

Aboyne Academy Parents Forum
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Tuesday 6th September 2016

Attendees

<i>Office Bearers</i>	<i>Parent Council Members</i>	<i>Parent Forum Members</i>
Sarah Leahy (Chair)	Sheila Mcmurtrie	Julie Mitchell-Mehta
Lynn Murphy (Vice Chair)	Jo Croll	Cat Houston
Andrea Geddes (Treasurer)	Gill Ewart-Bannister	Stephanie Ferguson
Pam Bruce (Secretary)		
Lorraine Scott (Head Teacher)	Cllr Katrina Farquhar	

Apologies

Apologies were received from Jane Smith, Cllr Geva Blackett and Karen Birnie

Minutes of last meeting (AGM 8th September 2015)

Sarah queried the outstanding refurbishment of the pupil and staff toilets. Lorraine said she would look into it and welcomed the support from the parent council. **(Action LS)**

The approved minutes were then proposed by Sarah Leahy and seconded by Pam Bruce.

Chairperson's Report

All parents or carers of pupils of Aboyne Academy are automatically members of the Parent Forum. Later tonight we will elect 12 members of the Parent Forum to become the Parent Council. The Parent Council typically meets once a term and as well as 12 parent members we have 2 teacher representatives and our Head teacher. Any member of the Parent Forum who is not an elected member of the Parent Council is most welcome to attend Parent Council meetings as well as any of our local Councillors who wish to attend.

The objectives of the Parent Council are:

- * To work in partnership with the school to create a welcoming school which is inclusive for all pupils and parents/carers.
- * To promote contact and build positive relationships between the school, its pupils, all its parents/carers and the wider community.
- * To develop and engage in activities which support the education and welfare of the pupils.
- * To identify and represent the views of parents/carers on the education provided by the school and other matters affecting the education and welfare of the pupils.

Minutes of Parent Council meetings are posted on the Academy website under the "Parents" section, along with the AAPC Constitution. Parents are encouraged to review these minutes throughout the year to identify the issues being discussed/actioned at the meetings. The Parent Council has their own email address and so parents are most welcome to contact the Chair with any issues they would like raised at the meetings.

Over the 2015/2016 session the Parent Council have been involved in or discussed the following;

- Head Teacher and DHT recruitment
- An AAPC Member was elected to sit on the School Fund Committee. The School Fund Committee was set up a year ago to rationalise the way school monies were spent. (School fund monies come from the sale of uniforms, locker rental, sponsored walks donations and interest on accounts) Thanks to Andrea Geddes who has been the AAPC representative on this committee.
- AAPC have had input to the Vision & Values Statement and Learning & Teaching Guidelines for Aboyne Academy.
- The timing of Assessments / Folios / Projects in the senior phase has been a regular item of discussion/concern amongst parents throughout the year. To this end the SQA were invited to an AAPC meeting to meet with parents at the end of the last session.
- Homework. Concerns over the inconsistency of homework setting across year groups have led to the introduction of Show my Homework. This was strongly supported by AAPC.
- Fundraising - understandably it's been a difficult year for school fundraising because of the local flood appeals. Despite having to postpone the Bingo night which was to be our main fundraiser AAPC managed to hand over £1700 to the school which was raised at the Christmas Fayre, the Christmas & Summer Concert raffles & serving teas/coffees at Parents nights.

Looking forward the aims of AAPC should to increase parental involvement in the school and a number of suggestions have been made to help with this. These include having AAPC meetings at some of the cluster primary schools this next year and by having AAPC attendance at P7 meeting usually just attended by DHTs or guidance staff. The school will now pass parents email addresses to the AAPC Chair on "an opt out" rather than opt in basis, which will undoubtedly increase the parents AAPC can reach.

Members of staff, parents and members of the wider community who have helped AAPC with fundraising efforts this past year were thanked for their generosity. Whilst not every parent/carer has the time to commit to being on the Parent Council, just turning up to fundraising events is most appreciated.

Sarah thanked all members of the Parent Council, the teacher representatives and Lorraine for their invaluable support over the past year. Members who had decided to stand down were specifically thanked for all their contributions over the past few years.

Treasurer's Report

Andrea presented the accounts for 2015/2016. Mr Jowett's retirement donation was put in and taken out of the accounts. The Closing balance for the year was £870.88. Funds raised by successfully selling raffle tickets at the Xmas concert, Xmas Fair and Summer Shows. After consideration of the healthy closing balance of £870.88 it was suggested that £700 should be donated to school funds.

Sarah thanked Karen Gray on behalf of the Parent Council for reviewing this year's accounts.

Aboyne Academy Parent Council Accounts 1st August 2015 - 31st July 2016

Income

		TOTAL
17/09/2015 - 09/10/2015	Mr Jowetts Retirement Donations	365.00
07/12/2015	Xmas Fair Raffle	633.90
17/12/2015	S1/S3 Parents Nights Teas	66.30
17/12/2015	Xmas Concert Raffle	294.00
01/04/2016	S2/4/5/6 Parents Nights Teas	37.21
17/06/2016	Summer Show Raffle	520.00
		1916.41

Expenditure

		<i>Cheque</i>	
18/09/2015	Donation to Academy	465	800.00
06/10/2015	Mr Jowetts retirement	466	365.00
17/12/2015	Expenses from cash for teas		14.48
22/01/2016	Donation to Academy	468	900.00
21/03/2016	Aboyne Twinning	467	10.00
			2089.48

01/08/2015	Opening Balance	1043.95
	Income/Expenditure	-173.07
31/07/2016	Closing Balance	870.88

Formation of the new Parent Council

Sarah mentioned that she has been Chair for a number of years now and keen to let someone new take the reigns. Unfortunately no one has volunteered to take on this role yet and meanwhile Sarah has kindly offered to stay in the role of Chair on a temporary basis until a replacement can be found.

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

Post	Name	Proposed	Seconded	Pupils in Year
Chairperson	Sarah Leahy	Julie Mitchell-Mehta	Lynn Murphy	2,3,5
Joint Secretary	Lynn Murphy & Gill Ewart-Bannister	Sarah Leahy	Andrea Geddes	1,6,4
Treasurer	Julie Mitchell-Mehta	Pam Bruce	Andrea Geddes	1,4
PC Member 1	Cat Houston	Sarah Leahy	Gill Ewart-Bannister	1
PC Member 2	Andrea Geddes	Sheila Mcmurtrie	Pam Bruce	1,4,5
PC Member 3	Jo Croll	Sarah Leahy	Pam Bruce	4,6
PC Member 4	Stephanie Ferguson	Sarah Leahy	Cat Houston	4
PC Member 5	Sheila Mcmurtrie	Sarah Leahy	Pam Bruce	3
PC Member 6				
PC Member 7				
PC Member 8				

AOB

- **Parents Evenings – Tea & Coffee** - Although these events were not a huge fundraiser it was agreed that it would be a good idea to continue this but perhaps to advertise more widely.
- **The parent council will hold raffles at the following events.**
 1. Careers Fayre - 22nd September 2016
 2. Xmas Fayre – 3rd December 2016
 3. Xmas Show – 13th December 2016

Date for Next Meeting:

Wednesday 26th October 2016 at 7pm