

TINGWALL SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

MINUTE OF PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 6.30pm

Tingwall Primary School

Present

Alicia Bishop	Chair	Gayle MacDougall	Parent
Stephanie Mackay	Vice Chair	Annie McKee	Parent
Tessa Huntley	Parent Member	Missy Mulla	Parent
Emily Van Tonder	Parent Member	Toyah Peterson	Parent
Brian Gear	Parent	Keri Ratter	Parent
Elaine Gear	Parent	Jennifer Sim	Parent
Jessica Hughson	Parent	Suzanne Talbot	Parent
Marie Irvine	Parent		

In Attendance

Niall Healy	Head Teacher	Catherine Hughson	Councillor
Connie Anderson	Teacher	Davie Sandison	Councillor
Rachel Bradley	Clerk/Treasurer		

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Moraig Lyall, Sian Cowie, Kirsty Dalziel, Joanna Sutherland and Sarah Peterson.

2. Approval of the Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting were approved by Alicia Bishop and seconded by Stephanie Mackay.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

4. School Report

Niall presented his school report to those present. Please see attached.

Parent Council Matters

5. Online Banking

Online banking is live and a QR code can be generated to allow for donations to be made direct to the bank account.

6. Fundraising

The hall remains closed which continues to impact fundraising efforts. Bonfire Night has been cancelled as a result of the hall closure and will be reviewed next year. The Parent Council feel Bonfire Night is not worthwhile with the number of people attending from out with the community and lack of donations received. The attitude of the general public has also been noted with some showing a lack of appreciation for the effort it takes to organise the event.

Alicia has suggested in lieu of the bonfire a games night could be held in the school with hot dogs and drinks. Keri has suggested a beetle drive and Emily has suggested a bonus ball.

The Christmas hampers will be done at the school concert again and Alicia will organise donations from Grays and Northlink.

Niall is keen to get families into the school so has suggested the Parent Council can support a coffee morning in future.

7. Hall Closure

The hall remains closed for refurbishments and will hopefully re-open at the end of October.

8. Car Park Signage & Potholes

Catherine has spoken to Neil from the roads department. They are currently short staffed but the slow signs should be painted in September. If they have not been done by the end of September Catherine will chase them up.

9. Head Teacher Handover

See Niall's school report attached.

10. Youth Club

The Youth Club needs a treasurer and won't go ahead unless the role is filled. The responsibilities include making bookings and keeping track of tuck shop money. They have asked if the Parent Council knows anyone who would be willing to take this role on. It was suggested that the SIC could appoint a paid staff member into the treasurer's role. Missy will speak to Martin Summers regarding this.

If Youth Club does not go ahead it would be handy to know where other clubs take place so that children could attend these clubs instead. Missy has suggested a Parent Council run club like the Peerie Club set up.

Tingwall Youth Club and one other youth club in Lerwick are the only ones that have paid staff and voluntary parent workers. This stems back to a historical behavioural issue. It is felt that parents are taking on too much responsibility when there are paid staff members.

11. Treasurer's Report

Rachel presented her treasurer's report to those present. Please see attached.

12. AOCB

Snack Time

Tessa has asked for confirmation of the length of time the children have for snack time at school - if they have a short time to eat then are sent out to play. Connie has confirmed snack time is from 10:30-10:50 for eating and playing. The kids are rushing to get outside to play rather than having a set shorter time to eat.

Cycling Proficiency

Alicia has asked Niall if a conversation can be had with the younger kids who are cycling to and from school regarding road safety. Cycling proficiency used to be for younger age groups but is now only held for Primary 6-7. It was suggested that Cycle Shetland could be invited to the school. Catherine will raise the issue at her road safety meeting on 2nd September.

School Dinners

The Parent Council has not been notified of any further escalation regarding the school dinner issues. Connie has said there has been a mixed response from pupils to the new menu. Alicia has offered to send a letter on behalf of the Parent Council to Hayfield. Davie has said it's worth raising a formal complaint.

13. Dates of Next Meetings

Term 2 - Monday 2nd November 2026

Term 3 - Monday 11th January 2027

Term 4 - Monday 26th April 2027

Term 4 Part 2 - Monday 28th June 2027

All meetings will be held at 6.30pm in the Tingwall Primary School.

Parent Council – HT report 1/9/26

- Introduction
- Moral Purpose – my why
- Journey into School Leadership
- Handover/Getting Started



Establishing our 'Now' and our strengths

- Strong sense of moral purpose
- Adaptable to changing circumstances and scenarios
- Supportive of one another
- Positive mindset
- High levels of nurture and care for the pupils
- Purposeful play
- Positive social experiences



School Improvement Priorities

- 1) Raising attainment in Numeracy
- 2) Nurturing Relationships and Positive Behaviour Policy
- 3) Making the Shared Headship model work
- 4) Building staff cohesion in all sectors and departments of the school



The 'How' of School Improvement

- *Clarity for staff* – fully understanding roles and responsibilities
- Professional Learning and Professional Review
- Strategy for Collaborative work – different types of meetings that focus on core school business.
- Building our culture of professional reflection and accountability
- Embedding our values and standards



Other ongoing pieces of work/updates

- Framework for High Quality Teaching and Learning at Tingwall Primary School is being developed.
- School Handbook is being overhauled to provide an up to date guide of every day school workings.
- Learner Characteristics are being refreshed and updated.
- School blog will be updated significantly.
- Internal communication systems are being updated to develop team cohesion.



Parent Council (Home-School Partnership)

- Our core purpose is to work in partnership to support the development of the school.
- Aim to be a cohesive and ambitious team that has a shared understanding of the vision, values and aims of the school
- Recognise the professional efforts of the staff group in creating positive experiences for the pupils
- Work collaboratively to find solutions to matters arising that are challenging



Tingwall School Parent Council
Treasurer's Report - 01.09.26

Opening Balance (29/06/26)	£ 4,530.92
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Income

Cash from P7 Parents Bonfire Night	£ 530.88	
		<u>£ 530.88</u>
		<u>£ 5,061.80</u>

Expenditure

Tingwall Hall invoice 20 - hall hire 05/11/24	-£ 20.00	
		<u>-£ 20.00</u>
Closing Balance (30/08/26)		<u><u>£ 5,041.80</u></u>

NOTE: cheque 000114 was sent at the time for Tingwall Hall invoice 20 but was never cashed so I have cancelled the cheque and made a bank transfer instead