

**WILLIAMWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**

**PARENT COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Monday 15th April 2013**

**Present:** Susan Begg                      Cress Maher  
Karen Hussain                      Roddy Wilson  
Stuart Taylor                      Cllr Alan Lafferty  
Moira Young                      Allan Boyd  
Susan Watson                      Cllr Ralph Robertson  
Lesley Yeates                      Jatinder Sumal  
Liz Burton-King                      John Overdjiking  
Brian Stokes                      Andea Cook  
Corinne Durand-Watson (Vice-Chair)  
Bobby Caldwell (Chair)  
Willie Inglis (Dep HT)

**In Attendance:**

John Fitzpatrick (Headteacher),

**1 Introduction & Apologies**

Apologies - Cllr Stewart Miller, Ailsa Crum, Thomas Ferns, Andrew Shephard, Elaine McPhillimy, Cllr Mary Montague

**2 Minutes of and points arising from the previous meeting**

Minutes of the March meeting were accepted - no points arising that are not covered elsewhere.

**3 Headteacher's Report - John Fitzpatrick**

Only one main topic - exams.

General information - 3 more weeks until the start of the exams, covering May & June. The timetable will change 5 June. All pupils in S4/S5/SW6 taking exams will have a letter / report providing information on expected grades, which will be submitted to the SQA. It is WHS policy to notify these to pupils and parents.

The exam appeals system - 2013 will be the last diet of exams for which the current appeals procedure applies. As of 2014 a new system will be in place. Details can be found on the SQA website.

Narrative can be found here :-

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/48186.html>

Q&A on the new Results Service can be found here :-

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/65427.html>

Within the present system approx 11% of results are appealed, of these approx 40% are successful, meaning that of the total number of exams taken, approx 5% are upgraded.

The SQA website suggests that where an appeal (in the new jargon clerical check and / or review!) is unsuccessful i.e. does not result in a grade being upgraded, there will be a charge to the school - the level of the charge has not yet been published. There will be no charge if there are 'Exceptional Circumstances'.

Question - will the school in turn pass on the charge to parents?

#### **4 Parent Council Communications Update**

Further information has been sent to Robert Hendry - query if it is possible to monitor the number of views of PC pages?

Suggestion that we need a proper Comms strategy rather than just ad hoc as at present.

Provided all relevant materials are available, this should be in place for 2013/14.

#### **5 Flying Start (FS)**

WI distributed copies of leaflet - printed version should be ready this week - 2,000 copies.

Video still to be loaded onto school site - what else do we need to do to complete the picture we are trying to portray?

Still need pupils experience & ideally a work experience provider.

Letter re FS to be included in annual school datacheck for 2013/14.

Note - a brief meeting of the subgroup took place after the main meeting - points agreed were as follows :-

- i) LBK - to deliver video file to school
- ii) BC - to confirm separate FS tab in place with Robert Hendry
- iii) David Sudding (probably) to feature in school endorsement piece

iv) WI - to find some more pupils for LBK

Overall objective is to ensure that all relevant film clips are available online before the end of June, which in effect means in place for next session.

## **6 Staff Report - Willie Inglis**

Particularly busy with Easter School - most subjects represented at different levels. Very busy and generally well attended - mainly by boys!

## **7 Local Development Plan - Alan Lafferty**

Agreed that there was no specific response required from the PC.

Plans are available online and in local libraries.

Consultation is open until 1st May 2013, thereafter it is expected that the plan will be adopted by ERC in Spring 2014, although it may be subject to change by the Scottish Government.

<http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1598>

## **8 Parent Council Grant 2013/2014**

Grant is expected to be approx £1,200.

Consideration given to approval of certain areas of expenditure now to enhance, develop and consolidate work on Flying Start & other promotional leaflets - e.g. leaflet targeting local businesses? general leaflet promoting PC?

Action?

## **9 New Project proposals**

In summary these were - Development Fund; Awards; Alumni Network; Volunteering Opportunities; Malawi.

General discussion around the suggestions for new projects for the PC to develop.

Common to all suggestions was the fact that some initial scoping / 'horizon scanning' of ideas would be useful across all areas.

Specifics - it was noted that Corinne, Cress & Elaine would scope the Awards; the Alumni could work on a LinkedIn model (?) and feed into Flying Start; Shirley

Gibson is in charge of volunteering activities in the school - also someone in ERC?; Malawi seemed to generate a degree of interest but needs a focus; Development Fund could be a huge piece of work - where to start?

Suggestions / thoughts via email please.

## **10 AOCB**

i) Events to cover - S1 - 7/5 - Stuart & John O  
S5 - 4/6 - ?  
P7 17 & 18/6 - Bobby

ii) PC meetings for 2013/2014 - BC to consult JF & circulate list

Dates of next meeting (last one of the session) :-

10th June 2013