

Brae High School – Parent Council

Minutes for Meeting Held on Wednesday 30th November 2022 at Brae High School

Attendees: Louise Wood (Chair), Sarah Johnson (Chair), Vivian Anderson (Treasurer), Julie Johnson, Danny Peterson, Shona Thompson, Shona Carter, Logan Nicolson, Janetta Williamson, Kev Forth, Loren Manson, Claire Robertson, Beenie Ann Wood, Caitlin Johnson, Astrid Nicolson (Clerk)

1. Welcome and Apologies

Louise welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared apologies from Adrian Henry Joanne Jamieson and Lisa Johannson.

2. Approval of Minutes

Proposed by Kev, Seconded by Shona.

3. Shona Thompson – New School update

- Shona gave an update on the current progress of the new school. She noted the bid for Scottish Government Funding had been submitted and hoped to hear the outcome before the end of the year. Shona ran through the bid and how it was put together including references to the PC paper and how the budget had been constructed including, the difficulties of building in Shetland, which had added £8 million extra cost to the project. She noted the outline business case had been set to go before the Council in September for approval but this had been delayed.

4. Pupil Council Reports

Loren introduced Beenie Ann and Caitlin from the Secondary Pupil Council

- Beenie Ann and Caitlin raised the issue of the school lunches. They noted the queue was not getting any shorter, with the last pupils only getting served lunch around 1250. This issue is causing a lot of stress, with people pushing in and less time to spend with friends and relax during lunch break. It is also resulting in some pupils choosing not to have lunch which in turn is affecting concentration in class. They were also finding options sold out. They suggested that seeing covid measures were no longer in place could the primary canteen be used again or if baguettes could be premade or if the year groups could be staggered when called for lunch? Logan noted that with the implementation of the new school finishing times the primary and secondary lunch times now aligned. Logan noted some of the delay was down to pupils not having their cards ready and only having one till. Shona Thompson is

going to look into the possibility of a second till. It was decided that they would split year groups in two being S 1,2 & 3 and S4,5 & 6 and have a second bell to signal the other group being able to queue for lunch to ease the situation and also a reminder to have cards ready for use at the till. Logan noted the refurbishment that was scheduled for earlier in the year hadn't gone ahead due to the contractor letting them down but this is now due to happen in Easter which should make the area bigger.

- They told the meeting about the Community Christmas foodbank. The 1st week of collections would be groceries and the 2nd week they would like donations of more Christmas based things so they could make a Christmas package to give to people. Shona suggested people out with the school may like to donate, Loren was going to look into this. The packages would be made up on the 19th and Loren would then deliver them.
- Louise thanked Beenie Ann and Caitlin for attending to the meeting.

5. Chairs Update and Actions on Matters Arising

- **Activities at lunchtimes/Outdoor Equipment** – Danny is going to see what equipment could be made available. Logan to take the table tennis table out again. It was asked if the pool table could be made more accessible for S 1,2 & 3? Logan noted there was no room for it anywhere else. **ACTION DP**
- **Multicourt Fence** – Logan noted the issue had been logged with building services and they were still waiting for an update
- **Path in the new Area** – Logged with building services.
- **School Trips** – Julie noted P 1 & 2 were going on a trip to Michaelswood, P3,4 & 5 were going on a trip to see the Lerwick Up Helly Aa and P 6 & 7 were going to the Christian Youth Camp. She also noted that the P7 trip to Loch Inch wouldn't be happening this year as they were mindful of the cost of living increase that people were experiencing.
- **Breakfast Club** – Loren noted Neil Beattie had given the club £500 which had made a big difference to the pupils.

6. Treasurers Report

- Balance in the bank is £967.45
- Vivian noted the Easy fundraising needed to be promoted again.

7. School Report

- Logan ran through his school report.

8. School Meals Progress update

- This item was covered in the pupil council report in item 4.

9. AOB

- A letter has been received from a parent concerned about the door going into the gym hall. They feel it is an accident waiting to happen as the door is very heavy and in windy days children are unable to open it and are getting stuck outside. Julie noted that this has been raised with building services. Logan noted it has been raised several times as the door was swelling but this issue should have been fixed. Louise suggested the PC could raise with health and safety **ACTION PC**
- Vivian raised the issue of the Skills for Work Pupils using the public transport bus were finding themselves having to stand along with 20 plus other people and one instance where the pupil couldn't get past the standing passengers to get off the bus. She noted she had emailed James Johnson but has had no feedback. Louise asked if the school had any say in this. Logan noted it is all set by children's services. Logan noted he was aware of a previous complaint that wasn't up held as the busses can accommodate 40 standing passengers.

10. Date and Time of next meeting

- With the election of new chairs the date and time of the next meeting is to be decided at a later date.