



Tìree High School – Ard-Sgoil Thìrìodh

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Title:	Tìree High School Parent Council Open Meeting
Date:	Thursday 27 th October 2016
Location: Time:	Tìree High School (Home Economics room)

Chaired by:	Will Wright (WW)
Present:	Graham Wilks, Julie MacLennan, Jayne Smith, Mairi Forbes, Jaclyn McNeil, Lynn MacCallum, Alison Colthart, Kirsty Bennett, Jo Vale, Will Wright.
Apologies:	Paul Le Roux, Joe Bennett, Aine Cooney
Minutes by:	JV

1. Welcome

WW welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

2. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Under matters arising 'Use of School facilities' GW stated that there is an online let form to use school facilities and there was a charge to cover caretaker's time. JML stated that in the past no charge had been made if a school key holder was present. WW to discuss issues with William MacKinnon (Trust Youth worker) and liaise with GW to clarify situation.

3. Update from Head Teacher

GW stated that the transition to greater subject choice in S4 was going well. He thanked the staff for their work on the timetabling, particularly Mr Bennett, and praised them for picking up the extra subjects. WW said the Parent Council had always been keen to increase subject choice and were very pleased to see new subjects available.

GW commented on the excellent Gala Day, (but noted that maybe the staff should sing next year!). All agreed it was a brilliant Gala Day. JS thanked the Parent Council for their help with teas. The gala day raised approx £2500 for school trips.

Three school trips are planned this year. A trip for Secondary pupils to Amsterdam in August (21 pupils have signed up), an Outdoor activities trip to Alladale Wilderness Reserve in May and a trip to Stirling for P6 & 7. JML said some parents of primary children had expressed concern that all funds were going to secondary trips. It was emphasised to the meeting that this was not the case and the fundraising would be distributed across all of the trips.

GW stressed the importance of behaviour on the school trip and stated this needed to be communicated to parents.

GW is keen to get the post for Depute head recruited, the post has not yet been advertised GW has chased Argyll & Bute Council and is waiting to hear back. GW said the post will have a whole school remit but will be heavily biased towards primary and nursery as these currently have limited management input. WW offered to write on behalf of the Parent Council if this would help speed up the process.



Tìree High School – Ard-Sgoil Thìrìodh

MEETING MINUTES

GW highlighted the lack of an IT technician in school as Stuart Smith is off sick until January. The school has had an an-hoc technician helping from Oban High School. GW has spoken to the Council IT support desk and is trying to get a more central arrangement put in place. A list of jobs that need to be addressed has been sent to Malcom MacNiven. GW to chase.

GW commented that the School is very keen to increase parental involvement in school. They are keen to see parents being involved in the class room and in the life of the school. GW is going to approach staff and identify opportunities for bringing the community into school, e.g. grandparents speaking Gaelic. The school is also looking for help with Activity Time on Tuesday afternoon and hoped members of the community could offer activities either as a one off session or as a six week block. Tìree Trust has indicated that they will pay for PVG checks.

JML said TMF were keen to become more involved with the school.

WW suggested that increasing parent and community involvement in the school was something the Parent Council could help promote.

4. Pre 5 (ELCC) sessions

GW updated the meeting on proposed changes to the Pre 5 sessions that are required because of the limited space. A morning session will run from 8.50 to 12 and an afternoon session from 12.20 to 3.30, with staff breaks staggered during the day. A letter had gone out to parents and the new sessions will start next week.

Some parents had questioned the extent of Gaelic provision in Pre 5. GW had spoken to Alison MacKenzie and was told it would be English 'promoting Gaelic'. MF expressed her concern that this meant Gaelic provision had gone backwards as it used to be bilingual.

A meeting is to be held on the 21st November at the School with parents and prospective parents of Pre5 (ELCC) to discuss Pre 5 provision, it is hoped that the council's Gaelic Education Officer will attend. Updated-Catriona Garvin was not able to attend.

5. Library Services Update

The Library Services Post has been advertised with the closing date of the 28th October.

6. Tìree Tots proposal for indoor space

WW gave an overview of the Tìree Tots proposal to develop an additional indoor play space. Tìree Tots are looking for support to give a remit to work with Tìree Trust to investigate taking the project further. The idea was briefly discussed. It was noted that existing spaces on Tìree such as An Talla could be used more effectively. It was agreed the Parent Council would write a letter of support in principle.

7. Fundraising

WW stated Parent Council needed a planned approach to fundraising. A list of fundraising events and activities was drawn up and would be put on PC website.

Other opportunities for fundraising were discussed. The PC agreed to provide tea, cakes and a raffle at the Christmas Panto.

GW said the school were hoping to hold a Christmas quiz on the 9th Dec (to be confirmed) and that the PC could be involved. Updated – date now confirmed as the 2nd December.



Tìree High School – Ard-Sgoil Thiriodh

MEETING MINUTES

The school have a fundraising thermometer and it was suggested the PC could have a section on this.

GW said there was a possibility of a Burns night at school as a fundraiser, but this would need help from parents.

8. Date of next meeting

Thursday 12th January at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.30pm