

## **INVERGARRY PRIMARY SCHOOL – PARENT COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011, 6.30 PM**

Present:	Mrs Christine MacLennan	Mrs Gayle Rand (Clerk)
	Mrs Jane Strachan	Mrs Tracey MacCallum (Chair)
	Mrs Marion Riddle	Mrs Linda Stewart (Treasurer)
	Mrs Julie Gilchrist	Mr Clem Farnan
	Miss Maria MacRae	Mrs Carole Littlewood
Apologies:	Cllr Bill Clark	PC Tony Hannah
	Mrs Irene Rodgers	

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Read and agreed.

### **Agenda**

#### School Team Strips

Tracey and Maria have been working on this over the past couple of months. Tracey approached David Smith Contractors who have made a donation of £500 for the sports strips. Strips to be royal blue with a white collar trim, Tracey is waiting for proof to be returned before ordering at a cost of £350. Maria has applied to Sports Match for a grant to match the donation. We will wait to hear Sports Match's decision before making an announcement regarding the sponsorship. A further donation of £400 has been received from Susan Sutherland at Great Glen Travel. Maria has liaised with the school over which sports equipment to purchase (to include portable goal post & nets, balls and hoops suitable for smaller children). Letters of thanks to go out to David Smith & Susan Sutherland.

Action: TM, MM, GR

#### Flag Pole

A decision was made for a flag pole to be sourced and erected on the rocks in the fenced off area of the school grounds. Funds are available from the Parent Council for this work. Tracey to look into suitable flag poles (possible light-weight aluminium pole)

Action: TM, Parent Council to fund

#### GGASAC

This summer's activities were a success, run by Liz Proudlock with help from Daniel Gilchrist. Liz has indicated that she would be happy to run a similar program for next year. Julie will do an evaluation exercise with the pupils to see which activities they prefer and perhaps think about the structure for next summer.

The funding will need to be topped up for 2012, there is approximately £1200 in the account. Suggestions from Maria about approaching The Leader Grants (Scotland) to fund the activities for the following several years.

Action: JG, TM

### City Trip (Years P6&7)

Following on from the last PC meeting, fundraising suggestions were discussed to enable a weekend city trip on alternative years to the Outward Bound course for the P6&7 children. Jane suggested making this a joint trip with another primary school and has agreed to liaise with Kate from Spean Bridge. The previous fundraising lunches held at the school and organised by Linda & Christine with the help of the pupils were popular and a date has been set to hold another 'Soup Lunch' on Friday, 11th November.

Action: JS, CM, LS

### Nursery Snack Funding

The Highland Council have decided to halt the practice of collecting snack money donations for nursery children from the beginning of this school year – due to unaccountability/auditing reasons leaving staff vulnerable. However the snack time is an important part of the day and although there is a limited budget provided to cover the cost of milk and a small amount of fresh fruit, this doesn't cover costs of snacks that have previously been funded by parents' donations. As monies have to be properly accounted for, there is a possibility to use the existing school bank account to record transactions. Jane will write to nursery parents for suggestions regarding ongoing funding for nursery snacks.

Action: JS

### School House Garden Project

The Highland Council have now erected a boundary fence around the school house gardens which complies to correct specifications – a fence has also been erected between the nursery garden and the main garden which slopes down towards the road. As part of the Eco-Schools project, pupils were asked to submit ideas to how they would like the finished garden to look. Linda & Christine have collated the pupils' ideas and plans have been drawn up, local businesses have been approached to supply quotes and the application to apply for a grant from the Glengarry Windfarm Trust is ready to be submitted. All going well, it is hoped for the work to be started during the October school holidays.

Action: CM, LS

### School Portacabins

There was a discussion surrounding the general state, disrepair and age of the school classrooms/portacabins, and the possibility of writing to Hugh Fraser, Director of Education asking if the Highland Council have any plans for improvements to the school's buildings. A vote was taken, with the result being 4:2 in favour to write to Mr Fraser and to copy in Bill Clark.

Action: TM, GR

## **AOB**

### Nursery Toys

The nursery has asked for some new educational toys from the ELC. PC members agreed to purchase these toys and donate them to the nursery (£45.99).

Action: LS

### Parent Council Constitution

During applying for Sports Match funding, Maria noticed that there is no provision in the Parent Council Constitution with regards to child protection issues. The constitution therefore requires to be amended at the next AGM, with the suggested insert being: The Parent Council is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. Members and volunteers will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of children and young people.

Action: GR for 2012 AGM

### Youth Club/After School Activity Club

Christine followed on from the last meeting's discussion surrounding the possibility of organising an after school activity, making use of the equipment still held in the Community Hall from a couple of years ago. Suggestions were made about holding this for perhaps a block of a few weeks after school or even on Saturday mornings. More parents/volunteers would need to be trained to use the equipment and organise the session. Linda & Christine will mention this to Kirsten Petri, Youth Development Officer who in turn may be able to liaise with Jake Williams, Schools Sports Co-ordinator.

Action: CM, LS

### Fund Raising/Quiz Night

Parent Council to look at holding another Quiz Night, possibly early in the New Year. For next agenda.

Action: GR – for next agenda

### Christmas Dates/Pantomime

It is intended to attend the pantomime 'Cinderella' at Eden Court on one Friday in December. Also for the school to hold a Christmas concert in the community hall. Dates to be confirmed nearer the time.

Action:

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2011, 6.30pm.