
Speyside Parent Council Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 14th September 2021, 1900hrs

Attendees

Mr Picksley

Lonach Shaw

Lauren Fotheringham

Nikki Bond

Lee Charlesworth

Eleanor Bradford

Ruth Kennedy

Hilary G

Lorna J

Elidh Brown

Morag D

Esther Burns

Edie Horton

Liz Egan

Apologies

Rev Andrew Kimmitt

Rebecca Kendrick

Tracey Coutts

Cllr Derek Ross

Cllr Louise Nicol

Agenda

1. Membership
2. Treasurers Report
3. Report from Speyside High SLT
4. Parent Council Update
5. New Committee members
6. AOB

Minutes

- **The meeting voted to retain Rev Andrew K to stay on the committee**
- **Treasurers Report:**
 - Gained access to online banking in June so this report covers the period June 2020 - September 2021.
 - Started in June with balance of £1458.35. We have received bag sponsorship totalling £1,415. We paid £1,350 for the bags meaning we have a profit of £65 before we start selling the bags. We also received £440.76 from Moray Council. This means the account balance is currently £1,924.11
 - EB explained that it's not easy to set up new payees so suggest setting up another council member as a payee meaning we can make quick bank transfers if somebody needs to be paid in a hurry. Liz clarified that we could set up a Parent Council member as a payee if needed in an emergency. Nikki suggested that we set up another PC member with access to online banking.
- **Report from Mr Picksley:**
 - This is week 5. Still got Covid mitigation's in place. Expect it to be week 7 before any further changes made. Been fortunate in Speyside - some year groups have received warn and inform letters but not many. Transmission isn't going on in school but outside school. In school everyone is wearing masks and maintaining distance as much as possible. S1 settled in well given they haven't had the usual transition arrangements. Litter around the school has prompted complaints from neighbours. The school is working to address this.

- SQA results - The media reported a record percentage of A grades. This was due to pupils only being entered for which they were going to gain an award. Still waiting for national data but Speyside High is in a favourable position compared to the Moray average. S4 results were very good. S5 were the best set of results for 7 years. More pupils in S6 gained an advanced higher than ever before. Two pupils gained the Scottish Baccalaureate Award. Four pupils are aiming to do that this year.
- Three newly qualified teachers all achieved full registration. One is staying at Speyside High. This year the school has another 3 trainee teachers on placement.
- We have a new PTs of English, Mr Hay, RMPS, Mr McConnell, new teachers Ms Berry for PE and Ms Buchanan for Biology. Mrs Duffy has returned to her DHT role and Mrs Harding is our new Covid recovery teacher.
- Extra money from a Covid recovery fund has allowed the school to recruit new staff.
- The Wellbeing Hub is up and running and being run by two members of staff, supported by the Pupil Equity Fund. It offers support for pupils and healthy snacks.
- Staff action groups have been set up to work towards the school improvement plan, which is on the website.
- Extra curricular activities are slowly getting up and running. DofE group and badminton groups have started.
- Nikki asked whether we have to have a Parent Council and separate Student Council or whether the two could be merged. Lauren and Lonach (student reps) agreed this would be a good idea.
- **Parent Council Update:**
 - Our constitution became out-of-date due to Covid, particularly in regard to online meetings. It was agreed that we would keep the new constitution.
 - Mrs Goodbrand had suggested that the Parent Council might like to give each new student a tie as a welcome gift and as a way of introducing the council to families. It was too late for the autumn term but could be considered for next year.
 - Fundraising: Lee updated the group on a project underway since April. Canvas bags will be printed with the names of 38 local businesses and the bag will contain a directory of businesses. A competition was run to design a logo for the bags. The winner was Rhiannon H. 500 are being printed. Advertisers paid £40 each or £15 to be in the directory. Aberlour Pharmacy have offered to pay for the directory (about

£160). This means that we can sell the bags/directories through the school and local shops for £5 each. If all 500 are sold this will create a profit of £2,500.

- Thanks to Lee, Nikki, Edie, Eleanor and Elidh who helped with proof reading and the project.
- Lauren suggested selling the bags at the Christmas Fair, depending on Covid restrictions. Mr Picksley offered to send an order form home to parents in regular school communications. It was suggested that if students wanted to take some away to sell they should pay up front. Mr Picksley also suggested offering them to the Community Centre to sell. It was noted that there is a Speyside High School in Tobago although attempts to get in touch in the past have not been successful. Eleanor suggested using a hashtag to encourage people to post a photo of themselves with their bag, perhaps in unusual locations.
- **New Committee**
 - All committee members stood down (as per the constitution). Eleanor was voted in as Treasurer for a second year. Elidh and Liz volunteered to be co-chairs. Proposed by Edie and seconded by Lee.
 - There was discussion about the future format of meetings but it was generally agreed that hybrid meetings (online and in person) are not ideal. Mr Picksley pointed out that Virtual Information Evenings were the best attended ever.
 - Lee volunteered as secretary and also as co-signature for online banking.
 - Ruth, Hilary and Esther agreed to continue as committee members.
- **AOB**
 - Lonach raised the issue of the S6 common room. A former common room became too small then a former music room was used. This is now a computing suite. School is aware that this is an issue.

Action Items

1. Mr Picksley to investigate the option of merging Parent and Student Councils

Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was set as 2nd November