

**MINUTES OF MEETING
AUCHENBLAE PARENT COUNCIL
14th November 2012, 3.30-4.30pm**

In attendance

Lindsay Cochrane*	Mrs Young
Karen Carmichael*	Mrs Ralston
Julie Butler	Mrs Blakemore
Sue Barrie*	Miss Currie
Steven Chree	Mrs Taylor
Steve Vickers*	Mrs McLean
Craig MacEachern	Anna Burgoyne (first part of meeting)
Margo Titmuss	Patricia MacEachern
Marieke Wood*	John Forrester*

* indicates Member of the Parent Council Committee

Apologies

Isabelle Riddoch	Clare Ptaszek*
Therese Hendry*	Lizzy Dixon*

Action

1 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved without amendment.

2 Matters arising from previous minutes

The netball and swimming equipment agreed at the last meeting were still to be purchased.

The Parent Council part of the noticeboard was now up and running beside the main entrance.

The lunchtime chess club would be on Thursdays starting 15th November with 22 children and run by a parent volunteer. Any further help would be appreciated.

3 Projector and screen

Following on from discussions at the last meeting about using a screen to project X-box group activities, Mrs Young had investigated what was available. Aboyne Academy have a suitable screen worth £1,200 but on sale for £700 as it was too small for their hall. A suitable projector would cost £2,800 plus VAT and around £1,000 for installation, ie a total cost of approximately £4,500. However, this equipment would enable future cinema showings in the school and assist greatly with assemblies and other occasions when the while school is in the hall.

It was agreed to purchase the screen with Parent Council Funds and fundraise towards the cost of the projector.

EY

4 Headteacher's report

Life and work of the school

The Parent Open Sessions and 'Come to Play' sessions in Nursery were very well received last term.

We continue to develop our implementation of the Active Literacy and have made very good use of the two inservice days

- Next steps we have identified - reading bookmarks, add non-fiction resources, look again for supplementing spelling

The 3 new support staff undertook First aid training

CALM training for Miss Thomson, Mrs Wallace and Mrs Broomfield

The nursery received an inspection from the Care Inspectorate

The children in P5-7 worked hard to achieve their First Aid qualifications with Primary 5 attaining Level 1, Primary 6 - level 2 and primary 7 - Level 3.

Children in Primary 3-7 represented the school well on their visit to the art gallery and Victorian classroom.

Last term we spent an afternoon a week working with the primary 5-7 pupils on various Pupil Voice Committees including Rights Respecting School, Eco-school, Communication, Garden and Playground and Garage. For our eco-schools work we focussed on looking after the school grounds and litter and we reflected using the aifl strategy of tickled pink and green for growth on our eco leaves. For term 2 we are trying to reduce the amount of paper we use by using both sides and recycling paper in our scrap paper trays and collection bin. The Rights Respecting School homework was very well done and we continue to work on the school responsibilities and linking the rights to our curricular areas.

The sandpit cover is in place and a staggered fence will stop footballs and children going directly onto the sandpit.

What next?

The snow packs have been sent home and we hope that the weather does not disrupt our school

Children have started practising for the Christmas celebration in church,

We are currently updating the school handbook based on new national and authority advice.

The knitting club is now up and running on Tuesdays

We have a parent volunteer who will start a chess club on Thursdays

The first football tournament is this Saturday 17 November

The donation in the Church at Christmas time is for. Staff have decided not to send Christmas cards again this year and donate to this charity instead.

Our Promoting Positive behaviour policy has to be updated to incorporate the Rights Respecting School Charter and responsibilities.

Our leadership for Learning visit is planned for Wednesday 28 November.

Thanks to:

The Nearly New sale organisers who donated resources to the school and Nursery.

The Playgroup who donating sports resources some of which have been added to our Garage Equipment

We sent away shoeboxes for the Blythswood shoebox appeal

We participated in the Poppy appeal

5 Chairperson's report

The Parent Council and Extra Curricular **bank accounts** have now been updated with the new signatories.

