

Minutes of the Meeting of Annan Academy
Parent Council held in Room F10, Annan
Academy on Thursday 27th October 2011 at
7.00pm.

PRESENT:

Barry Dale (Chair), Carolann Harrop (Clerk), Alison McGregor (Treasurer), Gerry Baxter, Kathleen McVeigh, Nadisbel Landau, Hugh Steele, Sonia Thomson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Frank Davis (Rector), Bethany Patterson (School Captain), Ben Johnston (School Captain), Susan Speight (Depute Rector), Derek Muir (Depute Rector), Anne Barclay (Coordinator Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme).

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were intimated on behalf of Vicky Keir, Elaine Bryson, Jeff Kerr, Sharon Ledger, Keith McCorkindale.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2011 were taken as read and approved on a motion by Alison McGregor seconded by Kathleen McVeigh.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

a. After School Classes

This was deferred to the next meeting.

b. Appointment of Deputy Rector

The Rector was pleased to announce the Appointment of Jim Brown (from Gracemount High School – Edinburgh). He will take up the post with us on the 5th January 2012.

c. Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The Chairman welcomed Anne Barclay, the Annan Academy Coordinator of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme (DofE). Anne gave an encouraging and heartwarming report on the Scheme and commended all the youngsters who take part. A recent Region wide comparison of schools had highlighted the scale and the degree of success achieved by the DofE Scheme at Annan Academy (see attached report). Current participating pupil numbers were, 45 at Bronze Award level, 28 Silver and 19/20 at Gold. In addition 6 pupils with special needs had recently joined the scheme at Bronze level. Anne commended all staff and parent volunteers involved in helping the youngsters attain their awards. In concluding she drew attention to a recently published report highlighting the high regard in which the DofE Scheme was held by employers when selecting prospective employees (see attached report).

4. COMMUNICATIONS GROUP REPORT:

The Chairman was pleased to report that the Parent Council section of the School website was fully up to date. No new communication issues were noted.

5. FUNDRAISING GROUP REPORT:

The Chair of the Fundraising group gave details in regard to the Band Night on the 25th November, an email had been sent with all details of Local Businesses who were donating prizes for the Raffle for this event. It was decided that at the next meeting all the details would be finalised.

6. RECTOR'S REPORT:

- The Rector gave an update of the building work currently taking place.
- The appointment of a new Depute Head teacher was discussed in detail (see matters arising).
- Depute Rectors Susan Speight and Derek Muir gave detailed accounts of the proposed arrangements for the introduction of Curriculum for Excellence to the school (see attached documents).
- Forthcoming events of special note to the Parent Council Wednesday 23rd November S5/6 Parents Evening.

7. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

The School Captains discussed their appreciation of the part they played in the Appointment of the new Depute Rector. Notice was given of the proposal to hold a School Prom which would take place on the 7th June 2012 at the Hetland Hall Hotel. A request was made that the Parent Council help with the cost of this event and after discussion it was agreed in principle that the Parent Council would contribute.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Letters from Joanna Murphy were emailed to all Council Members.
- ii. Leaflets were handed out from Parents as Partners.
- iii. Our policy was received for our Extended Liability Insurance.
- iii. The new PTA Magazine is available.
- iiii. Surveys from Commission on rural Education Call for Evidence, SPTC Member 2011 had been received, it was agreed that the Chairman should fill these in on behalf of the group.

9. TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer reported that the signatures have now been changed over. The current balances are £350.37 in the General Account and £6208.68 in the Fundraising Group. It was agreed that we will pay for the License (£40) for Raffles, which will be January to January

10. FORTHCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

S5/6 Parents Evening Wednesday 23rd November (6.30–8.30), the Chairman and Sonia Thomson will attend this event as representatives of the Parent Council.

11. ANY OTHER ITEMS DEEMED URGENT BY THE CHAIR:

There were none.

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

This was left to the Clerk and the Chair to arrange.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next meeting was set for **Wednesday 16th November 2011 at 7.00pm.**