



Chairperson (Joint):
Mrs Victoria Mouat
Booth
Baltasound
Unst
ZE2 9DT

Clerk:
Miss H Sinclair
1 Brakefield Crescent
Haroldswick
Unst
ZE2 9EJ

Chairperson (Joint):
Mrs Vaila Thomason
Rohan
Baltasound
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ZE2 9DS

Minutes of the meeting held at Baltasound Junior High School on Tuesday 30th January 2017, at 6.00pm in Room 4.

Present: Mrs Victoria Mouat – Mrs Vaila Thomason (Joint Chair)
Mr Matthew Cox Mrs Angela Fraser
Mr Derek Jamieson Mrs Cheryl Jamieson
Mrs Karen Gray Mrs Erika Brown
Mr George Rodger Ms Margo Spence
Mrs Catriona Waddington Mr Murray Brown
Ms Margo Spence
In Attendance: Mr Paul Thomson
Miss Hazel Sinclair

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Julie Thomson and Colva Peterson.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14th September, 2017 were read and approved.

Matters Arising From Minutes

Amentiy Trust/Recycling Cans

The school now has bags for aluminium cans and plastics – also boxes for used batteries.

Recycling/Use of Plastics

Paul spoke to Councillor Ryan Thomson last week about the 'single use plastics' campaign. The subject was also discussed with the Pupil Council 2 weeks prior to this. The plastics BJHS use are re-usable (plastic plates, cups etc). The school does not use plastic straws.
Does Home Economics use plastic cutlery for food tasting? – Paul will ask June.
VM – Vegware – Eco-friendly packaging and catering disposables – quite expensive.
On the whole the school uses minimal single use plastics.

Electronic Devices

At present the whole school (primary and secondary) are permitted phones/iphones in class. Lisa Smith (Lower Primary) had already had 2 incidents involving iphones in class. Paul had been in touch with other Head Teachers to see what the policy is in other schools regarding the use of phones/devices. Most other schools have a ban in place on the use of devices in primary.

Secondary – SHANARRI

PT/AF – The use of Social Media was shown to be having a detrimental effect on secondary students health & wellbeing. Paul and Sandra would like to gauge how all secondary students use devices/social media over a couple of weeks, then feed back to parents. They would then spend a week/fortnight with no devices after which they would complete the same survey; again results would be fed back to parents.

Use of devices on trips? – Paul will look into this at the time of trip – would depend on trip details/circumstance.

Maps/location apps on phones – again depends on circumstances – a good app to have for Duke of Edinburgh for example; students need to have a better understanding of how and where to use.

It was agreed that all devices will be banned in primary and monitored in secondary.

Bi Annual PC Meeting

Victoria handed out a copy of the minute from the last Bi-Annual Meeting.

PC's response sheet also handed out – this document has not been submitted yet, so if anyone has anything to add, let Victoria/Vaila know by Friday.

- More power to HT's – Paul said it is not clear how this can be 'Shetland proofed'.

The next Bi-Annual Meeting is in May – Vaila and Victoria hope to attend.

Improving Links with PC and Parents

Victoria would like to make sure all parents know they can come and speak to PC members if they have any concerns. Information sheet with all PC Members details? Newsletter? See item (9).

Disruptive Behaviour in Class

Some parents had expressed concern at what they believed to be disruptive behaviour in class by an autistic student.

Staff feedback – there has been a significant improvement between Aug – Jan. Staff also highlighted the behaviour of others – including lateness and turning up to lessons unprepared – as actually being more disruptive. It was felt that some behaviour towards the student with autism was 'bordering on bullying'.

A short you tube clip was shown which highlighted how autism heightens senses and makes minor, everyday situations more difficult/stressful.

Behaviour as a whole is to be discussed with S1/2 class, including raising awareness of autism.

Newsletter

It was agreed that the PC will have a section in the school newsletter which Lynette sends out twice each term. Hazel will ask Lynette to contact Vaila/Victoria when she is planning to send out newsletters.

More up-to-date Welcome Pack for Pupils and Parents

Victoria will arrange a sub-group to look at producing a more 'parent friendly' version of the welcome booklet. This welcome pack will refer parents to the existing Parents/Pupils Information Booklet.

PC Plan for this Term

Welcome Pack.

Autism Awareness – roll out to parents? – 2nd April World Autism Day. Secondary Parents Night in March – leaflets etc?

Fundraisers? – U-H-A Coffee Morning – Friday 16th February.

AOCB

Calendars – Still a few in local shops – reduce price? Profit so far £138.70.

Staffing – Concern expressed re. staff absence – Art/Technical.

Recent supply teacher – Art/Technology + HT/DHT can cover.

Paul – responsible for sickness forms/reporting sickness which then goes to Local Authority.

It is then ultimately up to the LA how absence is dealt with.

One student who was considering taking Art is now feeling that there is 'no point' - they can't achieve what they want because there is no teacher.

Catching up? Difficult as this means taking time away from another subject/teacher. In the past to achieve N5, students have travelled to Mid Yell JHS or Brae High School to make sure they get their qualification, but this is not ideal.

Any concerns should be directed to Robin Calder @ Hayfield House.