

Meeting of Bellshill Academy Parent Council held on Monday 31 March 2014

Present: Mrs A Munro(Head Teacher), Mr D. Jamieson (Chairperson), Mrs B Shilliday (Parent Member), Mrs C Gowrie (Parent Member), Mr S Foye (Parent Member), Mr D Forwell (Parent Member), Mrs L Gardiner (Parent Member), Mrs J Goddard (Vice Chair), Mrs C Hendry (Parent Member), Mr G Webb (Teacher Representative), Mr A Moore (Teacher Representative), Mrs L Lennox (Teacher Representative), Mrs J. Ward (Clerk to the Council).

Apologies: Mrs E Gowrie, Mrs I Morton, Mrs J Ford, Ms L Gillen

Mr Jamieson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Previous Minutes

These had been circulated and agreed as a true minute.

Matters Arising

Sports Ground

A further meeting on the proposed Sports Ground was to be held in the YMCA on Tuesday 8 April at 5.30pm. Mr Jamieson stated he would try to attend and report back at next meeting.

Finance Update

In the absence of the Treasurer there was no report however Mr Jamieson stated that as a result of requiring an up to date statement for the Community Grant he discovered that new signatories were needed for the bank account. As the AGM is due next month and with Mrs Morton resigning as Treasurer due to her daughter leaving school in the summer, it was agreed to wait until after the AGM when the new Treasurer could be added to the account along with up to 2 more members for signing cheques.

Trust Update

Mrs Munro reported on the Trust Fund and stated that OSCR had been applied for again but had not yet received an answer.

The Trust had agreed at a recent meeting to donate a small amount of money to the Malawi Fund in order for them to complete their fund raising.

Also as a result of the Community Grant not been accepted the Trust will also donate some funds towards the update of the 'Blue Room'

HT Report

Mrs Munro gave a report on the staffing update. She had been at a recent meeting where it was announced that schools would be losing their Support for Learning assistance and would need to bid for future support teacher.

The 33 period week would commence in August.

S1 & S2 would have an extra period of ICT and PE/ Health & Wellbeing.

S3 would retain 8 subjects 3 times a week with Maths and English 4 times per week. The school would be introducing 'Master Classes' for 2 periods each week to help enrich the curriculum. Pupils would choose from a range of subjects eg. Dance, Sport, Drama, Photography, Digital Media and a few others and they would do one from Aug – Dec and other from Jan – June.

S4 would have 7 subjects with 4 period each. Also there would be a range of vocational courses eg. Hairdressing, Beauty, SkillForce, Dance. A Skills Academy was being opened in the old Careers office in the small carpark and this would be used for Construction which 11 other schools would be sending pupils to as well. Mrs Munro stated that she had attended the official opening of the Skills Academy last week with members from NLC and the Council.

S5/6 - The school proposed some extra time for some subjects so pupils may have 6 periods for Higher however some courses would not require as many periods so pupils would be given the option to do a Leadership course e.g. Peer mentoring.

Mrs Munro thanked the Parent Council for all their support in the change to the 33 period week.

AOCB

Mr Jamieson asked if members could pass word around to friends and family about 'Easyfundraising'. This is an online shopping site where the school would be registered under Bellshill Academy Parent Council and each time people purchased items on line a percentage would go to the Parent Council. No work was involved by parents or friends, they only had to log on to the site and click on Bellshill Academy Parent Council and funds would be automatically be collected and a cheque sent to the Parent Council on a regular basis. Details of the site could be found at www.easyfundraising.org.uk
Mr Jamieson agreed to register the Parent Council.

Arrangements for the AGM which takes place on 28 April and a note would be placed in the local paper advising parents and a text message would also be sent on the school's return from the Easter break.

There being no further business Mr Jamieson closed the meeting.