

Minutes of Wallace Hall 2-18 Parent Council Meeting  
Monday 23 June | 2025, 5pm  
Buccleuch & Queensberry Arms Hotel

Present: Mr Graham, Mrs Gray, Calvin Ruysen (Vice-chair), Theo Berman, Alicia Hood, Laura Keenan (Chair), Alice Stilgoe (Secretary), Maria Navarro de Sepúlveda, Emily McClennan

Item	Details	Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and apologies</b>  Apologies: Jillian Maxwell, Sammy Austin, Linda Corrway, Jane Valentine (Treasurer), Leah Belford, Ewan Mack, Judi Park, Sarah McDiarmid</p>	
2.	<p><b>Approval of previous minutes</b>  Previous minutes were approved by Laura Keenan and seconded by Janis Gray</p>	
3.	<p><b>Matters Arising</b>  <b>Bus provision</b>  No confirmation that Stagecoach bus 246 will run in August 2025. School would like to know what is happening regards bus for new term. Agreed that it would be helpful if PC could write an email to Gillian Brydson Executive Director Education, Skills and Community Wellbeing, Dumfries &amp; Galloway Council</p>	<p>Laura to write to Gillian Brydson, and local Councillors. Alice to write to Thornhill Community Council.</p>
4.	<p><b>Correspondence – carried over from May meeting</b>  New requirements regarding Disclosure Scotland: email from Vanessa Morris about PVG changes from 1 April 2025, whereby the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme is becoming mandatory for those who are carrying out ‘regulated roles’ working or volunteering with children. It may also apply to those committee members involved in making decisions which affect the education of children.</p> <p>Decided that WHPC compliant with this legislation due to the number of staff, who are members of the PVG scheme, who sit on the parent council.</p>	<p>Laura to confirm with Vanessa Morris that WHPC arrangements are acceptable</p>
5.	<p><b>Headteacher’s Report</b>  <b>ELC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupils have been involved in transition programme and getting ready for the move up in the Primary School. Primary 1 teachers are working with Miss Park to make sure the pupils are comfortable with the move.</li> <li>- ELC are organising two end of term treats for the children. The younger ones are going to enjoy a teddy bears picnic, while the older group who will be going to school next term are going on a trip to Ernespie Farm.</li> <li>- Pupils have been planting lots of seeds in the garden.</li> </ul> <p><b>Primary</b></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Awarded Gold Sports Scotland award</li> <li>- P6 have been looking at Scottish politics and democracy. Academy teacher came to their class room to talk to the class on this subject.</li> <li>- Many trips, excursions and fun activities taking place this term across the Primary. Including activities at OST. Thanks for Mia Osborne for organising. Very positive about the work that Mia has been doing and the wider work of OST.</li> </ul> <p><b>Academy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Held a celebration of success evening for junior pupils. Scotland international ruby player, Scott Steel presented awards and gave an inspiring speech.</li> <li>- Senior Prom was held at Hetland Hall at the beginning of June. There was a disco and meal, well attended by staff and a successful evening</li> <li>- P7s coming to WHA for their 3 day moving up this week and chance to get a feel of what it will be like when they come to the Academy next term.</li> </ul>	
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b>  <b>Primary</b> – Balance of £375.04  <b>Academy</b> – Balance of £655.78</p> <p>Alicia asked if PC has spent DGC money and does it need to be spent by the end of year.</p> <p>Jane to step down from Treasurer role next year. Please volunteer if you are interested in this role.</p>	Jane to query bank charges refund and £160 cheque, and prepare financial returns.
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Projects Update</b></p> <p>Linda sent a written report as unable to attend meeting:</p> <p>The finance sub-committee have had a very busy term and are working through our list of 15 projects.</p> <p>Successes to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £1000 for science equipment</li> <li>• £500 for the art department</li> <li>• £2000 for the PE department</li> <li>• £350 raised for the drama department</li> <li>• £150 raised for stationery for social science department</li> <li>• £500 raised for maths calculators</li> <li>• An arrangement set up with Chapters Book shop in Thornhill to allow customers to donate towards new books for the primary library.</li> <li>• £500 received to be put toward extracurricular activities which we will allocate in the new term.</li> <li>• We have started sharing our successes on the school Facebook page and through school emails.</li> </ul>	PC to write letter of thanks to Durisdeer Hall Committee and parent donor

	<p>We are awaiting confirmation but think that the orders were raised before the end of term cut off date for all the departmental spending and some items have definitely already arrived in school.</p> <p>We are looking into how best to structure ourselves, to allow any parents who would like to make donations to do so, with the hope we can include a Gift Aid scheme and will continue to work through the list of projects.</p> <p><b>Responses from Parent Council</b>  Theo – raised issue that funding unequal between departments. Explained that spending was allocated according to ask of departments and wishes of donors.</p> <p>Best practise for going forward was to revert back to funder to clarify what funds are spent on in the event that their</p> <p>Very pleased with success in first year. Learn from this to improve processes and procedures going forward.</p> <p>Importance of clear communication via the newsletters and website was highlighted.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Sub-Committee – Primary Fun and Events Group</b>  Agreed importance of PC continuing to organise whole school events for community building. Emily to lead on this, with help from Jillian Maxwell and Claire Ingram.</p>	
9.	<p><b>AOB</b>  <b>Orchard Project</b>  Laura has put contractor in touch with Leah Belford for improving access to the orchard.</p> <p><b>Dates of meetings for next session:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monday 1 September 2025, Wallace Hall Library 7pm</li> <li>2. Monday 6 October 2025, Wallace Hall Library 7pm AGM</li> <li>3. Monday 17 November 2025, online 7pm</li> <li>4. Monday 12 January 2026, online 7pm</li> <li>5. Monday 2 March 2026, online 7pm</li> <li>6. Monday 27 April 2026, Wallace Hall Library 7pm</li> <li>7. Monday 15 June 2026, Buccleuch &amp; Queensberry Arms Hotel, Thornhill 5pm</li> </ol>	
10.	<p><b>DONM Monday 1 September 2025, Wallace Hall Library 7pm</b></p>	