**Minute of meeting – 23 March 2023**

Attending: Cathy Tilbrook (Chair) CT; Catriona Cunningham (Vice chair) CC; Clara Walker (Secretary) CW; Jo Tripp (Treasurer) JT; Emily James, EJ; Fiona Perry, FP; Helen McCrorie HMc; Billy Russell, BR; Morven Harrower, MH; Betsy Vielhaber, BV; Anne Petrie, AP; Aileen Turkington, AT; Nina Stenhouse, NS. John Donnelly JD (Head Teacher); Morag Fotheringhame MF (Deputy HT); Gemma Lang GL (Head Girl)

1. **Welcome and apologies** (none received)

CT welcomed everyone to the first face to face PC meeting since 2020, and thanked all for attending.

1. **Actions from previous meeting.**
2. Payment of PC contribution to S6 prom – underway
3. Anti-bullying PKC meeting – CT attended
4. JD to follow up on senior pupil university expectation with CC – **carried forward (AP1)**
5. **Head Teacher Update** – See Attached

JD spoke to the report.

Discussion:

* CC asked about Modern languages teaching provision ref: retaining Mr Hogarth – department acknowledged as a weakness in the school. Numbers for French low.
* HMc asked about Modern language student teachers coming in to the school. JD said this has not happened for some time. MF noted that the school was due to have a language student but the student withdrew.
* CC asked if there was any discussion in PKC if there was an opportunity across all schools for cross -school support. JD said, in theory – yes.
* CT asked if there was an opportunity for shared provision across two local schools. JD gave the example of Music and said this could be facilitated.
* Digital Schools Provision – no questions
* School Review recommendations – CT asked if this was relating to bullying allegation. JD confirmed yes.
* S6 Leavers Day – 31st March - ref: Head Girl update
* Study Leave - if students have an exam scheduled during this time – they can take the day before their exam as study leave. Staff are aware of the study leave calendar.
* 31st May – Wellbeing Day and S6 Prom
* New timetable Monday 5th June

1. **School Vision consultation & next steps**

JD provided an overview of progress to date.

75% of young people and other adults voted for the proposed vision statement.

Values – confidence; determination; community; teamwork; encouragement; trust

Consultation period has just finished. Next steps will be to meet regularly over the next term:

* Form class has been introduced every day with aim – a nurturing start to each day

HMc asked what happens in form class – JD/MF outlined the range of activities – news; assemblies; building relationships; raising awareness of initiatives (e.g. LGBTQ); uniform.

HMc asked if it was formal or informal. JD said it depends on teacher and year group – some informal and some more formal. JD noted that it has been inconsistent to date but it is early days. BV asked if it was the same teacher? JD said yes, it should be. BV said it was a good opportunity for consistency.

JT suggested it might be good for young people to use this class as a means of helping support personal organisation. JD noted that the school was looking to introduce a profile APP – which might help with personal organisation and will include citizenship. This will be part of the digital transition.

* Rights Respecting School – aim for Gold accreditation – submission for award after the summer holidays.
* Wellbeing – JD noted that posters were visible across the school to raise awareness about wellbeing indicators.

Discussion – comments on wordiness of the poster and it needing some refinement to make it more visually attractive.

* Merit Awards – young people have identified categories they would like to see.
* Skills for learning and life for work – curriculum development – interdisciplinary learning to be introduced from next term across all year groups (nurturing, encouraging and inspiring young people) HMc asked how this was going to be applied from a teaching point of view. JD said this model is more widely applied in Europe rather than in UK. AP suggested to look to Iceland (ICI) for an example of best practice.

JD hoping this will be fully embraced by staff, providing an innovative approach to teaching going forward. Will be introduced in S1/2 initially.

CC asked if there was scope to bring in members of the community. JD said yes this would be welcome.

1. **Wellbeing & Anti-bullying** (including feedback from ECS workshop)

MF provided an update – Wellbeing Hub overview – CHS have been gifted membership of this online resource from Morrisons Academy. Access can be given to parents or pupils and has a wide range of information. MF referred the resource to the Mental Health Ambassadors and they found it would be useful to support them and PSE teachers.

HMc asked if it was a private company or a not for profit – linked to personal information.

Some discussion on pay to view function – in relation to access to a 1:1 counsellor-making sure parents/carers are aware of potential costs.

MF noted that it was useful because this resource pulls together a range of information and helps parents/carers access this type of information in one place.

CT asked if there was someone trusted within PKC if the resource could trialled with.

CT suggested the PC would be keen to look at this.

**Action 2: MF to send Wellbeing Hub trial link to CT**

MF thanked FP for her support with anti-bullying work.

CT noted that there had been discussion between PC and school on sending out a joint communication on inappropriate language being used within the school. The communication would be to get parent/carer help with implementation and roll out of the policy. AP suggested it might be useful to include how students interact with their environment – especially in relation to S1s, noting feedback that some disruptive behavioural issues were impacting learning. JD requested further information on any incidents so he could follow up.

JD said that the implementation of the anti-bullying policy is very robust and reinforced that CHS was generally a calm school.

BV said that her daughter is reporting a calmer experience in upper school but highlighted how important positive reinforcement was to young people.

GL noted that it was important to experience a range of behaviours while at school. She felt that extracurricular clubs are an important part of integration within the school – involving a range of year groups.

CT suggested that there could be increased profile from community policing. MF said that all guidance support dealing with specific issues was always brought back the law – more targeted rather than universal.

