



Berwickshire High School Parent Council

Minutes of Parent Council Meeting 20 December 2023

Welcome & apologies:

Present

Parents: Lisa Armstrong, Neil Bennett, Marianne Hodge, Mo Lamond, Victoria Tait, Wanda-Jane Field

Staff: Bruce Robertson Local Councillor: John Greenwell

Apologies

Katrina Reynolds, Amanda Stewart, Clare Stewart, Jude Reid

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of meeting in October were approved

2. Chairperson's Report

Neil updated the Parent Council on the following matters:

SBC funds for PC was approved so we will receive £500.

Funding requests

Spanish Exchange Pool Party – approved but voucher provided by Clare so thank you to Clare. John donated £250 to the Spanish trip and PC thanked him. Spanish flag is up outside the school which is a nice touch.

Mr Bain would like to purchase books – PC agreed to fund £700.

Rebecca from support for learning requested £220 – Meeting of Minds will fund £120 with PC funding the remaining £100.

Christmas Events:

Congratulations to Vicky for organising such a great Christmas Fair – fabulous feedback received.

School concert was a success with PC providing refreshments on the night - £136 was donated to the music dept.

Chairs Group Topics

Food Packaging in schools: Neil asked for some feedback on what's happening in BHS. Parents mentioned that children come home with plastic water bottle every day. John referenced a reverse vending machine at Stow which allows pupils to make sure their plastic is being recycled.

Organ Donation: curiosity as to whether this topic is discussed – Bruce will ask.

Thank you, card: Bruce would like to have a BHS thank you card. He will ask Art dept to be involved in a competition. PC to fund prizes.

3. Treasurer's Report 2021-2022

Main Account Balance - £3425.49

200 club balance - £825

200 club account is showing £500 higher as the SBC PC grant was paid in here. This will be transferred to the main account.

Not all Christmas Fair money was banked by the end of November so there is an additional £500 which will show next month.

4. 200 Club draw

November draw – 1st – 43 (C Beattie), 2nd – 19 (S Dewar), 3rd - 20 (D Rutherford)

5. Christmas Fair Update

Vicky thanked everyone especially Rob Harvey. Lots of great feedback and suggestions.

Christmas Café area would have made people stay longer.

WiFi on the night was poor which impacted stall holder sales.

PC to fund an artificial Christmas tree for the school.

SBC have said we need to have a license for traders – this is £230.

6. Rector's Report

Christmas Fair was a huge success.

Christmas dances were a huge success.

Christmas concert was a huge success.

Prelims are coming up so senior school will be on 10 day study leave – this is the maximum the school can provide

Staffing changes were summarised.

6. Matters raised

Prelim leave – why do we do it? Bruce explained this gives the students a more exam like experience.

Why wasn't Christmas lunch advertised ahead of time? Feedback taken on board and will be mentioned to canteen.

Holding buses for Spanish students was not handled well with group call coming out very late.

Christmas concert – suggested children were discouraged from walking across performers as this was distracting

6. AOB

John praised the heads up

7. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 7th February at 6pm