



Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce Comhairle nam Pàrant - 14 A' Chèitean
2025 19:15-20:15

Parent Council Minutes 14th May 2025 - 19:15-20:15

1) Fàilte agus facal tòisich bho na Cathraichean - Welcome from the Chairs

Welcome from chairs.

2) Gnothaichean ag èirigh agus aontachadh geàrr-chunntas na coinneimh mu dheireadh - Minutes of the previous meeting & matters arising

Minutes from previous meeting approved. Proposed by Rachael Tullo and approved by Nerissa Drennan-Lang.

3) Aithris a' cheannard - Headteacher Update

- **Newsletter and groupcall**

Reminder to read the newsletter as it contains important information.

- **Vacancies**

Two temporary part time teachers have been recruited until the summer, to fill the maternity leaves.

EYP (Early Years Practitioners) - 2 vacancies still ongoing. Four potential applicants, but none are gaelic speakers. Will continue to interview, as there is a need for staff, and other staff are having to compensate.

C1 EYP Post - Still open.

Miss Drysdale will return to JGHS for the timetable change at the start of June.



● Staffing - Summer Term

Giselle Dominguez - Tuesdays
Sarah Moir - Tuesdays and Wednesday
Caron McAtear - Wednesday and Thursdays
Angela MacDonald - Thursday

The last three are the new teachers that are with us until the summer, covering the maternity leaves.

● Toilets

Reminder of the code of conduct in operation. Children are reporting behaviour of concern to teachers.

● Mobile Phone/Screen Policy

There have been three incidents recently within the same year group where parents have contacted pupils via smart watches. A reminder that smart watches operate in the same way as mobile phones, and can cause disruption.

The policy is as follows:

The school's Mobile phone policy is available. Schools are not banned in school, however the phone should be turned off on arrival at the school gate and remain off the duration of the school day. It can only be turned on again when the child has left the school grounds.

● Proposed classing for session 25/26

17 classes, one more than currently. C1 intake 102 pupils which is likely the largest in the city.

- 4 x C1
- 2 classes at each stage from C3-7

This is subject to change, once deferrals have been taken into account.

The school is seeking guidance from the council regarding this. We have asked for three probationers, which is good, but as new teachers they need extra support and are allowed to have one day a week out of class.

Potential breakdown:

Classes	Proposed number
C1	4



C2	2
C2/3	1
C3	2
C4	2
C5	2
C6	2
C7	2

There will be extra logistical and admin challenges. Probably will mean that there will be 3 different breaktimes. School transport also needs to be taken into account.

There are enough rooms available to have 17 classes, but classes would have to be refitted, including having to have a C1 play-based class setting and ensuring all smart boards are operational. This comes with it's own costs. On the back of that, we want to raise 2 more jobs for gaelic speaking teachers. This is based on having the request for 3 probationers approved.

Laura Stewart has asked for support from the council. A meeting is planned with Jackie Reid, GME SLT and Senior Council Officers to address some of the current challenges.

- Workforce planning
- Early Years
- School Transport
- ICT

Question: What does infinite capacity mean? Is there no cap?

Answer: Used to have a cap, but for some reason there has been no closing date for enrollment, meaning people have just been added to the list, rather than going onto a usual waiting list. The school don't know why, but that is part of the questions that will be asked to the council.

● Parent Consultations/Dates

School finish on Thursday 26th June is 1pm.

Sports day on Wednesday 21st May - 9.15 start

Gaelic lesson for P2: Wednesday 28th May

Next parent consultations will be:

- Thursday 29th May (in person)
- Friday 30th May (online)



4) Raon-Cluiche - Playground Update by Oliver Mezger

Children consultation for bogsa-cluiche. They would like; wooden planks, steering wheels, tyres, long pipes, chalk, tarpaulins, etc.

Some of these items are very expensive, for example a full set of wooden blocks is £3500 without VAT.

We are also getting costings for drawings on the floor of the playground.

Other ideas:

- Quiet area
- A place to present, stage
- Pitch outline/Halfway markers for football
- Balance beams
- Basketball hoop
- Stepping stones
- Wood things to climb on
- Shapes on floor for floor is lava

Talking to the council, the council has particular suppliers that they favour.

£16000 already for the playground, plus £5000 from Edinburgh Airport community fund.

5) PC Chairs Update

Not many big things happening since we last met. There has been a recent focus on planning for Feill and meeting with Laura Stewart to talk about next year.

