

Aboyne Academy Parent Council
Minutes of AGM – Tuesday 10th September 2019
Aboyne Academy

Attendees:

Office Bearers	Parent Council Members	Parent Forum
Rob Brooker (Chair)	Sarah Leahy	Lorraine Chesney
Natasha Pawlukiewicz (Secretary)	Gail MacTaggart	Tracey Stanton
Julie Mitchell-Mehta (Treasurer)	Gill Bannister	Susan Nicoll
	Pete Barker	
	Lorraine Scott (Head Teacher)	
	Ashley Easton (Guidance Teacher)	
	CLlr Paul Gibb	

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Veena Fernandez, Suzanne Sant Angelo, Charles Dunbar, Jane Summers and Cllr Blackett.

2. Minutes of Last AGM (11 September 2018)

The minutes were approved.

3. Chairpersons Report

Over the last year there have been many changes to the make-up of the Parent Council and the chair thanked the school staff, Parent Council, and Cllr Gibb for their guidance as to the processes involved. Over the past year there has been work on updating the constitution, disclosure, the school roll in relation to a new housing plan, positive school climate, and road safety in Aboyne. There has been a focus on improving communications with the parent forum, and the use of social media (especially Facebook) is helping.

The PC was involved in fundraising at school shows and the Christmas Fair and held a plant sale. The PC took part in the Careers Fair, the PC Chairs meeting, school prize day, and the P7 Parents evening.

4. Head Teacher Report

Thank you to the PC for being supportive, providing your views and opinions, and working in partnership with the school. The Learning Plaza opened in September 2018, and phase 1 of the renovation of Room 7 as a multi-use space has just been completed.

Exam results: the number of S6 leavers with 5+ Highers was the second highest in Aberdeenshire (the results don't include Foundation Apprenticeships, which have the value of a Higher).

73% got 5+ grades at Nat5; 61% got 3+ Highers; 50% got 5+ Highers – all higher than the Aberdeenshire average. The good results are partly due to the extra lunchtime sessions put on by staff.

The new logo which incorporates Birsemore colour and the school values has been completed.

Staffing: the school is above its staffing complement for the first time in 3 years. There is a gap in HE, but S3 and S4 will continue to have lessons to prepare them for SQA exams. In modern languages one teacher has been recruited for a year, and another post is currently being advertised.

All the S2s will have a hospitality day.

There has been an ICT upgrade and every computer now has Windows 10. All phones will work via Skype by October.

The sponsored walk takes place on 10th October – please promote as it is a big fundraiser.

The prefects now wear blazers to raise their profile in school.

The Open Day for S1 Parents takes place in September with more time to experience lessons.

The building evacuation procedures have been updated, and a practise went well.

There are a few issues with the buses as there are new contractors. The school has passed on their concerns and if the issues persist **PC** members are advised to email the transport unit directly.

Uniforms with the new logo are currently being mocked up and will be available once the current stock has been used up.

Cllr Gibb raised a couple of points:

The new bus contractors are from Kemnay (change in contract due to price) and are leaving the buses in Aboyne which are causing an obstruction. Mid Deeside Community Council are also raising the issue, and it will be mentioned at the next Marr Area Bus Forum.

There was a meeting in May with the roads department re the Academy triangle signs not flashing, and the possibility of a new crossing. The head teachers of the Academy and Primary are being asked for funds towards a lollipop person.

5. Treasurers Report

Last year the PC took in £2745 (including two contributions from Aberdeenshire Council) and paid out £2400. £500 more was made through fundraising than in the previous year.

Bank balance is currently £989.71. No one came forward to review the accounts through the PC/school channels (and someone will need to be lined up for next year) but thanks to Ruth Howsden for auditing the accounts this year.

6. Formation of new Parent Council

Rob, Natasha, and Julie have agreed to stay on as Chair, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. All years are covered by the members of the PC. New Parent Council mainly established from those present at the meeting.

Action – Natasha to email those who couldn't make today's meeting to check they wish to remain on the PC.

7. Pupil Council Report

The first Pupil Council meeting takes place in a couple of weeks, so they will provide feedback at the next meeting.

8. Fundraising

Events before Christmas include the Christmas Fair (in the games hall) on 30th November and the Christmas concert on 12th December.

9. GDPR/disclosure

Commented [RB1]: I think that the advice from Lorraine was the Parent Forum members should e-mail the contractors directly.

The PC doesn't require formal disclosure. The signed form passed round at the meeting to agree to an email address being used is sufficient to cover our GDPR commitments. Information is sent out to the parent forum via the school, and the PC does not hold contact information for the full Parent Forum.

10. Dates for AAPC meetings and other activities

Sponsored walk takes place on 10th October – please promote widely. Helpers welcome.

Next AAPC meeting will take place on 30th October, Learning Plaza, 7pm.

11. AOB

Health and Wellbeing - Ashleigh provided an update on activities, including staff and pupils taking part in anti-bullying training, which is part of them becoming anti-bullying ambassadors. Pupils are keen to get involved and there is a big launch in November, although details are being kept secret for now. There are various new activities (lunch clubs etc) which could be promoted by the PC via facebook.

S1 Open Day – PC reps are required throughout the day.