



Chairperson:

Mr Matthew Cox
33 Setters Hill Estate
Baltasound
Unst
ZE2 9DU

Clerk:

Miss H Sinclair
1 Brakefield Crescent
Haroldswick
Unst
ZE2 9EJ

Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20th January, 2026, at 6pm, Baltasound Junior High School.

Mr Matthew Cox Mrs Jane Macaulay
Mrs Lauren Spence

Mr Paul Thomson Miss Hazel Sinclair

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Victoria Mouat, Lisa Johnson, Vaila Thomason, Linda Thomson, Duncan Johnson and Karen Priest.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Read and approved.

Matters Arising from Minutes

Occasional Holidays - Holidays this term are Wednesday 28th January, Friday 13th February, Monday 16th February. There is also an inservice day on Tuesday 17th February. The Uyeasound Jarl Squad will visit the school on Thursday 12th February at 2pm and we will hold a coffee afternoon to coincide with this.
End of Year Raffle/Concert – The concert was another huge success, showcasing the many talented students we have here at Baltasound JHS. Over £1100 was raised on the night – an amazing amount!
Security System – Not working and hasn't been in working order for many years. Things came to a head last year when there was a local break in and parents had contacted the school to make sure children were in a safe and secure place. Neil Beattie and Emma Sandison will be coming to Baltasound on Thursday 22nd Jan to look around the school estate and main entrance points with regards to how a new security system may be installed. Paul will share their report/findings.

Participatory Budgeting / PEF

The school receives Pupil Equity Funding which is based on the uptake of free school meals - this money is to help disadvantaged students and to improve the school. With a little left 'in the pot' to spend this year, staff and student groups have been asked to place 'bids' for projects/ideas on how they feel part of the PEF money should be spent. All bids will be showcased in the staffroom on Friday 30th January – Paul asked if anyone from the Parent Council could come in to school that day to decide the winning bids. It is hoped that part of PEF funds could be used to develop the old staffroom (secondary) into an ASN/Special Needs base. The development of a kitchen area/workspace at the lower end of the dining hall which would be used for Breakfast Club has also been discussed.

School Improvement Plan Update

Environment, Experiences and Interactions – jobs are being logged but no action taken. The whole setting needs refreshed – plaster in walls filled and painted throughout. Ailidh's room has been refurbished (by Ailidh) and it is a perfect example of what can be achieved – but building services should be responsible for refurbishment, not individual staff members.

In addition to this, many of the window blinds are either snapped or missing, and in need of replacement or repair, and many of the windows are leaking.

Play Pedagogy Award – It is hoped that Baltasound will be the first school in Scotland to receive the Play Pedagogy Award.

Differentiated Support For All Learners - Understanding the needs of all learners in school. Students with PDA (pathological demand avoidance) and how to support them. Development of a toolkit for this.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of Baltasound Parent Council will be on Tuesday 28th April, 2026 at 6pm.

AOCB

None