

Hutchesons' Grammar School Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at Beaton Road on Monday 19th January 2009

Present

Mr John Kyle (Chair)
Mrs Elaine Lonergan
Mrs Yvonne Welsh
Mrs Fiona Godsman
Mrs Patricia Crawford
Mrs Wendy Crawford
Mrs Lindesay MacFarlane (Minutes)
Mrs Sheila Galbraith
Mrs Helen Smith
Mrs Karen McDonald
Mrs Catherine Paton
Dr Cherie Rodney
Mrs Jane Thomson
Dr Lesley Russell (57 Group)

Attending

Dr K Greig
Mr I Keter
Mr Brian MacBride

Apologies

Mr A. K. Denholm
Dr Sanjeev Chitnis
Mr Alistair Carson
Mrs Susan Wilson

1. WELCOME

Mr Kyle opened the meeting and welcomed all the committee members.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were noted as above.

3. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting which was held on 19th January 2009 were read at the Meeting. Corrections were noted and the resulting minutes approved.

Proposed: Mrs Patricia Crawford

Seconded: Mrs Fiona Godsman

4. MATTERS ARISING

I. A postal copy of the minutes and agenda were requested by Mrs Sheila Galbraith.

II. P6 Girls Hockey Showering. It was reported that no changing facilities are available for the P6 girls as the showering facilities are being used by another year group. Whilst recognizing this is an unsatisfactory situation there is nothing that can be done to improve it at the moment. In the longer term there are plans to increase the showering and changing facilities.

III. Kingarth Street Road Safety. The Rector has written to all parents regarding road safety outside the school. Mrs McKie has reported there has been an improvement and there are now only a few regular offenders. Several committee members reported that it was just as bad as before. The Rector requested instances of double parking should be noted (number plates recorded) and information passed to Mrs Burns (Kingarth Street Secretary)

5. RECTOR'S UPDATE

I. Individual Successes The Rector wished to draw to the committee's attention a number of notable individual achievements by pupils and staff.

Oxbridge: 6 pupils have won places for next year, 3 to Oxford and 3 to Cambridge

Stuart Bradnam and Stephen Rose in S6 have been selected for the Scotland U23 Bridge team to play in internationals in the UK and Europe.

Shreyas Chitnis and Sidharth Sharma in S5 have won a Silver Medal in the British Physics Olympiad project competition.

Sarah Burns and Ruaridh Moffat-Coutts in S3 and Sandy Nimmo and Tim Heelis in S4 won the Enterprising Maths competition beating over 50 schools in Scotland.

Charlotte McKechnie in S5 has been selected for the UK National Youth Choir.

Christy McKinnon in S5 has been selected for the GB Ski team.

Rhona Simpson (Director of Hockey) has been out in Sydney coaching the GB women's hockey team to Gold in the Youth Olympics.

II. Events. Colours of the Clyde was one of the best school concerts and the school plans to do something similar in a couple of years.

Talent Show, 9th February, is a great event and all parents are invited.

Going for Gold Ball will be a spectacular fundraising event. The Rector hoped committee members would consider taking a table.

Talking Points, a new list of dates has been issued. The Rector reminded parents are welcome to attend these talks.

III. OSCR Report. The Rector reported there had been three rounds of correspondence so far with a lot of clarification and correction. The Rector and Bursar have finalized a three year plan to satisfy OSCR. The bursary threshold for parental income has been raised to £60,000 (from £40,000) and there will be more bursaries awarded with 5, 10 and 15% fees.

The Rector ended the discussion by concluding OSCR meetings were now more co-operative.

6. CAREERS CONVENTION – Wednesday 4th March 2009

(Catherine Paton, Fiona Godsman, Susan Wilson, Sheila Galbraith, Helen Smith, Sanjeev Chitnis, John Kyle)

Responses are now back from pupils and organization of this event is on plan.

7. PARENTS PARTICIPATION EVENT

(Alistair Carson, Elaine Lonergan, Yvonne Welsh, Cherie Rodney, Patricia Crawford, Lindesay MacFarlane)

A sponsored family cycle event and a talent show for the primary school were suggested and will be looked into.

8. 1957 GROUP UPDATE

An update was provided by Dr Lesley Russell.

Lesley requested last minute forms for the ceillidh should be returned.

A quote has been received for the Kingarth Street Stage and the work is hoped to go ahead in the February holiday.

The Winter Fair this year raised over £6,000.

The Laptop Raffle was won by a P7 boy.

9. AOCB

Other issues raised were as follows:

- I. Several committee members praised the standard of the Art Calendar.
- II. Sports Track – the Bursar reported tenders had been received from the construction industry. Helen Smith requested to view the geological survey and advised that consideration should be given to potential additional costs relating to mine shaft stabilization in the area. Lindesay MacFarlane enquired what was planned for the remaining playground area. The Rector reported the remaining area would be left as grass.
- III. Muslim Assembly – Elaine Lonergan enquired on the handling of this recent event on behalf of a parent from her year group. The Rector stated the event had been investigated. A couple of Jewish boys were upset, as were some of the Muslim pupils, at the assembly. The leader of the assembly, Mr Mohammed (a previous pupils parent), had offered his resignation and the Rector had not accepted it as no bad intent was intended. The focus of the assembly was to discuss tolerance.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 23rd February 2009 7.30pm – Founders Room, Beaton Rd