

## **Hutchesons' Grammar School Association**

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at Beaton Road on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>  
February 2008

### **Present**

Mr John Kyle (Chair)  
Mrs Elaine Lonergan  
Dr Donna Corrigan (Minutes)  
Dr Cherie Rodney  
Mrs Catherine Paton  
Mrs Julie Whitelaw  
Mrs Lindesay MacFarlane  
Mrs Sheila Galbraith  
Dr Sanjeev Chitnis  
Mrs Susan Wilson  
Mrs Karen McDonald  
Dr Lesley Russell (57 Group)  
Mrs Joyce Beattie

### **Attending**

Dr K Greig  
Mr I Keter

### **Apologies**

Mr A. K. Denholm  
Mr A Ramsay  
Mrs Patricia Crawford  
Mrs Sue Fraser

### **1. WELCOME**

Mr Kyle welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were noted as above.

### **3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes were read at the Meeting and corrections made. The corrected minutes will be sent to Ms Michelle McMonagle.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

#### **I. School Handbook**

Mr John Kyle has now looked at the updated handbook to see if the content could be amended to raise the profile of the HGSA to encourage parent

involvement. It was felt that the current entry in the handbook could not be improved.

## **II. Auldhouse**

There was discussion about the state of the access road and repair of potholes. Mr Keter advised that ownership of the road was not established. Estimates for resurfacing the road with tarmac were £18-20,000 and there was a reluctance to spend this until it became clear who was legally responsible for the road. Repair of the potholes would therefore be carried out and the repair should last for about 1 year.

There was also some work likely to be required through the flood prevention scheme. The council was in negotiation regarding the building of a wall and site traffic would need to use the access road.

## **5. RECTOR'S UPDATE**

The Rector changed the format of his update to give the HGSA committee an idea of all of the extra curricular activities taking place in the school. Within the last week a number of activities had occurred

**Monday – Talent Show** – organized for charity by 6<sup>th</sup> years and one of the maths teachers. Tickets had sold out and the standard of performances was felt to be very high.

**Tuesday – Dalmation Day** – primary school. Organised as part of the opening of the new library. A play of the story of 101 Dalmatians was performed by P6 featuring Mrs McKie as Cruella De Ville. All of the primary school children came dressed as Dalmatians.

**Wednesday – S2/3 Drama Competition.** Held in the Fotheringay Centre. Solo, pair and group acts featured. Prizes were awarded by an external jury.

**Thursday – Talking Points – Charles Kennedy** (Maxton Lecture). These sessions are held most weeks 1130-1230h on Fridays featuring a variety of speakers. Question time has also been previously arranged. Parents are also welcome to attend these sessions.

**Sports** – Boys Hockey – 1<sup>st</sup> XI – will play in quarter final in Aberdeen against Robert Gordons . The girls have reached the final – to be played in March.

**Weekend** – West of Scotland Independent Schools Music Group

## **6. PARENTS PARTICIPATION EVENT – Ceilidh Sat March 1<sup>st</sup> 2008**

Update provided by Dr Lesley Russell. Arrangements were now confirmed and so far about 130 tickets sold. Disappointment expressed that more parents were not coming and the role of committee members in selling tickets and advertising the event was also discussed.

Several committee members expressed that they felt that the event was too expensive/wrong venue/wrong type of event/wrong dates etc. It was agreed that different types of event and different dates (not so close to the careers

convention) should be considered. Various dates would be discussed with Gillian Tooth to see what options may be available for 2009. Several members had ideas for next year's event and were encouraged to be involved in the organization for 2009.

## **7. CAREERS CONVENTION – Weds 5<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

Update provided by Mrs Catherine Paton.

Organisation well underway. There had been some difficulties in accessing some consultants (telecommunications). There was discussion about the type of questions pupils may ask.

## **9. UPDATE FROM 57 GROUP**

An update was provided by Dr Lesley Russell.

A notice board is to be put up at next weeks uniform sale – outlining the role of the 57 group and the HGSA. This will have information for parents on how to get involved etc. There will also be information about lost property and how attempts are made to return this to the owners. A Quiz Night is planned for October.

## **10. AOCB**

Other issues were raised were as follows:

### **I. PE Uniform**

Various issues were raised - P7 boys dislike the tracksuits, the running vest doesn't stay on the shoulders etc. The Rector will discuss the issues regarding sports kit with the PE Department. New strips had recently been introduced and this was something that could be considered for the rest of the sports kit.

### **II. Rugby**

This is the main winter sport for the school. Some parents would like other "non dangerous" sports to be offered. The Rector explained that the year was divided into groups reflecting the physical abilities and interests of pupils and lessons and training modified accordingly.

Many other sports are offered including tennis, hockey, badminton and basketball. Bowling is also to be introduced.

### **III. School Uniform**

A parent had asked for the issue of standards of school uniform including hairstyles and jewellery to be raised. There was general discussion and it was agreed by the Rector and committee members present that no further action was required at present. The situation will be monitored.

## **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2008 7.30pm – Founders Room, Beaton Rd**