

Minutes of Mintlaw Academy Parent Council AGM

Wednesday 16th September 2020 via Skype

Present:

J Mannion, M Lee, Mrs Lee, Cllr N Smith, N Elrick, V Fowlie (chair), Y Beagrie (treasurer), Cllr J Ingram, E Preston, P McLean, K Osterberg (secretary), Cllr A Simpson, EJ Whitehead (Depute HT), G Oldham (Depute -Welfare and Pastoral Care), L Duthie (HT), G McCluskey (HT and Depute Performance Management)

1. Welcome

The meeting opened at 18.05. The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

No apologies

3. Minutes of AGM 2019

Propose - VF

Second - NE

4. Chairperson's report

The chair said during this topsy-turvy year it is our duty to continue to represent the school, its pupils and forum alongside the staff. Over the last year we have re-vamped the constitution, set up a Facebook page and a new updated email address. She has attended two Connect workshops. After the arrival of covid meetings are now virtual but we are keeping in touch. She commended the school in its outstanding way of dealing with ever changing circumstances and thanked the staff. The chair attended meetings with other schools alongside Laurence Finlay (Aberdeenshire Council's Director of Education and Children's Services) and Christine McLennan (Aberdeenshire Council Education Officer Parental Engagement). She noted that some other parent councils seemed do more but also noted it was because their schools communicated less with their forums. The chair asked if our Facebook page is working well enough as we receive virtually no email or is this because the school communicates and informs the forum so well. G McCluskey said he will promote the FB page on the school's family twitter feed. N Elrick said she will also have a look at the page for us to see if we can make any adjustments. The chair said majority of pupils were happy to be back at school.

5. Treasurer's Annual Report

The treasurer said this is her 4th year in the role and she was looking to step down as her child is in their last year. She felt she could be on hand this year to help the new treasurer should they need it. There have been no transactions since last November when Aberdeenshire council paid in their annual payment to the PC. The accounts have been audited and there were no irregularities.

Current balance is

£1541.21

6. Head Teacher's Annual Report

LD stated this would be a short report as most of her information has been shared via her online report which has been viewed by over 1800 people. The first part of last year was very successful, then lockdown happened from 20/03/2020 until 03/07/2020. Pupil engagement and e-learning were relatively strong. Where there has been concern for individual pupils guidance staff led a tracking system to pick up pupils who found it challenging.

Extra curricular activities set by the school were picked up by many pupils. We offered more than some schools. Not every faculty was on the same technological page at the start of lockdown and staff really up-skilled to meet new demands. LD said there had also been some very positive outcomes from the lockdown period. She has received more positive communication from parents than ever before as they knew the school was all about supporting the children and they could see this.

The Virtual Awards ceremony was highly successful and praised nationally. It was much better attended than if they had tried to do it with social distancing at the school. Health Week was very successful with a good uptake from the pupils along with the House Challenge. S1 virtual transition also came out well. Cllr Simpson congratulated LD on the virtual awards ceremony, commenting on its huge national success and said the contributions from pupils and staff were outstanding.

7. Committee Resigns

All members stood down.

8. Nomination of Office Bearers

Role	Name	Propose	Second
Chair	V Fowlie	E Preston	N Elrick
Treasurer	Y Beagrie*	V Fowlie	E Preston
Secretary	K Osterberg	V Fowlie	N Elrick

VF agreed to stay on for another year as continuity for the school during this complicated time seemed a good idea. LD said this was very much appreciated. KO agreed to stay on as secretary for another year.

*No one volunteered to be treasurer and it was suggested that a call out to the forum over social media might result in someone taking it on. Y Beagrie agreed to stay on until a new person was found. A vice-chair post was suggested and it was agreed to look at this at the next meeting.

AOCB

None

9. Close of AGM

VF thanked everyone and closed the meeting at 18.31.