Co-Treasurer), Norma O'Neill (Co-Treasurer), Hannah Barrows, Karen Duncan, Mhairi Llyod, Jackie Sutherland, Mairead Fleming, Morag Stewart, Rona Mackay and Ruth Nichols.

Apologies

Lynda Dalgetty and Rachael Macleod.

Arlene welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself and the office bearers for any new parents on the call.

Review of the Minutes from Monday 12th June 2023

The minutes were approved from the last meeting.

Actions to Previous Meeting

Playing Field

This is ongoing. There is no further update on this. John Stott would like to meet with Hannah Barrows and Arlene McNeil. He would like to get things moving forward.

School Photo

Ben will check this with Sheena, but as far as he is aware this will be done when the photographer comes in to do class photos.

Ross County

Ben will look into this, it is a lot more expensive than previously and he doesn't think we have the money to go ahead with it. Karen asked Ben to check with Sheena that we had paid half of the last session.

Bailey Cup

This will possibly come out in March 2024 and the School would like to put a team forward for this.

RHET

RHET will be coming into the school on Wednesday 4th October.

Summer Fete

Arlene thanked all the stall holders. She advised we can't do it ourselves and it was great that many organised their own gazebos, prizes etc. She also thanked Ben and Gavin for participating in Soak the Teachers. She mentioned it was great to see so many of the staff come along to support the Fete. The kids were delighted to have them along. She also thanked everyone who came along and spent their money. It was a great success, the weather was great, overall, a great community gathering.

Treasurer's Report

Funds in Bank **£6313.38**

Fete Income **£2766.84**

Other items purchased – storage boxes for the shed, sponges, urn, flasks, gazebo etc

Headteacher – Staffing Update

Staffing changes

Mrs Beca Irvine is on maternity leave for a year and will return towards the end of the 23/24 session or at the beginning of the new session 24/25. Mr Gavin Cormack will be Acting Principal Teacher until she returns.

P1/2 – Mrs Emma Martin will continue to teach P1/2 this year. She is supporting the school as Mrs Irvine's maternity cover.

P3/4/5 – Miss Laurie Gordon and Mr Chris Rasdale will share the responsibility for P3/4/5. Miss Gordon will work Monday and Tuesday and Mr Rasdale on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

P5/6/7 – Mr Gavin Cormack, Mrs Chelsea Perard and Miss Laurie Gordon, will teach P5/6/7. Mrs Perard will work with them on a Monday, Mr Cormack will work with them on a Tuesday-Friday. Miss Gordon will support by covering the class for Mr Cormack's management time.

This year we also have Mr Calum McIntosh back from Fortrose Academy, to take some of the Children's PE.
2. Pupil Equity Fund

As with last year this year's plan is based around literacy, especially reading and intervention work in relation to this. We have used the finances to buy in PSA time to support the delivery of this.

These PSAs will work alongside class teachers to then provide support groups of equally levelled pupils that are needing additional literacy support. 3. 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: United Nations Convention on the rights of the child, Rights Respecting Schools Award – Bronze and working towards Silver, Digital Safety, Equality and Inclusion, Literacy Professional Learning, Moderation of Data, Curriculum Rationale, Young Leaders of Learning, Updating Homework Policy, Numeracy, Literacy, Teaching Sprints, Reading Schools Award.

The items in bold will need further support and discussion with the parent and community body.

The Plan details when it has been scheduled to have parental workshops and engagement that will draw in parent views on specific developments, however, we will always welcome ideas and suggestions. We plan to display these at the front door. 4. Parental Engagement: Session 23/24

We have an open afternoon on the last day of term where we will give a quick summary of the School Improvement Plan, a pupil directed survey to collect your views, and then some fun in the classes.

We have Parent's Night appointments at the beginning of December, which will be booked through an online Parent Booking system for ease and choice.

