

**Minutes of the Scalloway School Parents' Council
Held on Tuesday 20 May 2008
At 7.00pm in the Scalloway Staff Room**

Present

Clive Williamson – Chairperson
Marvyn Jamieson – Parent Member
Karen Eunson – Vice Chair
Karen Warner – Parent Member
Edna Nicol – Parent Member
Gwen Sales – Parent Member
Julie Williamson – Parent Member
Wilma Irvine – Parent Member
Allan Skea – Co-opted Member
Gregg Arthur – Co-opted Member
Patrick Robertson – Co-opted Member
Ian Fraser – Co-opted Member

In Attendance

Joyce Gear – Head Teacher
Zoe Anderson – Clerk
Iris Hawkins – Councillor
Andrew Hughson - Councillor

1. Notice of Meeting

The meeting was held as read. Clive thanked everyone for coming and mentioned how it was a shame that Ken was unable to attend this meeting as it was his last meeting as he will be stepping down from the Parent Council and to say a big thank you for all the hard work he has done with the School Board and all the work he did in setting up the Parent Council.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Lindsey Rendall, Paul Leask, Ken Duerden and Betty Fullerton.

3. Approve Minute of the Meeting of Monday 11 February 2008

The minutes of the meeting of Monday 11 February 2008 were approved by Clive and seconded by Gwen.

4. Matters arising from Minute of the Meeting of Monday 11 February 2008

4.1 Pupil Council

Patrick & Alan to check with Pupil Council before each meeting.

Action: PR & AS

4.2 Primary Parents Evenings

People were interested in having a family event in the winter. Drug awareness for parents and children was also a suggestion. Clive to discuss with the agencies involved in drug awareness programmes for schools before next meeting and plan to set dates for both of these at the next meeting.

4.3 Additional Support Needs (ASN) Special Interest Group

Clive has agreed to become a member of this group but has had heard nothing further from Lesley Roberts. Karen Warner expressed an interest in this post. Clive will contact Lesley Roberts

- 4.4 Progress on International Links
Promoting International Links is well embedded with Norway. The school is hoping to send two pupils on work experience again in September and at present there are other links for example some classes in Norway and Scalloway School are emailing each other. It was asked if there was any chance of teaching Norwegian and Joyce explained that a teacher has offered a Norwegian module back and forth but this has not been very popular. French & German are the two languages that Scalloway offers.
- 4.5 Absence reporting
The authority is going to evaluate the pilot across the authority. Further direction will then be given to schools on what the next steps are.
- 4.6 AHS New Build
This is being reviewed at the moment due to the rising cost and will be presented to the Councillors in two months. Helen Budge and Bill Manson were on the radio last night at the moment there were no plans to build in extra capacity for Scalloway and Sandwick at the AHS. Across Shetland the school rolls are falling in the early years and primaries over the next few years.
- 4.7 Curriculum for Excellence
Curriculum for Excellence, which is for 3-18, is currently involving a great deal of consultation on this. Next month there is a document, Building the Curriculum 3, which will come out. When this document comes out more will be known about how the curriculum will change. At present standard grades are probably going to be done away with but something will be replacing these. Curriculum for Excellence is a radical change and probably will take at least 10-12 years to implement.

5. Recruitment

There has been a 3rd advert for the Chemistry post. If recruitment is unsuccessful for Chemistry teacher, the school has contingency plans within the school. Interviews for French teacher are on Monday. Margaret Jamieson, primary 2/3 teacher retires in August and the school is recruiting to 0.5 post.

6. Moderation Visit by HMIE team.

Clive wrote a response to HMIE on the progress of the school prior to the inspection and the school had a moderation visit of two half-day visits when HMIE were very pleased with the progress that had been made. As a result they will not return.

7. Health Promoting Status

Scalloway has achieved the Health Promoting Status. They have been asked to let other schools know how they achieved this. It was suggested that an invitation to all P1 parents to ask them to come into the School for lunch near the beginning of term 1 would be useful. It was asked if this could be tied into with assemblies but space in the school is very limited so this is a problem. JG will look at the timetabling, but is not hopeful.

Action: JG

8. Parent Volunteers

Tuck shop, sewing, library help at lunchtime, artists working on mural, people talking about their job, bricklaying, sporting – football referee, website design, etc. are the types of volunteers required in school. Joyce is to send out a letter to all parents. Currently there are only 4 volunteers who help out with Golden Time. Include in letter that volunteering can be a one off or a regular occurrence.

Action: JG

9. School Development Plan 2008-09

There is a new school development plan for this year. Joyce gave a brief summary of the development priorities and the plan will be published in June and made available to all parents.

10. Correspondence

Minutes of Whiteness Parent Council Meeting
Minutes of Burra Parent Council meetings
Scalloway School Parents' Council Action Plan 2008/09
Scalloway School Parents' Council Constitution
Scalloway School Parent Council 2007/08 income and expenditure account
Scalloway School Parent Council 2008/09 income and expenditure account

11. Any other Competent Business

Yellow Lines have still not been done. Since January all has been ready to be done and Joyce was told they were waiting for better weather. Greg asked about the 20mph and Iris is going to chase this up and the yellow lines.

Action: IH

Vocational Pathways – aquaculture used to be done at the school and the college but now all courses are run at the college. Shetland has the highest figures in Scotland for vocational pathways. They have to be interviewed to get on the course and all students seem to take this very seriously. It seems to be a very positive programme. There is very high quality delivery of programmes by the providers.

Zet trans is currently doing a public consultation and anyone can go on line and comment on transport in Shetland.

Scalloway currently has 2 composite classes due to having a fully funded probationer and they are hoping to receive another probationer next year. They will hopefully know within the next week.

Joyce would welcome anything from the Parent Council for the website and the newsletter.

Fundraising to be added to the next meeting.

Would all members bring a friend to the annual general meeting.

12. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 23 September at 7.00pm in the Scalloway Junior High School Canteen.