A permanent stash of pre-loved uniform will be made available in reception, to encourage sustainability and made available to parents all year round.

With the changes in Scottish law around safeguarding we are looking for a new volunteer to help coordinate the PVG checks for the Parent council.

Call out for general volunteers for the Parent Council, especially looking for new chairs, as Nerissa and Caroline will leave their post in February.

In addition, specifically looking for volunteers for the Feill.

6) Oganan

No one present.



7)CNAG

No one present.

8)Mod

Mod is Saturday 24th May. Timetable should be circulated soon. If anyone wants to volunteer on the day, please contact Rebecca McLeod or email the local mod email at localmodedinburgh@gmail.com. Especially need stewards to ensure that people do not interrupt performances in flow, but stopping access at a door. It is a simple but rewarding job.

9)Chess

Updated provided by Lynda Haughney.

Club Tàileasg is still going well, with about a dozen regulars and several others dropping by occasionally.

We are very thankful for the £147 awarded through the small sums scheme, and Mr McQueen is currently exploring the best magnetic vertical chess boards. I will speak to the school for permission if we need to affix it to the wall, but we may be able to hang it on the whiteboard while the club is on.

I hope Chess Club can run next year, but that might depend on my working pattern. If I can't do it in 2025/2026 I will see if another parent might be interested in taking over. It's been a learning curve for me, and I see some ways in which the club can improve in future.

10) Aithris an ionmhasair - Treasurer update

Amanda Waite provided the update.

Main income since last meeting is £459 from the preloved uniform, toy and baking sale. We have also collected for Dr Jones, which will be spent on a retirement gift.

Main expenditure is £188 for website hosting and email.

We transferred £300 to school, drawn from the inclusion fund, to help pupils get to Benmore, as well as the funds raised by C7 to reduce the costs for families.

From the previous Small Sums Scheme, we funded a science workshop for C6.

From the Small Sums Scheme just closed, we transferred £350 to Shinty to support coaching. The other successful bids we are holding money for were £147 for chess club, £160 and £200 for Gaelic at Home welcome booklets and learning posters.

We are also provisionally holding £625 for ball-coise storage, but there are some feasibility issues to be resolved before we know whether it will go ahead in 2025. We have a project in reserve if it does not.

Bank balances are below. Expenditure outweighing income is because Feill Nollaig funds were raised in 2024, but transferred to school in 2025.



BALANCE SHEET AS AT	11 May 2025	
BANK BALANCE brought forward 01 Jan 2025	£16,669.16	
add income	£2,882.96	
less expenditure	-£7,493.00	
BANK BALANCE at 11 May 2025	£12,059.12	
Pending Income balances 11 May 2025		
Sumup	£9.75	Dr Jones retirement gift
Stripe	£0.00	
Paypal	£0.00	
Pending Payout (Debtors)	£9.75	
Gross Assets		
	£12,068.87	
Ring Fenced Funds		
Winter Small Sums Scheme 2023	£3,770.38	Small Sums awards from Winter 2023
Spring Small Sums Scheme 2025	£1,132.00	Small Sums awards from Spring 2025
Inclusion Fund 2025	£1,172.50	To be updated as drawn down by school
Funds for Gaelic cultural workshops	£300.00	To be updated as drawn down by school
Gaelic cafe donations for school	£114.62	Card payments received on behalf of school
BnaG Funds for Gaelic Classes	£15.00	Residual after being drawn down by tutors
Dr Jones retirement gift	£178.87	To be spent on gift
Ring Fenced Funds (Liabilities)	£6,683.37	
Estimated PC Uncommitted Funds (Net Assets)		
	£5,385.50	

11) Togail Airgid agus Tachartasan - Fundraising and Events

Nerrisa updated on the Feill. Call out for volunteers and donations for the raffle and cake sale. We

Pupil Equity Funding -

If you are eligible for free school meals, please sign up, as this adds £1200 to school funding per pupil!

Bus pass

If everyone has a bus pass, the school can save £2000 each year. Please apply for one for free if you do not have one already.



Easyfundraising

This will be promoted further during this year, this is an easy and cheap way to get funds for school.

12) Gardening

Zoe provided the update

Currently the gardening group is looking for new volunteers as there is a real risk that come august there will be no more group, due to parents leaving.

13) AOB

None

14) Dèitichean nan Coinneamhan ri Thighinn - Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is on 17th September at 19.15 on TEAMS.