We held our first **cinema event** on 6th October and it was a huge success. It was great to see the village hall being used for a family event and for so many families to come along and enjoy the film. Thanks to Park Brown International for generously underwriting the cost of the snacks and refreshments, and for everyone else who was involved with the organisation and for making it such a great event. The licence is valid until May so we will definitely organise some other events before it runs out as they were easy to do, a good fundraiser and very enjoyable for everyone who came

along. Our next cinema event will be on 1st December.

At the previous meeting it was previously agreed that the Parent Council would fund the purchase of new equipment for the **netball and swimming groups**. As far as I am aware, the equipment is still to be purchased. I will chase to see what the situation is and, if necessary, organise the required equipment on behalf of the groups.

Thanks to everyone who donated bags of unwanted clothing etc. for the **Bags2School** collection and to those who handed in shoeboxes today for the **Blytheswood Shoe Box Appeal**.

A few items have now been added to the **Parent Council Notice Board**. If anyone has anything else that they would like added please let me know.

6 Treasurer's report

- Sponsored Walk brought in £782.40
- We received a cheque for £385.00 from Bags2school.
- Isabelle Riddoch held a Phoenix Card Party, which produced a donation of £35.00.
- Park and Brown International Ltd. made a donation of £170.00 towards the cost of the food for the cinema afternoon.
- The cinema afternoon costs were as follows;

<i>Hall rental fee :</i>	<i>37.12</i>
<i>Cash float:</i>	<i>50.00</i>
<i>Food:</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>Cinema license:</i>	<i>104.40</i>
<i>Donation:</i>	<i><u>+170.00</u></i>
<i>Total Profit:</i>	<i>£292.75</i>

- A bottle of whiskey was purchased for the auditor at a cost of £36.35.

Bottomline

Existing Balance:	£2430.39
Expenditures:	£327.97
Deposits:	£1786.67
Petty Cash:	£3.56
Balance:	£3892.65

7 Christmas

The Pantomime trip on 7th December is all booked and organised.

The Christmas parties will take place on 18th and 20th December. Margo agreed to prepare the food in bags consisting of piece of fruit, small sweet and crisps. Margo also to enquire whether Santa would be able to attend on the 18th.

MT

The teachers have purchased some books for £116 plus £20 for the nursery. These to be paid for from school account and gift wrapped by Karen and Julie with paper which Lindsay has left over from last year's fundraiser.

JB
KC
LC

The church performance of the nativity to the music from Mamma Mia! is being rehearsed with Danielle and will take place at 1.45pm on Wednesday 19th December. It

was agreed to put on an evening performance as well the same day subject to the Minister agreeing. EY

8 Fundraising

Various fundraising ideas were discussed to raise money for the projector. Already in the pipeline are the cinema event on 1st December and the Daffodil Tea. Also suggested were a barn dance, and another sponsored event.

9 Drugproof your family and internet security training

All agreed that it would be useful to hold one or more training sessions for parents on these topics, possibly as part of a Parent Council meeting. Patricia to investigate possibilities. PMac

10 AOB - School handbook update

Marieke and John offered to help Mrs Young with reading over the amendments to the school handbook. MW
JF

11 AOB - Quality Improvement Officer visit

Julie, Lindsay and Karen agreed to meet with the Quality Improvement Officer on 28th November. JB
LC
KC

12 AOB - Quality indicators session

The parents present agreed to take part in a quality indicators workshop session at the next meeting.

13 AOB - Printing

It was agreed that committee members who do a lot of printing at home for the Parent Council should be able to claim for the cost of the ink cartridges used. The school does however have an underutilised photocopying budget, but this is only black and white.

14 AOB - Non payment of swimming fees

It was agreed that parents should get a written reminder and then a verbal reminder to pay their fees. Hopefully a situation can be avoided where a child is prevented from attending due to non-payment of fees.

15 Next meeting

As this meeting had quite a good turnout, it was agreed to hold the next one at 3.30pm on Wednesday 16th January.