

**Minute of a meeting of Comhairle nam Pàrant**  
**on 4 September 2014 at Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu**

Present: Joanne Bowman (JB), Catriona Campbell (CC), Martin MacGregor (MMG), Kathleen MacLeod (KML), DK MacPhee (DKMP), Donalda McComb (DMC), Douglas Morrison (DM), Bruce Whyte (BW)

Apologies: none

1. DM (Chairman) welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. The minute of the meeting held on 11 June was approved.
3. Due to the resignation of the previous Secretary, DM asked for nominations for the role of interim Secretary. BW nominated DKMP. This was seconded by MMG. There being no other nominations, DKMP was elected as interim Secretary.
4. The Headteacher's report was provided by DMC.

Primary:

- Roll of 505 (100 in P1).
- All staff positions filled.
- Staff shortages in GME Primaries in neighbouring local authority areas may impact on future staff recruitment needs at SGG.
- 60 pupils from this year's P7 will be transferring to S1 in 2015-16. This is likely to impact on delivery of Secondary curriculum and may require recruitment of additional staff.

Secondary:

- Current vacancies in Gàidhlig, History and RME. Posts due to be advertised on 12 September but process controlled by HR in Education Services Head Office in John Street.
- Current arrangements: Gàidhlig - CC is supporting the probationer teacher; History – supply teacher is an English-speaker only; RME and Drama – being provided by a Gaelic-speaking teacher.
- Music and French - teaching posts will be advertised later in the year.
- Modern Studies – teacher resigned last school year and the subject is not being provided for this school year.
- Advanced Higher Hub is being used at Glasgow Caledonian University by schools with small numbers in certain subjects.

Other matters:

- St Patrick's PS will move into SGG week beginning 3 October. Additional PSA support will be required at lunchtime. The Breakfast Club will continue

to be available to SGG pupils. However there is no flexibility for provision of sport because of the use of the dining room.

- “Meet the teacher” nights will be 10 September and 16 September. If available to attend, Comhairle nam Pàrant members would be very welcome.
- The school website will be used to promote Comhairle nam Pàrant. This will include the publication of the minute of meetings.

**Action:** CnamP members should provide a photo for the website.

- 3G pitch maintenance has been neglected. Goal nets need to be replaced. The pathway between the school and the pitch also needs to be kept cleaner. GCC Land and Environmental Services have been asked to clarify their responsibility for ongoing maintenance of the pitch and surrounding areas,
  - Attainment levels in SGG once again were very high in 2013-14. SGG pass rate at National 5 was higher than any Secondary school in the city. At Higher level SGG was highest in 6 out of 7 categories and performance levels increased in all areas. Pupils and staff should be congratulated for their performance.
5. HMIE report: the report published at the very end of 2013-14 school year was discussed. Members expressed their concerns and dissatisfaction with its content. It was perceived as an inconsistent and incoherent document that misrepresented the school and its success in providing a high quality education for children through the medium of Gàidhlig. Members accepted that certain aspects of delivery needed to be improved but were confident these would be addressed by the Headteacher and her staff.

**Action:** Douglas will write to Bòrd na Gàidhlig and to Education Scotland on behalf of Comhairle nam Pàrant to express parents' concerns about this report.

**Action:** A flyer about the HMIE report will be issued from the school office to all parents.

## 6. Other business:

### 6.1 Legacy Fund:

**Action:** DM will provide information on the Legacy Fund for “Meet the Teacher” evenings. Legacy Fund applications will be an agenda item at the next meeting of CnamP in November.

### 6.2 Social Group:

There are over 500 families in the school now. It's important to engage as many as possible in the life of the school.

**Action:** DM will promote the idea of a Social Group at the “Meet the Teacher” evenings. One of the tasks of that group would be the production of a Social Calendar listing events throughout the year (eg fairs, cheese & wine). “Meet the Teacher” evenings.

### 6.3 Teacher provision:

The current shortage of teachers in certain Secondary level subjects is a major barrier for the delivery of the school curriculum. This is a concern shared by the Headteacher, her staff and all CnamP members.

**Action:** DM has met, and will continue to meet, with Parent Council representatives from the Gaelic Medium Education schools in Edinburgh and Inverness. Together they will lobby Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Government's Gaelic Unit to agree practical measures with local authorities and teacher-training colleges to ensure future staffing needs in GME schools will be met.

### 6.4 Comunn na Pàrant:

Comhairle nam Pàrant and Comunn na Pàrant both represent parent interests in the school but there is some confusion over the specific role and remit of both groups.

**Action:** DM will meet with representatives from Comunn na Pàrant to clarify the role and remit of the two groups. Also, he will discuss with Comunn na Pàrant Nàiseanta the idea of organising a national gathering of parents from GME schools.

### 6.5 Scottish Government consultation on a GME Bill:

The period of consultation is about to end. Comments should be submitted as soon as possible.

### 6.6 Treasurer's report:

JB (Treasurer) reported there is £3,319.79 in Comhairle nam Pàrant's bank account.

### 6.7 Spòrs Ghlaschu

The AGM of Spòrs Ghlaschu will be held in SGG on Tuesday 9 September.

## 7. Next meeting:

The AGM will be held on 2 October.

The next “ordinary” meeting of CnamP will be on **Thursday 6 November (6.30pm to 8.00pm)**.

Subsequent meetings will be held on the first Thursday of every month in SGG at 6.30pm, except where that date is a holiday or the school is closed for another reason.