

**Aboyne Academy Parents Forum**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Attendees**

<b><i>Office Bearers</i></b>	<b><i>Parent Council Members</i></b>	<b><i>Parent Forum Members</i></b>
Sarah Leahy (Chair)	Sheila Mcurtrie	Gail MacTaggart
Lynn Murphy (Joint Secretary)	Cat Houston	Peter Barker
Gill Ewart-Bannister (Joint Secretary)	Andrea Geddes	Natasha Pawlukiewicz
Julie Mitchell-Mehta (Treasurer)		
Lorraine Scott (Head Teacher)		
Michael Mc Cann (Teacher Representative)		

**Other Attendees**

Councillor Paul Gibb

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Jo Croll, and Cllr Geva Blackett

**Minutes of last meeting (AGM 6th September 2016)**

The approved minutes were then proposed by Sarah Leahy and seconded by Lynn Murphy.

**Chairperson's Report**

Sarah started by thanking all members who have contributed during the past year, a year where AAPC has struggled more than most for numbers. Many of AAPC members have been on the parent council for 5 or 6 years so Sarah gave a huge thank you to them for their help this last session. Sarah also added that, speaking to other schools, AAPC are certainly not the only PC with low numbers so it is possibly just perhaps a sign of the times.

During the last academic session AAPC have discussed and worked with the school on a variety of issues which have included ;

- Pupil attainment
- UCAS forms
- Timing of prelims
- Prefect selection
- The Senior ball
- Changes to qualifications, specifically assessments
- Developing the young workforce
- We have completed a number of consultations including the wearing of seat belts on buses and a 20MPH restriction around schools.

Parent Council members were also involved in The Quality Improvement Visit from Senior Officers last session where we met the officers and provided feedback on the school.

AAPC members represented the PC at the S1 Parents Open morning and met and chatted with new parents.

We attended all parent's nights and served teas and coffees, with assistance from the wonderfully helpful prefects.

Sarah attended the Parent Council Chair meeting where all parent council chairs in Aberdeenshire are invited to meet with Maria Walker, our Director of Education and other Senior Officers.

In order to try and encourage a greater attendance at meetings this session we have held each of our meetings on a different week day and in a different location at one of the cluster primary schools. This has had some success.

AAPC have also raised monies for the school through our fundraising raffles at the Christmas and Summer Concert and the Christmas Fair.

### **Head Teachers Report**

1. The majority of pupils, including S1 have settled back into school life well after the summer break.
2. Staffing – letter has gone out to parents today with staffing updates and also calendar and policy updates. Music and Maths staff need to be recruited.
3. Attainment

## **Key Measures**

### **% S4 attaining 5+ awards at SCQF Level 5 (National 5)**

<b>Achieved 2015/16</b>	<b>Target 2016/17</b>	<b>Our calculations (passes A-D)</b>	<b>Initial Local Authority figures</b>
<b>58%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>52.5%</b>

<b>School</b>	<b>%</b>
Banchory Academy	65.9%
Mackie Academy	61.4%
Kemnay Academy	57.7%
Westhill Academy	56.2%
Meldrum Academy	54.7%
<b>Aboyne Academy</b>	<b>52.5%</b>
Mintlaw Academy	51.8%

<b>Achieved 2015/16</b>	<b>Target 2016/17</b>	<b>Our calculations (passes A-D)</b>	<b>Initial Local Authority figures</b>
<b>46.7%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>53.7%</b>

<b>School</b>	<b>%</b>
Banchory Academy	73.5%
Alford Academy	62.9%
Westhill Academy	54.5%
<b>Aboyne Academy</b>	<b>53.7%</b>
Mearns Academy	51.5%
Mackie Academy	51.3%
Ellon Academy	48.4%
Kemnay Academy	46.1%

4. Improvements to the School Building 2017-18

- Walker Building Toilets to be improved
- Expansion of Room 7
- New Learning Plaza to be built
- Old carpet in Maths corridor has been replaced by Lino

5. Important dates

Harvest festival to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> October

Sponsored Walk to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> October

S1 Parents Open Day – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September

**Treasurer's Report**

Julie presented the accounts for 2016/2017 (summary included below). The Closing balance for the year was £533.06. Sarah thanked Tessa Campbell for reviewing the AAPC accounts.

