

Invergordon Academy Parent Council

Minutes of meeting held on the 29th of August 2016

Present	Apologies
Catherine Richmond (Chair)	Hayley Duff
Mr Aitchison	Aileen Mackay
Mr Thompson	
Martin Rattray	
Emma Beavis	
Debbie Clark	
Elaine Macleod	
Alison Clarke	
Lindsay Duncan	
Maxine Smith	
Karen Mackay	

1. Catherine welcomed everyone to the meeting especially our new members.
2. Previous minutes were accepted as being correct
3. School items – see end
4. Process for Internal Staffing appointments - all internal staff are asked for interest in promoted posts with additional responsibility.
5. Public Health Issues – there was lots of discussion surrounding the need to improve the health and wellbeing aspects of the curriculum at Invergordon Academy especially surrounding public health such as smoking, alcohol, drugs and sexual health. Mr Abenheimer is looking at prioritising the whole SHARE programme and an up-date of progress and activities will be taken to next meeting.
6. Councillor up-date
 - a. SSER – Alness academy will be replaced like for like by 2020. Catherine has written to Bill Alexander requesting an up-date as Invergordon Academy has always made it very clear they fully support a new build in Alness but NOT at the detriment of money not been inputted to the up-keep and development in Invergordon. Martin had chaired the stakeholder event held in Alness last week and they had a good meeting looking at what Alness needed and what facilities would make a difference in the school. Martin assured us that Bill Alexander is still keep on helping us with a 3 – 18 campus but budget needs to be worked out – any up-date will be given at next meeting. Maxine said the schools were to be delivered through HUBCO which is both Scottish Government and private funding – 1 of the 3 new schools will be a hybrid but they are unsure who this will be. Bill Alexander has confirmed to Maxine that a refurb for Invergordon is still on the cards but dependant on money – if no money left then a request will go to the capital agenda – hopefully this will start in 2020. Maxine talked about a new housing estate that has been agreed at Mains Farm which will increase the population – there was debate around the table as to whether this has actually been agreed.

- b. Seagull survey – Maxine talked about a meeting with pest control. Next year they will look at removing nests and they will then repeat the population survey. Invergordon and Alness will be the pilot. This will cost between £15 - £20k
 - c. SNP have called an emergency meeting re education
- 7. Pupil council representative for parent council meetings – Karen Coulshed is now overseeing the pupil council and she will be asked about involving pupils with parent council – will be discussed at next meeting
- 8. Highland Council Youth Voices – 2 representatives from Invergordon Academy – we should get up-dates on this
- 9. Website – there are 5-6 senior pupils who have made a publicity team – up-dating at present and Mr Phillips will develop this to include staff and parent council
- 10. Social Media – proving very problematic and time consuming for SMT – things that are happening out with school time are now impacting on school time. Should we be involving the community policy – youth development officer – invite YDO to next meeting? Any ideas to Mr Aitchison please

Parent Council Meeting 30th August 2016 – School Matters

Staffing

New staff

Freya Taylor – Languages

Derek Cameron – History

Petria Brooke-Carr – Sfl

Rosie MacKenzie – Art Supply

Claire Buchanan – Biology Supply

Nicole Watters – PSA

Other staffing

Carol Nicholson has retired

Karen Coulshed – Acting DHT

Interview date to be agreed – need to PC members and two local councillors

Craig Phillips – Acting Faculty Head of Science, Computing and Business Studies

Claire Ross – Faculty Head of Social Subjects, RME & Art

Current five faculties are undergoing job-sizing into four faculties.

Expected to implement by January 2017

School Roll

Currently 356 – slowly increasing

A number of new pupils have started this term from a variety of countries: Scotland, England, Poland, Romania and we expect some Syrians too.

School Priorities for 2016-17

- Broaden the impact of our Enhanced Support programme to ensure Senior Phase profiling and accreditation of activities in the programme
- Develop confidence and consistency in BGE assessment and moderation
- Further develop how we engage parents in their child's learning and life of the school
- Develop business and community partnerships
- Improving the standard and consistency of learning and teaching with a focus on differentiation and questioning
- Improve attainment in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing with clear tracking and intervention
- Strengthen our school ethos and sense of community
- Ensure work related learning opportunities for all in Senior Phase
- Use data more effectively to track pupil progress and close the gaps
- Work with our ASG to enhance curricular transition through the Big Writing project, Numeracy and Languages 1+2
- Work with our ASG to develop confidence and consistency in BGE assessment across the curriculum

Budgets

Council wrote off all overspends at the end of 15/16 financial year. Therefore school has started with a balanced budget and balanced staffing.

Budget cuts continue to impact on school allocations.

SQA Results

Analysis will be known once Insight data is issued.

Attainment Challenge

Scottish Government has money available for disadvantaged schools to bid into to help 'close the gap'

Invergordon can place bids for this funding, which is substantial.

MA & AT are currently finalising our bid.

School Refurbishment

Café is being created in the old sewing room.

Front office will get work done to create a meeting room.

New roof has gone on over the changing rooms

On-going plans around use of Janitors house, perhaps in partnership with Highlife Highland.

New phone system should be in place by end of the year.

ICT

New ICT contract awarded to WIPRO

Show My Homework: on-line homework diary