

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KELSO HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

HELD ON THURSDAY 26th AUGUST 2021 VIA ZOOM



Attendance - Gemma Douglas (Chair), Jill Lothian (Head Teacher), Michelle Matthews (Treasurer), Tom Weatherston, Yvette Lewis, B Cameron-Lyle, Sally, Jennifer Middlemas, Allan Connell, Kirsty Banks, Pam Guthrie, Emma Cook, Maru Gomez, Harriet Campbell, Jennifer Redpath, Leri Payne, Gillian White, Tracey Patterson and Ben Campbell.

Apologies - Gillian McFadyen, Lee Armitage, Zoe Currie, Simon Mountford and Ashley Prentice

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Gemma advised that the minutes from the last meeting are still to be finalised and will be available for the next meeting. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Chairperson's Report

Welcome back, hope everyone has had a wonderful summer break. I know I am really glad to be back into a routine again and have the kids back at school.

As of today I have no dates being sent through for a SBC Chairs Forum meeting but will keep you posted if something comes in.

Before the end of term I stepped down as the Scottish Borders Representative for the National Parent Forum Scotland. The wonderful Kimberly Tweed from Coldingham Primary School Parent Council has taken on this role.

One of my last few tasks as NPFS Rep was to make sure all Parent Councils in the Borders had a new NPFS Generic Email Address that was working. I am very pleased to say this is all now been done and all PC should now be using their new email addresses.

For information the new emails for KHS is - pckelsohighschool@scottishborders.npfs.org.uk

During the summer holidays I was working with Respect Me Scotland to bring Anti Bullying training to our SBC Chairs Forum and Our Parent Council.

I have two set online training dates for all our families within Kelso High School:

Tuesday 31st August 7pm & Tuesday 7th September 7pm - All Welcome.

I am very willing to meet up with anyone who would like to discuss any ideas about our PC and how we move it forward this coming year. Also if anyone would like to meet to discuss the changes to our PC Constitution before our AGM to hopefully save time, then please get in touch.

I have been working closely with Rev Anna Rodwell from Kelso North Parish Church, organising our Acorn Sunday Club for children up to the age of 12 years. We have discussed the idea of asking KHS pupils to volunteer as helpers at our Sunday morning club to help towards any Community Volunteering hours they may need for various different reasons. Please get in touch if this is something you think would benefit your child.

Our next meeting will be our AGM on 9th September 2021 at 7.30pm, ALL WELCOME, look forward to seeing you all there

Head Teacher's Report

PowerPoints shared by Jill on SQA Result Analysis (S6) and also findings from our recent school community survey. Presentations available separately on website.

Treasurer's Report

Accounts now both successfully changed. Statements now arriving at KHS rather than Treasure's address - should ease issues in any future changes of office bearer.

KHS PC accounts currently at auditor - submitted to Jaqueline Nairn in July.

Outstanding since December 2021 - still waiting to hear back from Mrs Atkinson re Manga High letter to parents. I think potentially a promotion of Manga High by school through FB posts and additions on weekly mail out would be beneficial in advance of sending letter home so parents are more aware of the resource and therefore more inclined to financially support this.

Lottery Account

There is currently **£2587.57** in this account however cheques are due to be paid for recent successful bids:

S6 Leavers' event – Costs TBC

There are currently 178 active lines and the prize fund of approximately **£530.50** will be drawn at the end of August.

Since December only had one winner in February 2021 Mrs Woodcock won **£185.00**

TOTAL AVAILABLE TO SPEND £2057.07

Main Account

There is currently **£898.45** in this account.

Discussion

Discussion took place around the SQA presentation. Jill has SQA analysis for S4 and S5 as well which can be shared at the next meeting to avoid meeting running on.

Discussion took place around the community survey. What are the next steps? Plan of action / timeline which will feed into the school improvement plan. How do we drive this forward? Focus groups / small groups? Looking for suggestions.

We need to decide on a priority list of points to take forward and work towards.

Discussion took place around the school map, Beth and Elaine Dyer have undertaken this project and have put lots of work into it.

We all want what's best for our young people. Let's work together for the best outcome for all.

Discussion took place around Acorn Sunday Club and encouraging our young people to help working with children up to 12 years old. This could be used as part of a current course – SQA Volunteering / Leadership or school based course (School Service) or even S3 Duke of Edinburgh. Very happy to take this forward, getting pupils out in the community, positive experience for them.

Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 9th September 2021 at 7.30pm (AGM)