

MINUTES OF LANGHOLM ACADEMY
PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 31st October 2011

Present: Emma Neil - Head Teacher
Anthony Lane - Chair
Archie Hyslop - Secretary
Jacqui Graham - Treasurer
Christine Calvert - Asst. Treasurer
Shirley Ritchie, Jayne Houldey, Margo Henry, Bronwyn McCall,
Lara Porter, Lynda Maudlin, Linda Paisley, Teresa Deeson,
Eira Paisley, Denise McEwan, Cllr. Denis Male

Apologies: Diane Hay, Maureen Smyth, Beverley Steele

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and can now go on the web.

Matters arising – There is still concern about the treatment of the road at Auchenvivock during winter. Cllr Male will investigate policy on gritting this section of road. The issue of the bus stopping at the east end of Rowanburn had been subject to a risk assessment. One member of the PC asked if written evidence has been obtained. The subject of timber wagons going at excessive speed through the village was reported. Denis Male suggested that a letter should be written to Alastair Speedie requesting that our concerns be brought to the attention of the Timber Transport Forum. It was reported that the Christmas Calendar will not be completed in time for Christmas. There had been positive feedback from the Bring a Parent to School day. One parent regretted that there had not been an S1 residential trip and was unhappy with the trip to Dynamic Earth as their child had been there previously.

Election of Office Bearers –

Chair – Anthony Lane nominated by Eira Paisley seconded Jacqui Graham

Deputy Chair – Christine Calvert nominated by Anthony Lane seconded Eira Paisley

Secretary – Archie Hyslop nominated by Christine Calvert seconded Jacqui Graham

Treasurer – Jacqui Graham nominated by Anthony Lane seconded Archie Hyslop

Asst Treasurer – Christine Calvert nominated by Anthony Lane seconded Margo Henry

Anthony distributed leaflets entitled Parents as Partners containing information for Parent Council members and also included a sheet dated 9th May 2011 The Role of the Parent Council.

School Report – Ms Neil distributed a copy of her report. It included Pupil numbers, Staffing and Finance, Impact of Teacher Refresh, Tracking and Monitoring Reports, Toilets in Middle Corridor, Wireless ICT, Religious Observance, Autism/Aspergers Awareness Day & Christmas Dance and School Show. Staff has been given the opportunity to receive the flu jab.

Homework Policy - This was discussed in detail and several parents expressed concern that homework is not being marked. Also some pupils did not complete their homework which had a negative effect on the pupils who did. It was agreed that a habit forming ethos would stand them in good stead for future studies. It was agreed that some form of information would be available to parents to check what and when homework was due.

AOCB – Cllr Male hopes to report back to the next PC of the budget implications of the latest round of cuts to funding.

Date of next meeting – **Monday 28th November 7pm**