Aboyne Academy Parent Council  
 Accounts 1 August 2016 - 31 July 2017

income		expenditure	
25/10/2016	Aberdeenshire Council contribution	£474.75	
28/11/2016	parents night teas	£20.52	07/09/2016 Donation to Aboyne Academy
03/12/2016	Christmas fair raffle	£543.80	10/01/2017 Donation to Aboyne Academy
13/12/2016	Christmas concert raffle	£289.11	10/01/2017 Aboyne Twinning Association
26/06/2017	Summer concert raffle	£244.00	
		£1,572.18	£1,910.00
01/08/2016	opening balance	£870.88	
	income - expenditure	-£337.82	
31/07/2017	closing balance	£533.06	

## Formation of the new Parent Council

Sarah mentioned that she has been Chair for a number of years now and was very keen to let someone new take the reins. Lynn Murphy and Gill Ewart-Bannister also expressed a strong desire to step down from their position as Joint Secretary. All three wished to continue to serve as ordinary members of AAPC. No one volunteered to take on the role of Chair or Secretary. Sarah and Lynn have kindly agreed to remain in the roles of Chair and Secretary for one more year and Andrea Geddes kindly volunteered to take on the position of Vice Chair to assist Sarah.

Nominations for members of the Parent Council took place as follows.

Post	Name	Proposed	Seconded	Pupils in Year
Chairperson	Sarah Leahy	Lynn Murphy	Andrea Geddes	S3,4,6
Vice Chairperson	Andrea Geddes	Julie Mitchell-Mehta	Sarah Leahy	S2,5,6
Secretary	Lynn Murphy	Sarah Leahy	Gill Ewart-Bannister	S5
Treasurer	Julie Mitchell-Mehta	Sarah Leahy	Lynn Murphy	S5,2
PC Member 1	Cat Houston	Sarah Leahy	Lynn Murphy	S2
PC Member 2	Sheila Mcmurtrie	Lynn Murphy	Sarah Leahy	S4
PC Member 3	Gail MacTaggart	Sarah Leahy	Lynn Murphy	S2,3
PC Member 4	Natasha Pawlukiewicz	Sarah Leahy	Lynn Murphy	S1
PC Member 5	Gill Ewart-Bannister	Sarah Leahy	Lynn Murphy	S2
PC Member 6	Elaine Starritt	Sarah Leahy	Lynn Murphy	S4,6
PC Member 7				
PC Member 8				

## AOB

- **Pre-lim Examination - 2018 Timing:** It was noted that the school calendar shows the pre-lim examinations would again continue for a several days after the February 2018 mid-term holiday. This scheduling had been raised as a concern at AAPC meeting on 15/3/17. Both parents and pupils felt that it was detrimental to those pupils affected as it caused additional examination associated stress over the holiday and a complete study break is essential. Lorraine reported that those concerns had been discussed but time constraints meant that some pre-lim examinations were still required to be scheduled post mid-term holiday. It was

thought that these were to be the practical assessment elements for subjects such as Art, as opposed whole written paper examinations involving a large number of pupils. Lorraine will confirm and report back at AAPC's next meeting. **Action LS**

- **Fundraising:** Sarah confirmed that the Silent Auction organised by the Aboyne Rotary Club will go ahead on Friday 29th September 2017. As Aboyne Academy has been selected as one of the main beneficiaries of any funds raised it would be greatly appreciated if AAPC could provide volunteers to assist on the night. **Action AAPC**
- **The parent council will hold raffles at the following events.**
  1. Xmas Fayre – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2017
  2. Xmas Show – 13th December 2017

**Date for Next Meeting: Wednesday 1st November 2017 at 7pm, Torphins Primary School**