CT reported on PKC Parent Council Chairs meeting discussion on Health & Wellbeing. Results of recent pupil census were summarised – headline feedback good in terms of pupils feeling safe; peer relationships; smoking going down (but alcohol remaining a concern); underage sex going down. Areas for development included increase in vaping; mental health being a big issue; more work needed on participation in physical activity. National programme ‘Fearless’ to help young people with anxiety management; CAHMS work – decider skills; self-harm also coming up as an issue in this survey and previous surveys. CT raised the point about the pressure on mental health ambassadors – PKC took this on board and would speak to The Lighthouse about this in terms of training. Working with girls on the issues of consent - CHS students are working on this project. CT noted that PKC have contracted Brian Donnelly as an independent consultant who can speak to schools on anti-bullying work.

1. **Head boy/girl update**

GL updated: Biggest recent project is planning for S6 Prom – outgoings suggesting £45 per head; £400 for Dunblane Hydro; £200 for DJ – total £2600 outgoing

Income £100 parent council; £550 raffle hamper; £350 bake sale – tickets now reduced to £35 per pupil.

Huge thanks to Mrs Macluskey and Mrs Innes for their support.

Year Book completed with help from Mr Wright.

Leavers Day – 31st March – formal graduation and various activities to ensure all students and staff enjoy.

1. **Parent Council Budget Update**

BR provided an update. Noted that we have now been invoiced by school for several years contribution (around £500 each year) for S1 school ties. After accounting for commitments made at AGM, Parent Council budget is now only around £500, with a further expectation of further £500 for 2023 ties.

There is now a need to do some fundraising.

CT asked for any ideas to raise some money for PC (to support future school events / activities). Potential for a fundraising stall at end of term event? GL said she would be happy to support any fundraising events if she could.

**Action 3: CT to table a further discussion on fundraising ideas at next meeting.**

1. **AOB**

Feedback from PKC Parent Council Chairs meeting:

* PKC developing a virtual campus – offering 8 Highers and Advanced Highers.
* Programme of Easter study support for senior pupils.
* Parent Engagement Strategy - survey for parents (open to end April) and online session on 19 April focused on parents of pupils with additional support needs **(see appendix).**
* PKC need more provision of rural school transport and want to encourage more use of private cars as school taxis. PKC will pay for licencing and PVG costs for the first year. If any parents are interested they should email **schooltransport@pkc.gov.uk** for details of a webinar with more info on what is needed to become a school taxi driver.

Other points raised:

* CHS Website – CT has replaced the text on the PC – all minutes etc are on there.
* HMc would like to petition for a common room for the S6. GL noted that this had been explored but there were no viable spaces. JD noted that the staff room was not being used currently.
* MH brought up the S4-S5 presentation and how useful this was in terms of subject choices.
* CT raised the school musical – Sunshine on Leith - and whether there could be more info to parents to encourage pupil participation.

**Action 4: JD to increase profile of the school musical**

1. **DONM – Thursday 4th May** (TBC whether online or hybrid in-person)

**Appendix – info from PKC**

**Parent Engagement Strategy Key Questions:**

Do the strengths and areas for improvement reflect what you know about Perth and Kinross?

Are the aims and principles appropriate?

Do you think the planned actions will improve outcomes for families in Perth and Kinross?

Do you have any other comments?

**The following link will take you to a survey form to provide your responses to the above questions, if you could complete this survey by end April 2023 it would be much appreciated:**

<https://forms.office.com/e/YhKBudGhtu>

Dear Parent Council Chair,

Perth and Kinross Council Inclusion Service is committed to  developing opportunities for Education services to engage with parents and carers of children and young people with additional support needs.  Therefore, we are establishing a Network for Parent/Carers of Children and Young People with additional support needs (snappier title is needed!).  Among other thing this new Network can help to:

* Inform the development and signposting of good quality information that supports parents and carers to make informed choices, plan for and meet their child’s education needs;
* Develop an understanding of parent and carer rights and children’s rights in relation to Additional Support for Learning and Equality legislation, UNCRC and GIRFEC;
* Engage in building inclusive school communities, that understand children’s needs and support families to thrive;
* Inform the development of policies that affect children’s learning, ensuring they are supportive of families and deliver positive outcomes;
* Increase opportunities for family learning for those with a child with additional support needs.

There are a wide range of groups already representing parents and carers, this includes Parent Councils.  This development values these existing arrangements and will provide additional opportunities for dialogue and engagement.

To help develop a Network we are inviting Parent Councils in Perth and Kinross to attend a focus group discussion on Teams at 6.30pm on Wednesday 19th April 2023.  This will provide an opportunity to explore views on how we can best engage with parents with children or young people with ASN to discuss the areas that are most important to them.  As over a third of the school population are children and young people with additional support needs this will be an area that is relevant to all Parent Councils.

If you or a representative of your Parent Council who has an interest in this area would like to attend please sign up for the session through the attached poll. ([View/vote in browser](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6dxqdyZdSUeiAvCf7-EFkB8dvPgKS99MrnBENpwxaWlUNlZQNVJKSU5DUVQzUVhZTENHM0hBN1YwWi4u))

I would appreciate if you could share this invitation with the most appropriate representative(s) on your Parent Council. I look forward to seeing some of you on the 19th April.

Thanks, Fiona Mackay

Service Manager Inclusion and Additional Support

Education and Children’s Services, PKC