

Minutes of Wallace Hall 2-18 Parent Council Meeting
Monday 17 June 2024
5pm Buccleuch & Queensberry Arms, Thornhill

Present: Emily McClennan (Chair), Jane Valentine (Treasurer), Calvin Ruysen, Maria Navarro de Sepulveda, Mrs Gray, Mr Graham, Laura Keenan, Alice Stilgoe

Item	Details	Action
1.	Welcome and apologies Apologies: Leah Belford, Sarah McDiarmid, Judi Park	
2.	Approval of previous minutes Previous minutes were approved by Jane and Laura	
3.	Matters Arising Maria proposed a memorial in memory of student Daniel who sadly died recently.	Barry Graham
4.	Correspondence PC received an email from Alison Gordon.	Jane to circulate email
5.	Sub-Committee Reports Fundraising In Gillian's absence, all commented on how well fruit and ice-lollies were received on Sports Day. Wider conversation about Sports Day in general, including the success of the picnic. Mrs Gray said that they would finesse timings for next year, and try to adopt some of the changes that were made this year, such as the hugely popular tug of war. Travel Planning and Safety Nothing to report. Learning and Teaching Nothing to report. Alice reflected that this committee had not meet in the last couple of years and questioned the usefulness of this committee. Discussion about need for flexibility around subcommittees and agreement that they could come into operation when there was a task / issue to address.	Mrs Gray to implement for Sports Day 2025
6.	Treasurer's Report The Primary balance is £1056 and the Academy is £670.	Jane to email Vanessa Morris for clarification on D&G PC Finance

7. Windfarm Funding

Barry thanked Calvin for the work he has done on the “Projects and Initiatives” paper he has produced following meetings with Academy pupils and staff, as well as ELC.

In Calvin’s absence, Barry noted that the proposal for a space for senior pupils was potentially being addressed by the Old School Thornhill (OST). Barry reported that he had had an initial meeting with the OST team and that Vickie Simpson, who sits on both the school management team as well as being a trustee of the OST was working through the details with OST.

Laura added two further proposals to the list:

Laura reported that her child said utensils in the home economics department were not properly clean and expressed an interest in cooking more healthy and more interesting meals – such as international food. Maria added that for a small, rural school there was some significant diversity and could this be an opportunity for families from other countries to come into the school to share information about their food and culture.

Barry explained that the school did not have anyone in post for a few months, but that a new Home Economics teacher had been appointed.

Laura also reported that Miss Girvan, head of music, has an annual budget of £300 which is not sufficient to keep all instruments correctly serviced and tuned. Miss Girvan provided Laura with an estimate for servicing some/all the instruments. Emily said that there are funds to support this kind of activity, such as Music For All.

Calvin arrived at the meeting. Calvin thanked Barry and staff for helping setting up the meetings. Calvin said it was interesting to see breath of requests, noting that some feel attainable and fairly easily addressed, while some are more complex and ambitious, and will require a much greater degree of input. Calvin was struck by thoughtfulness of the ideas and confident that each and every project we manage to deliver successfully will contribute positively to the school and its learning outcomes.

Laura asked for further explanation of the community orchard enhancements. Barry explained that at present it is difficult to access the orchard as one way route is very sodden. Barry suggested that a new route could involve

Barry to raise these points with the new Home Economics teacher.

<p>8.</p>	<p>AOB Emily to step down as Chair at the next AGM. Emily will chair the September meeting and will remain on Parent Council but not as an office-bearer. Barry thanked Emily for her work over the last two years. Emily in turn thanked Jane for all her support.</p>	<p>All – try to recruit more PC members and in particular Chair person.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>DONM Monday 16 September, 7pm, Wallace Hall Academy</p>	