



Taylor High School Parent Council

Meeting: 12th January 2026

AGENDA

School Prayer:

God Our Father

Guide us through each day

Give us the strength to do Your will

Help us to work together

To serve our school, our home & our parish

Give us the Gift of Faith to live our school motto – “Que tout soit pour Dieu”

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen

Minutes of Meeting – 12 January 2026

Time: 18:30–20:00 (Teams available for remote log-in)

Location: Taylor High School / Online

1. Welcome & Opening Prayer

The meeting opened with the school prayer.

2. Attendance & Apologies

Present:

Marney Dunn (Chair) Paul McWatt (HT), Stephanie McCrossan (Treasurer), Charlotte Valentine, Nicole Clark (Secretary), Tosin Odubote, Nicola Duffy, Nsenam Obot, Elaine Haldane (Co-chair) Jamie Kerr, Sharon Dougan (new member – parent of S2 and P7 pupil transitioning in August).

Apologies:

Alison Kean (husband's birthday), Alan White (bereavement), Mary Frances Dysko (work clash).

3. Review of Actions from November Minutes

Action	Responsible	Update
Issue minutes for Oct & Nov	Secretary	Completed – Nicole forwarded to council.
Confirm approved social media platforms	PC	To be combined with comms actions below and revisited at next meeting.
Ask NLC for party line (C. Sweeney)	PC	Emails sent to Catherine & Lorraine – awaiting feedback.
Reach out to Connect	MD	Consultation meeting postponed – roll forward.
Check if text replies possible	PMcW	Text replies possible but not monitored; preferred method is Parents Portal. Trial monitoring until Easter. Portal notifications <i>are</i> monitored. Standing agenda item created. Seek parent feedback via FB and portal.
Reinstate early warning bells	PMcW	Likely after February break. Will link to above standing item.
Chase up two new names	MD	Emails sent; liaising with office for confirmation. – have correct email. Was missing a dot (.) will invite for Feb meeting



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Volunteers for Christmas concert	All	Elaine attended – highly successful event; thanks to music dept.
Update Bonus Ball members with Angela White	SM	In progress – awaiting opportunity to connect after bereavement. One new member added.

4. Update on Actions from October Minutes

Action	Responsible	Update
PC engagement with primary schools	Mr McLaughlin	Meeting scheduled end of January; update next meeting.

5. School Transport Capacity (Nicole)

- Ongoing concerns about pupils standing on buses despite no standing capacity.
- School list shows 63 registered; SPT list shows 65; however, 6 additional pupils travelled (likely unregistered siblings).
- School to check with families to ensure all children are correctly registered.
- Primary schools to support communication.
- School office currently engaging with NLC Transport.

6. Parent Council Banner (Elaine)

- Banner previously agreed in principle; needs formal vote to access PC funds.
- Options discussed:
 - Miyo roller banner: £70 (£120 without artwork).
 - Diocese source approx. £50 (Stephanie to check).
- Will post in PC WhatsApp group for approval.
- Agreed maximum spend: £70.

Actions : SM to check Diocese pricing. MD to get approval on price from PC in What's App group.

7. Grants & Fundraising (Charlotte)

- Charlotte researching grant opportunities; Mary to act in support of completion of forms. Grant request for £1000 completed (Jan)
- Deadline for current grant: 20 January. Completed
- Suggestions: Forgewood Community Council, renewable energy companies.
- Elaine to contact local businesses linked with the school for sponsorship.

8. HT Report (Paul McWatt)

Staffing

- Nicola now full-time A-DHT (replacing Gerry).
- Third round of interviews underway for clerical assistant.
- New learning assistant appointed.

Building & Facilities

- Unsafe theatre rigging removed; stage now usable.
- Architect has surveyed drama learning space; may require installation of lift for accessibility.
- Three new boilers installed during October break – improved heating performance.

Options & Pathways

- Developing the Young Workforce strategy launching soon.
- Options process moved to June for improved alignment as S4 move into S5.
- Pupils responsible for securing own placements; resources provided.

Traffic & Safety

- Full SLT presence during busy periods has successfully improved flow and safety.



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- New bus service in operation may assist with school transport. Copies of leaflet and timetable sent to PMcW

ICT

- New devices from NLC received and allocated.
- Additional 70 devices on order through Alan White (£1 contribution model).
- School in strong position for Windows 11 transition.

Literacy Pilot

- Full cluster involved.
- Aim to shift from “Good” to “Great”.
- New literacy staff joining; improved writing observed; refreshed grammar approach.

Attendance

- Letters going out regarding attendance requirements for Prom, Snowball, and other senior events. Attendance 90%+
- School currently at 96% (above NLC target of 95%).
- Emphasis on avoiding last-minute calls for authorised attendance.

Finance (HT Report)

- Funds held: £2,995.44
- Bonus Ball: 88 numbers – £264 per month

9. Finance Report (PC)

Separate PC finance note recorded: £2,915.44 balance.

(Adjusted to align at next meeting as there is a discrepancy between two reports.)

10. Summer Fayre / Car Boot Proposal

- Proposed date: Saturday 13 June 2026
- Note to be placed in newsletter
- Seeking parent forum feedback.

Action: MD to provide note to PMcW for newsletter

11. Upcoming Events & PC Engagement

January

- 12th – Parent Council
- 22nd – S4 Parents’ Night
- 13th Parent Consultative Group cancelled

February

- 12th – S5/6 Parents’ Night
- 19th – S1 Parents’ Evening
- 23rd – Parent Council

March

- Fundraising Race/Quiz Night – *postponed*
- 26th – Parent Consultative Group (online)
- 30th – Parent Council

12. Meeting Schedule (2026)

- 23 February
- 30 March
- 11 May
- 22 June (then break for summer)

13. Any Other Competent Business (A.O.C.B.)



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Nicole asked for update on proposed Spanish trip – this wasn't as progressed as previously thought and so no update or indication it would happen. PMcW speaking with languages department about engagement with children.