We will have further open days, Parent's Nights sports days, shows and other community engagement in Terms 2, 3 and 4. 5. Pupil Groups

We are keen to continue the work that was started last year with Learner Participation. Therefore, the children are putting themselves forwards for different roles to support various developments.

Digital Safety Group – They will help lead assemblies around digital safety, carry out audits of the school's digital safety, and support pupils and staff in digital safety within the classroom.

Rights Respecting Schools Group – They will work to enact the vision and action plan that will be co-constructed across the school, as we work our way to the Gold Rights Respecting School Award.

Young Leaders of Learning – Working in conjunction with Education Scotland, they will spend time talking to other pupils and teachers to identify areas of learning improvement from a pupil point of view. They will carefully liaise this information back to the staff team. They will also have the chance to meet pupils who contribute a similar role in other schools.

Citizenship Groups – All children will participate in Citizenship groups that will focus on three main themes: Our learning and Teaching, Our Successes and Achievements, and SHANARRI Wellbeing Indicators.

Arlene asked about Mrs Perrard. She will be on maternity leave at Christmas time. Arlene expressed the concern about how it is unsettling for the children having different teachers. Staffing is not ideal with all the part time posts in the School. Ben will need to wait for Education to advertise Mrs Perrard's cover.

Mhairi asked about the "deciders". Ben advised that there is materials online for this and he will also send home information to parents on this. Ben also suggested an online workshop.

Ben asked if he could put the Parent Council Constitution on the Website. This was agreed. Parent Council to find the Constitution.

Safer Routes to Schools

There is no update on this.

Items for Discussion

Buses

The bus situation has not been ideal for the School staff, Children, or parents. Sneekie Taxis took over the contract for August and there has been no consistency with drop off times after the school day. Ben advised he would send out the email address to contact the school transport with complaints.

School Uniforms

Ben advised he can't enforce people to wear School Uniform. There was a problem with the length of shorts some of the girls were wearing but this seems to have stopped. Gemma advised that it was commented at a hockey tournament about the length of shorts on some of the Munlochy players.

There is a lot of lost property and lots of uniform left from the church. It was suggested to have it on display at the open afternoon.

Can Meetings be Hybrid

It was suggested that the meetings in the future could be online and in person. Ben advised that this is too difficult to have as the people in person would dominate the meeting. It would be very difficult to monitor.

Arlene advised we have tried to have meeting on different days, different times, online and in person. It doesn't seem to matter when we have them, its always the same folk that attend them.

Uniform Recycling

There is a lot of uniform left over from the Church and Fete. Arlene advised if someone wanted to take this on that would be great. Hannah Barrows suggested that the older children did ran a clothing enterprise. Ben will look into this.

Sports Team Names & Colours for Parents

It was asked if Sheena could email out this information to parents again as it really helped last year.

Halloween Disco

It was suggested we could run a Halloween Disco. Suggested date would be Friday 27th October. We will check the hall and DJ is available and be in touch.

Minutes

Minutes of the meetings will now only be sent out to attendees and those who give apologies.

Any Other Business

Morag asked if the Loch Insh Skiing trip would be happening this year. Ben advised how expensive Loch Insh is now and that we only have Mrs Harrison who Skis. Ben will look into this.

Hannah asked about the zigzag lines being re-painted and the bus stop. Sheena will chase this up.

Mhairi asked about the curiosity sacks that have been sent out. These are sent home to help enhance reading. More information will be sent out to parents about this.

Arlene advised that we will be getting a bin at the field. This could be an issue as only to be emptied every fortnight. Arlene will monitor this.

Karen asked about the shed key. The combination has now been changed.

Karen said she will arrange to get the tables etc that the Church are kindly donating to the School after they close.

Ben asked if the Parent Council would consider paying money towards the P5 Swim buses. They have been quoted £165 a week. There are 15 kids, so they need a bigger bus. Arlene advised we will go away and discuss with the voting members.

Date of next meeting

Monday 20th November 8pm – In person