



Berwickshire High School Parent Council

Minutes of Parent Council Meeting 6th February 2025

Welcome & apologies:

Present

Parents: Neil Bennett, Mo Lamond, Jude Reid, Marianne Hodge, Clare Stewart, Lisa Armstrong, Sally Kitchen, Wanda-Jane Field, Victoria Tait

Staff: Emma Dickson

Local Councillor: John Greenwell

Community Council: Alex Johnson. *Alex joined the meeting to improve relations with the school and the local community. He represents Duns Community Council.*

Apologies

Amanda Stewart, Ray Georgeson

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of meeting were approved.

2. Chair's Report

We need to recruit new members as both Mo and Neil will be standing down when their children leave school. It would be good to have people in role to be able to support initially. This will continue to be an item until we can find someone.

Neil updated the Parent Council on the following matters:

- High School Chairs meeting Wednesday 22nd January didn't happen due to low numbers. Trying to rearrange to give people enough notice.
- Borders Greenway initiative to open the old railway as a cycle track. Scoping work is happening now. One of the conditions of funding is to engage with schools. Neil and Colin Gracey will keep abreast of development.
- Cash4Kids – grants are available for equipment and resources. Emma would like money towards a café for the enhanced provision. This would be an opportunity to invite the community into the café.

Fundraising requests

- Mr Bain would like £500 for books to support the upcoming events – books are on an amazon wish list. This has been shared with people on the heads up.
- Emma is keen to train teachers in Fresh Start to raise pupil's reading age - Agreed to pay £1,400 for Freshstart.

3. Treasurers Report

- Main Account Balance - £5,095.92 (£2,250 for Library and Literacy events)
- 200 club balance - £403.40

4. 200 Club draw & Fundraising

October draw: 1st £16 No.61 Ross Ryrie, 2nd £6 No.24 , 3rd £3 No 17 Katy Master

5. Dyslexia support update

Still not received any feedback from BDA on our submitted audit.

6. Rectors update

- Emma gave a brief history of the school as an introduction for CC.
- A few schools are coming to look at the school's practices.
- Last week SBC reviewed care experienced students in relation to attainment.
- Prelim season is finished. Good feedback from our head invigilator. Staff will now plan to fill gaps in knowledge
- £2,000 donated to Andy's Mans Club from entrepreneurial award.
- Deputy Head is signed off ill. This has caused some timetabling issues so have paid for someone to train additional staff in timetabling.
- Mock choices for next year have gone out to seniors for next year.
- Business Manager has been appointed.
- Financial position is positive for the first time in a while.

8. Matter Raised

John and Alex both commented on how well the school is doing.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday Thursday 13 March