

Aboyne Academy Parent Council AGM

Minutes – Monday 18th September 2023

Office Bearers	Parent Council Members	Parent Forum
Rob Brooker (Vice Chair and Treasurer)	Lorraine Chesney	Jenny Blair
Natasha Pawlukiewicz (Secretary)	Lynsey Harris	
	Charles Dunbar	
Michael Foy (Head Teacher)	Jo Ellson	

1) Welcome and Apologies

No apologies were received. Thanks to Aileen for all her work as chair, especially with regard to fundraising. Thanks to those who have now stepped down.

2) Minutes and Actions from last AGM meeting

7 Nov 2022: actions associated with standard Parent Council activity so nothing to pick up relating to the AGM.

3) Chairperson's Report

Deputy Chair Rob:

Point of contact with Aberdeenshire Council

- Maintaining Facebook and Hotmail incl. school weather and apprenticeship opportunity alerts
- Swapshop for used uniform
- Judging for Youth and Philanthropy Initiative Scotland
- Running AAPC meetings throughout the year

Fundraising:

- Raffle, summer show – 21st June
- Plant sale – 24th May
- Christmas concert raffle – 20th December
- Chocolate tombola, School Fair - 26th November

4) Head Teacher's Report

Thanks to Rob and the AAPC members and thanks to everyone who has come along this evening. Your support is much appreciated.

Start of new session

Getting routines established at start of new year. Supporting new S1 classes and pupils.

Really pleased with how the new S1 settling in. Good feedback from staff. Much better oracy skills than other post covid groups. Our oracy work and CREW continuing to develop this.

Big focus on uniform. I am at the door every morning. Significant increase in families asking/accepting help with uniform which is positive.

Staff – spent inset day looking at the implementation of our new LTA charter. This defines what excellence looks like and how we measure ourselves and consistency across the school. Open Doors this week and last week.

Last year every member of staff completed a practitioner enquiry linked to one of our 4 school priorities. This year we have formed 5 collaborative learning groups – Support, Challenge, CREW, Oracy/PBL and Skills.

Our 4 Improvement Plan priorities can be found on the school website in the info section. Myself and DHT's will give updates throughout the year. Lots of work ongoing with our partners the Wood Foundation, The Fife Arms, Glen Tanar estate and HorseBack UK.

You will have seen recent publicity around Reinforced Autoclave Aerated Concrete (RAAC). No indication of issues in Aboyne Academy.

Potential industrial action (26th – 28th Sept). Major impact not expected. I will clarify in writing tomorrow.

This term

House Leadership Teams – organising house weeks, school walk, recycling, litter

Extra-curricular Fair – last wed. List of extra-curricular on website being updated. In Bulletin.

Career Ready – 3 senior students completed internships in the Summer. 5 starting new programme this year.

Staff - JM (Med with distinction).

DoE – over 100 pupils. Developed new model post covid supported by parents/volunteers. Really pleased with how this is developing.

Bobby Seagull and Lucy Shepherd visits to S1 and S2 last week.

S3 parents evening face to face last Tuesday.

Pond project and Talkpod ongoing over next few months.

Classroom furniture – replacement starting with Humanities. Some items that need disposed of currently sitting outside beside Biomass boiler. This will be removed in October. Other furniture will be available for collection/upcycling etc during year.

SQA Attainment

Initial results look very positive. Significant increase in performance in S4.

S5

Performance was good but statistics based on S4 roll. This was 142 but by S5 there were only 118 left. Disparity in statistic is those who have left (who all left to positive destinations) not the performance of this year's pupils!

Next steps to analyse attainment with faculties. PT meetings. Lewis Paterson, national attainment advisor coming to see PT's in November. Focus on developing some new NPA qualifications for the SP curriculum.

Pupil and Family Wellbeing

Finance remains a key thing in our approaches this session. Financial situation challenging for many families. Uniform stays the same for now. We need to work on the swapshop idea. Whole school walk not sponsored.

Balance too – happy to look at increase in possibilities for activities but with support for families.

Staffing Update

Rachel Hine (English) Maria Garcia (Languages) Paul Blain (Maths) Bryan Forbes (Janitor) Andrew Hepburn (janitor)

Dougie Kinnear – returned from secondment to Banchory.

Challenges

Vaping – huge issues in every school. Range of strategies and HT's working with Public Health Scotland.

Litter – significant increase much linked to canteen food and vaping. Group looking at recycling. Pupil volunteers for litter picking. Would ask for parents support in reinforcing that message please.

Hospitality staffing – some experiences will be provided. Big plan to revitalise this part of the school. Focus of future AAPC meeting.

Questions

Progression qualifications: where do they sit? Nat 4/5 level. i.e. sport and recreation as alternative to PE.

Welfare fund: who pays into it? PC money, some generous parents, etc put into it. But how do we make it sustainable? Good to get PC input. Payments of roughly £20 – school jumper, DofE registration etc

5) Treasurer's Report

1st Sept – 1st Sept: started with £10,168.87. Paid out £9,500 in Nov '22.

£700 payment to school in March '23.

Balance £1,045.75

6) Formation of the new Parent Council

Chair: Jenny Blair (nominated by Rob Brooker, seconded by Charles Dunbar)

Deputy: Rob Brooker (nominated by Natasha Pawlukiewicz, seconded by Charles)

Treasurer: Rob Brooker (nominated by Natasha Pawlukiewicz, seconded by Charles Dunbar)

Secretary: Charles Dunbar (nominated by Rob Brooker, seconded by Natasha Pawlukiewicz)

Members: Corri McHardy, Lynsey Harris, Jo Ellson, Lorraine Chesney. (nominated by Rob Brooker, seconded by Charles Dunbar).

The reps for each year are as follows:

S1 Jenny Blair

S2 Corri McHardy

S3 Lynsey Harris

S4 Rob Brooker

S5 Natasha Pawlukiewicz

S6 Lynsey Harris

7) Dates for next AAPC meeting

Jenny to discuss with Mr Foy

8) AOB

After some discussion it was suggested the £1000 payment might be used for the welfare fund but with the school being able to decide the best use for that funding.

Small amount for new plants to put in pond area would be good.

DRAFT