LHS Parent Council AGM

23rd January 2024

Present: Shona Fleming (Chair), Ali Berardelli (Vice Chair), Dee Collins (Treasurer), Jane Halewood, Rachel Tonks, Lisa Wharton (Secretary), Scott Steele (HT)

Apologies: Alison Stephen, Bell Wells, Louise Pescod, Laura Kingswood, Nicola Mair, Lorraine Servant, Becky McCook

Welcome: The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Previous Minutes – AGM 2023

Proposed by Dee Collins (DC) and seconded by Ali Berardelli (AB)

Chair's Report – Shona Fleming

What a year it's been at LHS, a full and varied one at that.

The school has undergone a restructuring of their curriculum model and are now moving to a 2:2:2 structure which will see the school grouped into S1 & S2, S3 & S4 and S5 & S6. The desired outcome being to deepen learning and increase attainment. There has been a continued issue with staff vacancies resulting in a rolling cycle of advertising and re-advertising to fill posts along with the usual recruitment of probationers. This unfortunately impacts on the curriculum structure with some subjects not being able to be offered to pupils. Whilst Stephen Stewart was permanently appointed as Depute Head another Depute Head has retired and is not being replaced because of the falling school roll. Despite this the school has continued to offer supported study classes along with running a very successful Easter School during the holidays. The school has also run some school visits this year inviting parents to come into the school during the school day. The delivery of the curriculum has been impacted somewhat unfortunately by Strike Action. Despite these challenges the school has continued to offer a wide and varied curriculum with many other activities taking place.

The school has an active Health and Well Being programme which delivers H&WB days and podcasts as well as staging the Highland Games which has been a great success. Pupil Voice has been advancing particular articles of the UNCRC with topics chosen by pupils and staff. The school has continued working with community partners such as DYW, the Skills for Work Programme and Connecting Young Carers to support our pupils.

On top of all this the School Hike, Christmas Dances and the S6 Graduation continue enthusiastically. School trips are back with the S6 London and the Mediterranean Watersports trips being planned along with an ambitious Mallorca trip being arranged for the Duke of Edinburgh Programme. For our entertainment there have been LHS Wind Band Concerts, the Dance Platform shows along with a Photography and Art Exhibition.

Parent Council have been happy to help with donations to LHS Wind Band and Glencoe House along with securing a grant for the Glencoe House Sensory Garden project.

And if that wasn't enough the Bike Park has opened alongside the school campus.

Phew, what a year it's been!

Shona Fleming

Chair LHS Parent Council

Treasurer's Report – Dee Collins

LHS Parent Council Annual Treasurer's Report

for the period 11/01/2023– 09/01/2024

The balance in the account as of 11/01/2023 was £ 2,680.33.

Following re-election at the AGM on the 24/01/2023, I continued as Treasurer for the above period.

Income for this period includes:- the Highland Council annual payment of £ 681.43 paid in by BACS on the 28/03/23 following our yearly submission; a Highland Council Ward Discretionary grant payment of £ 1,600.00 paid in via BACS on the 29/03/23 following a successful application made on behalf of Glencoe House; a grant payment from AMP Clean Energy of £ 500.00 paid in via Automated Credit on the 22/11/23 following a successful application made by Ali Berardelli for funding towards a LHS school banner; and the following interest amounts of £ 5.80 on the 30/03/23; £ 8.40 on the 29/06/23; £ 6.56 on the 28/09/23 and a final interest amount of £ 7.56 on the 28/12/23. These amounts equated to a total amount of £ 2,809.75 of Income for the period and up to 09/01/2024.

Expenses for the period consisted of payments to:- the School on behalf of Glencoe House for £ 60.00 for the reimbursement of the purchase of a bicycle, paid by cheque (no.233) on the 11/04/23; the School for £ 908.00 for the Parent's Evening Online Booking System Annual Licence, paid by cheque (no.234) on the 11/04/23; the School for 300.00 as a contribution to the Wind Band's trip to Perth, paid by cheque (no.235) on the 11/04/23; the School for £ 150.00 as a contribution to the Glencoe House Sensory Garden Project, paid by cheque (no.236) on the 11/04/23 and the School for £ 1,600.00 on behalf of the Glencoe House Ward Discretionary grant awarded, paid by cheque (no.237) on the 23/05/23. These payments amount to a total of £ 3,018.00 in Expenses for the period and up to 09/01/2024.

The new balance is therefore £ 2,472.08 for the purposes of this AGM and is stated as such on the most recent Bank Statement, dated 09/01/2024.

There are two pending cheque payments (nos.239 & 240) made on the 21/12/23, awaiting clearance. (Note: Cheque no.238 remains in the chequebook as cancelled due to an error.)

This report is an accurate financial account according to the Bank statements, chequebook and supporting paperwork, such as Invoices and Receipts, on file and available to view.

The prepared statement of the Account will once again be independently audited following this AGM. I can also report that following the last AGM, the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 set of accounts, as previously prepared and presented by myself as Treasurer have been audited by Mrs Anne Davies of Invergarry on the 18th & 19th of April 2023 and are available to view on file.

The signatories on the Bank Account were finally resolved in March last year with Shona Fleming & Ali Berardelli being successfully added and obsolete signatories being removed. The current 3 signatories are Deidre Collins, Shona Fleming and Ali Berardelli.

Unfortunately, no fundraising took place again this financial period/past year, which is important to maintain a healthy Bank balance and thereby enable the Parent Council to continue to support the School with agreed financial contributions in the future and not rely solely on grants. Fundraising has been on the Agenda this year, different options have been discussed/explored and there are plans for some fundraising events coming up such as a Beetle Drive and bag packing at Morrisons.

This concludes my report for this period and I now step down as Treasurer for the purposes of the AGM but I am willing to stand again for the position.

Thank you and kind regards

Deidre Collins, Treasurer 2023-2024

Resignation of Office Bearers

Shona Fleming stands down as Chair of the Parent Council

Ali Berardelli stands down as Vice Chair of the Parent Council

Dee Collins stands down as the Treasurer of the Parent Council

Election of Office Bearers

Scott Steele acts as Chair and asks for nominations for the office bearer positions.

- CHAIR

Shona Fleming is proposed as Chair by Ali Berardelli. Dee Collins seconds the proposal and

Shona Fleming is reappointed as Chair.

- VICE-CHAIR

Ali Berardelli is proposed as Vice-Chair by Dee Collins and the proposal is seconded by Shona Fleming.

Ali Berardelli is reappointed as Vice-Chair.

- TREASURER

Dee Collins is proposed as treasurer by Jane Halewood.

The proposal is seconded by Rachel Tonks. Dee Collins is reappointed as Treasurer.

- **SECRETARY**

Lisa Wharton is proposed by Shona Fleming and seconded by Dee Collins.

Lisa Wharton is appointed as Secretary.

- **TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE**

Yvonne Clark is proposed in her absence by Shona Fleming and seconded by Dee Collins.

The appointment is to be confirmed.

- **PUPIL REPRESENTATIVE**

No nominations received.

Parent Council members

Jane Halewood and Rachel Tonks were reappointed as members of the parent council.

Those who gave apologies were proposed and seconded as members of the parent council.

SF to contact those named and request them to opt out if they do not wish to be a member.

AOB

No other business was brought forward to the AGM.

The AGM closed at 7.33pm.

The next AGM will be held on Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 7pm, Lochaber High School.