MINUTES OF AGM MEETING OF KELSO HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2025

Attendance - Harriet Campbell (Chair), Leri Payne (Vice Chair), Jill Lothian (Head Teacher), A McIntyre, Gemma Evans, Julie McIntosh, Jo Pennington, Caroline Tice, Pam Guthrie, Claire Hicks, Kelda Pearce, Kim Gillings, Steven Bell, Euan Robson, Kenneth Keddie (S6), Aiden Gibb (S6), Dean Weatherston, Kirsty Banks, Kenneth Keddie (S6 Head Team) and Aiden Gibb (S6 Head Team).

Apologies - Sonya Nairn, Nicola Robertson and Jeanette Aitchison.

Chairperson Harriet Campbell welcomed everyone to the meeting and made the introductions.

AGM

Minutes of Previous AGM Meeting 02.10.24 - Minutes read and approved by Leri Payne and Julie McIntosh.

Chairperson's Report

In 2024/5 we continued to have regular meetings held on varied days to accommodate as many attendees as possible. As ever parents/carers were extremely helpful, honest and at times forthright in their views and their thoughts and constructive criticism were extremely welcome. Early indications were that numbers were increasing in 2025/6 which was very welcome.

Over the year we again discussed a wide range topics including behaviour, mobile phones, exams and parental involvement. A major achievement was the move to ask all young people to hand in their phones at the beginning of every lesson. This was introduced in December 2024 and had proved universally popular (including with the young people – to the surprise of many!).

The Celebration of Learning moved into the Tait Hall for the first time in September 2024 and was an enormous success with a very moving and inspiring speech from Dr John Davidson. It was wonderful that many more families were able to attend and it was hoped that numbers would be even greater this year. We remained very keen that the achievements of our young people should be recognised, both to praise those who have achieved but also to act as inspiration and aspiration for others.

All minutes and presentations are again on the school website for ease of reference.

Once again fundraising was mostly carried out through our lottery although small sums were earned through the sale of teas and coffees at events. Over the year we funded:

Funding Requests:	£
Furniture for Flexi Space	436.34
Contribution for lunch during Blood Brothers Theatre Trip	300.00
Contribution for AH Bio Project Trip	300.00
Music - Radio Microphones	200.00
Curling Travel Costs	81.00
	1,317.34

Engagement with SBC remained sporadic and the Chairs group did not meet in the year.

In the coming session we are once again hoping to see many parents and carers involved in helping to support the school, all staff and pupils. We have put together a programme of meetings and would welcome feedback and thoughts from all.

Head Teacher's Report

Session 2024- 2025

Session 2024/25 was a busy and successful year for Kelso High School, filled with many positive highlights and achievements:

- **Whole School Attendance**: Our pupil attendance rate for session 24/25 was 90.2%. This has been a steady increase over the last three years.
- **Senior Phase Celebration of Learning**: In September, we held our annual celebration to acknowledge the incredible achievements of our senior students throughout the previous year.
- **Work Experience**: We were pleased to announce that we reinstated our week-long work experience programme for learners as they transition into S4. This was a great success.
- **Mobile Phone Policy:** With the support from our Parent Council, we successfully launched our updated Mobile Phone Policy. The main change was that yp are now asked to place their devices in the teacher box at the start of each lesson.
- **Digital Avengers**: Our Digital Avengers have continued with their weekly programme of working with the residents at Poynder Apartments. Demonstrating animation on their iPads and helping the residents of Poynder Apartments with all things digital.
- **S6 Leadership**: Our S6 Head Team led several key events, including Colour Run, Buddy and Social Event, Armistice Ceremony and World Book Day. Additionally, various S6 Committees organised social events and fundraisers that brought the school community together.
- **DYW Events**: Throughout the session we have a large range events: 'Repurposing Challenge'by Borders and the Borders Construction Forum, Languages in the Workforce Workshops, Team Building with Army and Navy
- **Trips and Learning Experiences**: We offered a range of educational trips, including English theatre trips to 'Blood Brothers', 'Mary Poppins'. Modern Language trip to Paris, S3 Trip to Hirsel Estate. H Mod Studs Trip to London, Geography Trip to Cairngorms. Drama Performance of Matilda
- **Sporting Achievements:** Rugby, Girls Rugby, Hockey, Boys Hockey, Swimming, Equestrian Team, Cross Country, Curling Team

School Improvement Priorities

During the year, we focused on the following school improvement priorities:

1. **Learning, Teaching, and Assessment**
    - We are improving how we deliver Adaptive Learning, which tailors learning to meet the individual needs of each learner.
    - Staff will continue to receive support to enhance their teaching, including the use of Digital Technology and AI in education.
    - We will work to ensure all our learners are Ready to Learn, encouraging positive behaviour in class.

- We will closely monitor attainment and personal achievements, with special attention to supporting vulnerable learners who may need extra help.

