

Grange Academy Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday 9th September 2025

6.30pm

In attendance:

Laura Sommerville, Julie Work, Kirsty Clelland, Nicola Hutchinson, Morag Ross, Karen Rae, Amanda McKinlay, Doville Connor, Shirley Curran, Dawn Fulton, Aimee Alexander, Scott Robertson (Head Teacher), Mary Mackinnon (DHT) Peter Mabon (Cllr), Jayne Sangster (Cllr), James Adams Cllr

Rocco Helm (School Captain), Amy Deane (School Captain), Rory Abercrombie (Vice Captain)

Apologies: Sarah McGovern, Nicola Newlands.

Laura Sommerville welcomes everyone to the meeting.

Scott Robertson provided an outline on the role of the Parent Council and Office Bearers. Members are elected to represent the parent forum and pupils. It is important to have a good working relationship between the Council and the school.

The Chairperson role can be as much or as little as you need it to be. They are required to lead meetings and may also want to be involved with any school consultations any inspections. They help lead the Council with any fundraising ideas and events.

Vicechair role is mainly to support the chairperson and lead any meetings in the absence of chair.

Secretary role is to carry out administrative tasks and correspond with the council members

Treasurer's role is to handle the finances and keep an up-to-date record of accounts detailing any spending.

Scott Robertson thanked Kirsty Clelland for her previous time as chairperson.

Welcome and introductions of the school Captains and Vice Captains

80/90 are currently working on an SQA qualification in leadership. Pupils are taking on several ambassador roles, looking to work with a charity close to the heart of the school. Discussions took place on how pupils and the PC can work together on any future events.

Councilor's Comments on school PC

The Councillors in attendance provided the PC with their thoughts and reflections of the role of a Parent Council and what it brings to the school.

The following points were raised:

- there is role for everyone.
- encourage more dads/male carers to attend.
- rotate days and times of meeting to allow more people to attend.
- work closely with the school to help support teachers and parents.
Encourage a partnership with the senior pupil leadership team. Look into introducing junior school captains as well.
- encourage links with the local community, involving Grange Howard council. A community garden with help to maintain it from members and pupils may be one idea.
- PC recruitment table at the up-and-coming S1 parent's night could help to promote and encourage new members.
- Connect with different school departments such as music to be a part of the Christmas Fayre.

Approval of Minute

Minute of meeting of 9th June 2025 proposed by Kirsty Clelland and seconded by Karen Rae.

Laura Sommerville thanked past PC member Pauline Patton (Vice Chair) for all her contributions particularly since November 2025. Members acknowledged this and agreed thanks.

Junior Prizegiving

Many parents brought junior prizegiving queries to members of the PC in June of 2025.

Mary Mackinnon (DHT) explained that changes were made to the junior prizegiving. A new Committee was in place, and there was a feeling that not enough pupils from the junior section of the school were receiving prizes. It did not seem inclusive enough. The committee agreed due to health and safety concerns for the number of pupils able to attend the ceremony in the assembly hall only pupils receiving 3 or more certificates would be given an opportunity to go along. Unfortunately, the decision to give more prizes ended up in some pupils not feeling recognised. Mary Mackinnon acknowledged the disappointment both pupils and parents/carers felt and agreed having certificates handed out in PSE did not feel enough of an occasion. She reiterated that Grange Academy is an inclusive school, and they want to celebrate as many pupils as possible. Feedback will be given to this year's committee with necessary changes put in place.

Shirley Curran Left at 7.40pm

Halloween Disco

Decision made by all that the S1 Halloween disco will not go ahead this year.

Julie Work Left at 7.50pm

Christmas Fayre

Kirsty Clelland and Amanda McKinlay provided an update on plans for the upcoming Christmas Fayre. Saturday 22nd November 10am to 1pm

So far 45 confirmed paying stalls totaling £1125.

Organisation of tables for stall holders to be brought to the school. The plan would be to contact Louden Academy, Howard Centre and New Laigh Kirk Church to borrow tables.

We have received a proposal from a pupil in the leadership group to have a vinted stall. This proposal was agreed by members.

Members agree to a separate meeting to discuss details of the fayre in more detail.

AOCB – there was no other AOCB

Laura Sommerville thanked everyone for attending the meeting and closed the meeting.

Date for diary:

AGM

Wednesday 24th September 6pm School Library

