

WILLIAMWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 17th November 2014

Present : Roddy Wilson Ailsa Crum Cress Maher
Allan Boyd Karen Hussain
Cllr Ralph Robertson Cllr Stewart Miller
Cllr Gordon McCaskill
Pramurta Majumdar Paul Deverill
Corinne Durand (Vice-Chair) Bobby Caldwell (Chair)

In Attendance:

Willie Inglis (Acting HT)

1&2 Introduction & Apologies

Apologies - Mary Montague, Alan Lafferty

3 Minutes of and points arising from the previous meeting

No points arising not covered elsewhere - approved.

4 Election of Office Bearers

BC presented the Annual Report of Williamwood Parent Council and thanked all members of the PC for their hard work and support during the past year.

As is customary and determined by the Constitution, both the Chair (BC) & Vice-Chair (CD) stood own.

At this point WI chaired the meeting for the election of office bearers for 2014/15.

BC was proposed for Chair by KH & seconded by CM - BC accepted the nomination and was elected Chair for 2014/15.

CD was proposed for Vice-chair by AB & seconded by RW - CD accepted the nomination and was elected Vice-chair for 2014/15.

5 & 6 Headteacher's Report & Staff Report – Willie Inglis

i) Events – below are some of the events which have taken place so far this session (more information available on the website):

- Jazz Festival
- Adv. Higher Art & Design project in Millport
- Careers Event 28th Oct - approx. 1,000 visitors
- Hallowe'en Disco - very well attended
- Young Singer of the Year - extremely high standard
- PTA Combined Xmas Shopping Night & Pamper Night
- Information Night on National 5 exams
- Duke of Edinburgh Awards Ceremony

ii) ERC Budget Proposals - all ERC residents should receive a copy of the proposals in the ER magazine. They are also available via the ERC website.

WI highlighted the main areas and how they may be likely to impact on WHS. Overall staffing levels in WHS are likely to be directly affected.

- English & maths class sizes in S1 & S2 to increase from 20 to 30
- changes to management and behaviour & pupil support structures
- the removal of the Campus Cops service
- reductions in librarians resulting in a part-time service
- reduced devolved school budget

Questions were raised regarding fund-raising and some suggestions made e.g. consider using WHS as an Amazon -type parcel collection facility? hire out in school services & facilities e.g. workshops.

BC is attending the ERC budget consultation event on Wed 19th Nov and will feedback information to the PC.

Responses to the proposals can be made online until **Friday 5th December**.

7 Revised Constitution

BC presented a revised PC Constitution on behalf of the PC.

This aims to bring the constitution up-to-date as it had not been revised since the inception of the PC in 2007.

The rule concerning the duration of membership is made clearer (Point 5)
The revised version also brings forward the timing of the AGM - to within eight weeks of the beginning of the new school year in August (Point 8d).

The Revised Constitution is currently available on the school website and will remain open for comments / suggestions until January 15th 2015, the date of the next PC meeting.

If there are no objections or adverse comments, the Revised Constitution will be formally adopted at the PC meeting of January 15th.

Action - BC to post this information on the school website.

8 Flying Start event - update

i) Careers Evening

Further to the event and a mention at S6 assembly, there are now 36 pupils signed up for the Interview & CV Support programme. An advert has been drafted and an email will be sent out next week inviting pupils to apply for the job, with a closing date of approx. 10 days later. After that pupils will receive feedback and some hints / tips regarding interviews.

Action - AB to circulate further information & notify WI of dates.

ii) Work experience / interviews / PSHE

There has been a limited response to requests for these supports since the Flying Start event in August. Suggest that the FS subgroup reconvene to consider how to boost engagement.

Action - BC to circulate possible dates.

iii) Parental involvement

PM was involved in speaking to a group of approx. 20 pupils recently re career opportunities in engineering as part of the PSHE programme. His feedback suggested that pupils were not quite as focused as he had expected in terms of awareness and understanding of career progression in engineering. PM suggests purchasing various books to help encourage pupils aspirations and in particular for those wishing to apply to Oxford and / or Cambridge.

Action - PM to forward list of books / publications

9 Parent Council Communications Update

In preparation for the AGM, the PC has made extensive use of the school website, text messaging and Twitter.

However none of this seems to have resulted in significant interest from or engagement with parents.

How can we change this to make the PC more relevant and interesting to the wider parent forum?

Revise agenda & include topic or theme beside Flying Start or Headteacher's Report items?

Consider what might generate interest among parents - e.g. issues such as homework / bullying / performance etc.

Consider the use of focus groups?

Convene a planning meeting early in Jan 2015 to take these ideas further.

10 AOCB

i) Young Musician of The Year

Three suggestions were made

- a) to create a programme
- b) to video the event - for sale?
- c) to produce a CD of the finalists

Some suggestions were made regarding potential sponsors & printers.

The event takes place on Thursday 19th March 2015 at Williamwood Parish Church. Capacity is approx. 500/600 and tickets last year cost £5.

It was suggested that the PC convene another meeting to discuss the event in more detail.

Action - CM to meet with CS; BC to circulate possible dates.

ii) ERC Budget Consultation event Wed 19th November (see above)

iii) Membership - the PC formally welcomes two new members to its ranks - Mr Pramurttta Majumdar and Mr Paul Deverill. The PC looks forward to benefiting from the knowledge, skills, experience and enthusiasm of both new members, joining those continuing members and contributing to the development and success of the PC over many years to come.

Events to attend :

- 8th Jan 2015 - S4 Parents evening
- 19th Feb 2015 - S2 Parents evening

Dates of future meetings :-

12th January 2015
2nd March 2015
27th April 2015
8th June 2015