2. **Inclusion, Wellbeing, and Nurture**
    - We aim to improve overall attendance by tracking it more carefully and providing timely support when needed.
    - We will continue to promote equity and equal opportunities for all, ensuring a welcoming and inclusive environment where every young person is treated with respect and given equal access to opportunities.

Ongoing Improvements for 2024-25

- We will be using Data-Driven Instruction in the Senior Phase to help improve learner performance.
- We are developing the use of Showbie in classrooms and with parents/carers to better support learning at home.
- Our reporting processes will be improved to involve parents and carers more effectively.
- We are committed to providing high-quality professional development for all staff to ensure they continue to grow and improve in their roles.

Attainment

In the Broad General Education, % performance in 2024-25 in Literacy and Numeracy organisers for Curriculum for Excellence Levels are as follows:

Organiser	**3rd Level**	**4th Level**
Listening & talking	93.91	56.66
Reading	93.04	76.99
Writing	94.78	54.87
Numeracy	86.96	41.59

Senior Phase Attainment: Leavers May 2024

- Almost all leavers achieved SCQF Level 4 or 5 Literacy. This is greater than our national virtual comparator and an improvement on 2023
- Almost all leavers achieved SCQF Level 4 or 5 Numeracy. This is in line with national comparators and an improvement on 2023
- Most leavers achieved 1 or more qualifications at SCQF Level 5 and the majority achieve 5 or more
- The majority of learners achieved 1 or more qualifications at SCQF Level 6 and a minority 5 or more at SCQF Level 6.
- A few leavers achieve 1 or more qualifications at SCQF Level 7.

Positive Destinations

97.25% of our leavers in May 2024 went into a positive destination after school. This remains in line with previous year's performance and national comparators. 34% of leavers went onto employment, 28% to Further Education, 5% to training and 29.36% to Higher Education.

Moving Forward

Our focus remains on developing high-quality learning, teaching, and assessment to ensure improved attainment and achievement for all. We have established a comprehensive Raising Attainment Strategy, linked to key areas such as:

- Teaching, Learning, and Assessment
- Digital Learning
- Skills development and curricular pathways
- Staff professional learning and development
- Inclusive practices and targeted support
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By embedding wellbeing across our school and building positive relationships, we will continue to support the learning and wellbeing of all members of the Kelso High School community.

We look forward to another successful year of growth and achievement in 2025/26.

Treasurer's Report

Accounts are as presented below:

Kelso High School Parent Council
50/50 Lottery Account
Income and Expenditure for the year to 30th June 2025

	Notes	2025		2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income							
Income from Lottery lines			3672.50		2,913.00		2,237.00
Total Income			3,672.50		2,913.00		2,237.00
Expenditure							
Prize money paid to winners		2000.00		1,000.00		1,030.00	
Lottery licence		20.00		20.00		20.00	
Bank Service Charges		17.00					
Refund Payment Error (JL)		37.50					
Zoom licence		0.00		0.00		143.88	
Funding requests	1	1,317.34		1,507.50		1,096.26	
			3391.84		2,527.50		2,290.14
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year			280.66		385.50		(53.14)
Represented by:							
Balance in account brought forward			2140.55		1,755.05		1,808.19
Surplus/(deficit)			280.66		385.50		(53.14)
Balance in account as at 30th June 2025			2,421.21		2,140.55		1,755.05

Notes

1	**Funding Requests:**	£
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		1,317.34

Kelso High School Parent Council
Main Account
Income and Expenditure for the year to 30th June 2025

	Notes	2025 £		2024 £	
Income					
SBC Clerk Grant			600		600.00
Coffee/Teas Sales			155.14		79.58
Easyfundraising			18.22		
Total Income			773.36		679.58
Expenditure					
Clerk's Fees		600		600.00	
Bank Service Charges		21.75			
Flowers				25.00	
Zoom Renewal				143.88	
			621.75		768.88
Net surplus/(deficit) for the year			151.61		-89.30
Represented by:					
Balance in account brought forward			908.41		997.71
Surplus/(deficit)			151.61		(89.30)
Balance in account carried forward			1060.02		908.41

Accounts have been submitted for audit by Jackie Nairn (independent examiner).

Harriet confirmed that a request for funding has been submitted to SBC, this is paid to Clerk.

Election of Office Bearers

Chairperson – Harriet Campbell
Nominated by Leri Payne
Seconded by Julie McIntosh

Vice Chairperson – Leri Payne
Nominated by Harriet Campbell
Seconded by Julie McIntosh

Treasurer – Suzanne Cowe
Nominated by Leri Payne
Seconded by Harriet Campbell

Clerk – Suzanne Cowe
Nominated by Harriet Campbell
Seconded by Leri Payne

Everyone agreed and was happy with the election of the returning Office Bearers.

New List of Members

It is mandatory that we have a list of PC members so everyone in attendance tonight including the people who submitted apologies will now make up our new list of members. No objections received from attendees.

Harriet expressed our thanks to everyone for attending and then concluded AGM section of the meeting.