# ARDNAMURCHAN HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

**DATE OF MEETING:** 2nd November 2015

**PRESENT:** Louise Cameron, P Kennedy, Elaine Jackson C Millar-Craig, Julian Morris, Stephen Aitken; Andy Tilling; Jackie Pleming, Dougie McIntyre, Stewart Malcolm and Fiona Beattie

**ABSENCE:** Hollie Taylor, Shirley Shaw

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| 1. Minutes and updates | • Apologies were noted  
• Thanks to everyone for coming and special thanks to Stewart Malcolm and Fiona Beattie from HLH  
• Minutes were approved.  
• The Highland Council ran a Participatory Budget Youth Work Grant for Ward 12/LHS&MHS and ward 22/AHS&KHS with guidance notes clearly indicating £5000 per ward. AHS submitted 6 bids under ward 22 involving a great deal of work and planning and KHS submitted 1 bid. Councillors decided that all £10000 should go to ward 12 projects with no funding at all coming to ward 22. TB wrote to ET expressing concern before voting closed. LC wrote to ET to express disappointment at the outcome for the Small Secondary School situation. Possible future funding may be available  
• Stewart Malcolm is happy to take feedback on the process and share it. There will be follow up at the Youth Parliament.  
• Highland Council Parent Forum is being held on 7th November which is the date of our Parent Council Christmas Fayre. No-one is attending.  
• TB will check the HC Parent Council website  
• Staffing – in HT report | | |
| 2. Treasurer’s Report | • Welcome to our new Treasurer. One follow up to transfer the account.  
• HC Grant received £151.80  
• No requests for expenses  
• JP requested sugar bowls and milk jugs for the tables. JP to get prices  
• Discussion on using the money to fund one/two of the projects that failed at the HC bid level. Drama and Library are potential bids to consider. CMC suggested the pupil group choose to allocate monies to our projects up to £700. Press release from Parent Council discussed. TB/LC to write a press article.  
• Bid for pupils going to London made to Ardgour Trust and possibly Morvern Trust  
• Additional funds from Room 13 for Art Trip being used for a Theatre Evening – this is the only possible use. | LC  
SM/PN  
TB/LC |
| 3. Correspondence | • No updates | |
| 4. Headteacher Report | 1. **Staffing**  
• Letter from CMC. Congratulations to SH on her retirement. PC discussed recognition. Principle for recognising long term (over 10 years) retirement. One music applicant and interviews will be this | |
• Physics being re-advertised
• Staffing formula. CMC had first meeting last week. First time that flexibility deemed appropriate for small schools was mentioned. Small schools situations were recognised in a paper to Council.
• PC will keep pressure of HC around the staffing formula for small schools to maintain the additionality in Maths and English. Parental pressure is important in keeping up the recognition of staffing in small schools.

2. Events
• VHT coming up
• Panto on 8th and 9th December
• Ethos Q – 10th December opens

3. Updates
• Eco Schools benches are ready and waiting for painting. If they are fixed in a location Mitie will have to be involved. 2 benches.
• Letter of thanks to PC required from Eco Committee

5. HLH
• AT raised that there are less volunteers in Acharacle Youth Club.
• AT asked for an update on the Saltire Awards
• HLH Leadership Programme – meeting on Thursday this week. Funding and visual recognition (hoodies) discussed.
• Gymnastics – pilot block starting 12th November. Hope to include pre-school to secondary eventually
• Dance Leaders continuing and they will be visiting the primary schools after school sessions with supervision. Commitment from a supervisor is required.
• Room 13 – opportunity to share
• Local Marine Group – looking at conservation/marine protection – sharing opportunity
• December – UN conference - another opportunity for an evening talk
• EC has money available to support evening talks.
• Ideas/suggestions for Winter talks – please see EC
• Saltire Awards –more information available from leaflets. Voluntary Action Lochaber can support any organisation running Saltire Awards. New parents may not know about Saltire Awards. Excellent opportunity to give additional credibility to senior pupils UCAS applications.

6. Xmas Fayre
• Banner for end of the road. Requests for pupils to paint a banner. CMC to speak to Pupil Council re volunteering on Saturday. AT to request this at Acharacle Youth Club. (Also action banner?)
• Room 13 are now preparing for the panto so unable to help with banner.
• Various jobs were assigned

7. Duke of Edinburgh
• All four expeditions are complete
• All presentations are complete
• All reports returned to funders
• Website reports appearing wherever relevant
• EJ to follow up with the Duke of E website.
• Forms out to S3s. Hope to have one or two groups next year. Existing funds should cover the costs of this next year
• Paul Kelly will take up wherever Ali Connolly cannot cover an
expedition.

- Library now on single manning. EJ has less opportunity to follow up. List of pupils required to PK the day before and at morning meeting the duty teacher will arrange to send them to the Library to see EJ at break/lunchtime.
- Fire Brigade Course – EJ in liaison with Alastair MacLean but no feedback as yet. EJ to follow up with Fort William Station.

8. Young Engineers Club
- Starting this week to include S2 upwards. Thursdays at 6 p.m.

9. Ski Club
- Letter for AT for PK to be distributed
- Braehead visit as a starter to be arranged

10. Room 13 Report
- This time last year we had two visiting artists who helped Room 13 to become established.
- There are two artists present this year who may visit for one session.
- Room 13 has been a great activity for young people and links with many wider groups and opportunities
- Claire Gibb visiting CMC this Thursday. Louise offered accommodation for the artists if required.

11. Strontian PS
- Current proposal is for the community to build the school and then lease it to the Council.
- The HSCT is supporting the application
- Sunart Community Hydro Scheme is generating more or less on target. Increasing amount of funding will become available next year for local groups to access. Opportunities for Physics Projects in the future. CMC will look at curriculum and may be in touch before Christmas. CMC was thanked for doing Physics.

11. Date of Next Meeting
- Monday 18th January 2015 at 6 p.m.