

Monymusk School Parent Council
Annual General Meeting (held online)

Thursday 4th November 2021

MINUTES

1. Welcome and apologies

Present: Fiona Esson (Chairperson), Jan Watt (Treasurer), Angela Pond (Head Teacher)

Apologies: Laura Ferguson, Jen Dunbar, Niall and Lauren Ferguson, Gemma Wood, Joanne Reid

2. Approval of minutes from AGM 1st October 2020 – No amendments and so minutes approved.

3. Chairperson’s report (see below) – approved as an accurate record of the year’s activities.

4. Treasurer’s report (see attachment) – Accounts with Auditor at present. Sarah Flavell (Chair of Gordon Rural Action) appointed as auditor for 21/22 accounts.

5. Parent Council Members announced

Under guidelines from Aberdeenshire Council all who volunteer for the Parent Council automatically become members of the committee, unless the maximum according to the constitution is exceeded, in which case lots would be drawn. Parents were emailed several times in advance to ask for volunteers.

Jan Watt volunteered and with Mrs Pond leaving at the end of term and the absence of any other volunteers, Fiona Esson and Laura Ferguson have decided to stand again, but do not plan to remain in post for the whole year.

Fiona Esson also advised the meeting that she will no longer get involved in organising events.

6. Election of Office Bearers

The current Office Bearers volunteered and were appointed to the same positions again.

Position	Volunteer	Seconded
Chair	Fiona Esson	Jan Watt
Treasurer	Jan Watt	Fiona Esson
Committee member	Laura Ferguson	Jan Watt

We are still missing a Secretary. Fiona continues to fill this role but please get in touch if you are interested.

We will also need more volunteers to get involved as we hopefully begin to hold events again.

7. There were no matters for discussion reported to Parent Council by the Parent Forum but if there are any please get in touch. Email parentcouncil@monymuskschool.co.uk or speak to Fiona, Jan or Laura. We are still to use the £2,500 Onefamily grant and will be discussing how to spend this with the new Headteacher. These funds were provided for an outdoor shelter to support outdoor learning.

Chairperson's Report 2020/21 – covering activities and events of the past year

The past year is a bit of a blur to be honest, but we have managed to hold meetings online and do some socially distanced fundraising, although nothing like a usual year. Thank you to everyone for your support in such a difficult year and to all the school staff for keeping everything on track.

In terms of Parent Council activities...

Parent Council Communications (ongoing)

Inclusion in newsletter, ad hoc use of Facebook to share useful/interesting information, ensuring meetings advertised in advance and all parents invited, agenda and minutes issued. Unable to do face to face introductions to new parents again, parent council info sent with induction paperwork instead.

Garden

Unable to progress due to restrictions on parents entering school grounds. Funding obtained through grant applications (see below) should ensure the children can fully utilise this space for outdoor learning and hope that parents can return to help maintain and develop this area soon. The children have been busy doing this in the meantime.

Funding received from successful grant applications:

Onefamily (£2,500) – funds provided for a shelter following the fire and removal of the shelter shed, plan to purchase shade sail and fireproof store plus other items to support outdoor learning and play (to be discussed with new HT)

Tesco (£997) – store and outdoor equipment purchased to replace items lost in the shelter shed fire

Thrift Shop (£500) – funds kindly donated to enable school to plug gaps in the Big Cat reading series

Meetings, Correspondence:

Pupil Council could not take place

Parent Council Chairs – Fiona attended online meetings throughout the year

Issuing/Publicising items as requested by Aberdeenshire Council

Events and fundraising

Events are arranged by members of the Parent Forum under the umbrella of the Parent Council (for insurance purposes).

Unable to hold the Muddy Run or Football tournament again, or Disco unfortunately.

Successful events this year have been Halloween treats and crafts, Christmas goodies and raffle, Bags2School, Photos in the park. Jan will give more details on the funds raised and how they have been spent.

At this point I would like to thank Jan and Laura for their work over the previous however many years.

Thank you

Fiona Esson