

**Minutes of Wallace Hall  
2-18 Parent Council Meeting  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
7pm via Teams**

**Present:** Louise Cochran (Chair), Caroline O'Hara (Vice-Chair), Christine Carson (Treasurer), Katrina Galligan (Secretary), Barry Graham, Melanie Halliday, Laura Weir, Anna Meredith, Euan Mack, Finlay Park, Jillian Maxwell, Sharon Young & Jane Valentine

Item		Action
1	Apologies: Charlene Henderson, Kerry Fry, Cathy Mackenzie, Ann Andreasen and Lynne Maxwell  Welcome – LC welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2	Approval of the Minutes from last meeting Monday 25th January – Minutes approved and agreed as correct. Approved by MH & seconded LC	
3	Feedback from PC so far on how to improve website and social media. All PC members to complete Microsoft form that was sent in email. KG can resend link if required. One suggestion so far was a Parent Only Facebook group for Wallace Hall parents. Discussed Pros and Cons of is. Suggestion to do this but only keep current Facebook page. Parent page would be used to discuss school only things and current page for school people as well as the local community.  Remove 3 pages of PC section on website and add 1 in which will contain list of members and their roles. LC will contact FP with pages/documents to be removed and added.	LC
4	a) Nothing to report b) JM will take pictures of what the pupils purchased using their money. c) Nothing to report	JM
5	No current bank statements but Treasurer thinks it is around £4200. Not sure on Christmas amounts but £300 was allocated About £1000 for Primary & £1232 for Secondary PC allowance audit is completed and has been signed off and submitted to Lesley Beck so hopefully allowance due soon. Change of signatory has been started, form has been emailed to BG for him to complete and then will be sent off. Once BG is a signatory, CC will remove all other signatories that do not need to be there. Funds are available but no funding requests	

	<p>at present. Not getting all allowance but definitely the last 2 years.</p>	
6	<p>Head Teachers Report  See Appendix 1  From Appendix 1: June Timetable Changes: BG informed PC about the proposed changes to June timetable. A discussion took place regarding the proposals. PC agreed to write to Gillian Brydson, Director of Education to object to these proposed changes and ask for Wallace Hall Academy to continue as previously, starting new timetable in June. LC and COH to meet to compile letter.</p> <p>Parental Volunteers SQA Arrangements Group: BG asked for parental volunteers from the PC to be involved in a SQA Arrangements Group with Dr Ray Fulton. Jane Valentine, Christine Carson and Caroline O'Hara all agreed to take part in group. BG to give names to Dr Ray Fulton.</p>	LC COH  BG
7	<p>LC meet with Larann Foss who is an Education Officer, and John Thin, Head of Education, and met with Larann Foss for a site visit of the Pitches. Education are now dealing with the pitches and looking into what is going on. LC summarised email from Larann Foss detailing what was discussed in these meetings. All the regions' pitches will be looked at and accessed and then graded. Depends on the other pitches WH may end up not being top of the list. Education will decide and depends on the budget for the year. This has been ongoing 11 years although not top of the list has definitely been gone on the longest with issues. It is now not an IF but a WHEN it will be fixed. Questions were asked by Larann Foss regarding history, and these were given to Steven Rae, PE Teacher, as he knows all about the history of pitches and Steven is now involved in discussions. Steven met with Larann, and meeting went well. Suggested send emails to Councillors, MPs and MSPs so everyone is aware of issues. There is a possibility to get one pitch fixed and then the other using match funding, or one pitch fixed at a time. P.E is happy with this solution provided it be in writing and in a contract. LC will invite Larann Foss to attend next meeting.</p>	LC
8	<p>Constitution Update: Vanessa Morris has not been in touch regarding the questions asked. LC is going to attend a free online information session by Connect on 'AGM's &amp; Constitutions for Parent Groups' which will help with this. LC will then meet with COH, after April Meeting, to discuss and make alterations. LC will bring these to June meeting for discussion and approval by PC. Then after summer will send these to Parent Forum for 2 weeks and then to AGM to be adopted.</p> <p>Jane Valentine would like to become a Parent Council member. Has been sent a data protection form for completion.</p>	LC
9	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Next Meeting Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Then 7<sup>th</sup> June</b></p>	



## **Appendix One**

### **Head Teacher's Report for the Parent Council – March 2021**

#### **ELC News:**

Wallace Hall ELC are delighted to have welcomed Susannah McDonald to the team. Susannah has settled into her role as nursery nurse really well and is quickly becoming an integral part of the team.

The children enjoyed celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 4th March. They took part in book and a banana or story and a satsuma with their key worker and were given lots of World Book Day activity opportunities.

The staff team as a whole has welcomed the children back into the setting with open arms and are moving forward with each child's learning journey as they continue to explore and learn through play. All children have been a credit to themselves by settling back into their ELC routines without issue.

#### **Primary News:**

Really fantastic to have the ELC - P3 children back in the building. They are settling in well and enjoying being back with their friends and teachers, and are very busy with their learning. P1 are learning all about space, P2 have been busy learning about division and P3 were writing fantastic kenning poems about Spring last week. We're really looking forward to welcoming the P4 - 7 children back next week and are busy planning for their return.

We have had a high level of engagement with remote learning over the past 7 weeks. We would like to thank all the ELC parents and carers for the support they have given their children during this time; we really do recognise that remote learning is hard work for the whole family! Thank you too for working with us to help the children return safely by following routines and wearing masks at drop off and pick up.

The Primary have been busy working on Fairtrade fortnight over the last couple of weeks. Children have been enjoying learning about this at home as well as at school and we've been sharing examples of children's work in our virtual assemblies - posters, photos of delicious baking using Fairtrade ingredients and a puppet show video created by Primary 2 are just some examples of this. We're well aware of the compromises to our normal programme of whole school events that have needed to be made due to Covid, for example, not celebrating World Book Day in our usual way but we'll be working with the children to hear their ideas on how to reconnect our school community over the rest of this term and into the next.

*We'd like to thank the whole staff team who once again have responded to the challenges of school closure whether that is continuing learning and teaching over Teams and Purple Mash, supporting the children in the hub, providing remote support on Teams, supporting families, working tirelessly behind the scenes and supporting each other.*

*Thanks to the children for engaging with their learning, completing and submitting their work, becoming masters of Teams calls and online calendars, contributing with their usual creativity during class meets. We know that for some children the return to*

*school will be challenging but we will support them all coming back and do everything we can to help them settle back.*

### **Secondary News**

A number of posts have been advertised for the secondary: Business Studies (4 days), Drama (1 day), Modern Languages (2 days) and Music (full time). Interviews will take place before the Easter holidays and I will update you at the next meeting on who has been appointed.

Currently there are approximately 5-8% of our pupils in the secondary school working on their practical subjects in order to meet the requirements for SQA. We are now working on a timetable to allow all our pupils to get some time back in school from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March up until the Easter holiday.

The authority has informed us that we are unable to move forward our timetable in June as we would normally do.

Parent Council/Parent group to look at SQA Arrangements – week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> March.