



Perth Grammar School Parent Council

AGM Agenda: Wednesday 13th September 2023

Location: Perth Grammar School

Attending: Janice Napier, Jenny Robertson, Aimee Stark, Shona Shinwell, Carrie Duthie, Rose O Lorunfemi, Alexandra McQueen, Roy McIntosh

Apologies: Aimee Stark

Chairman's Annual Report

Janice Napier (Chair) opened the 2023 Annual General Meeting of Perth Grammar Parent Council.

Janice Napier read the Chairperson's report providing details of the activities of the Parent Council for the previous school session (2022/2023).

A copy of the full report is attached.

Treasurer's Report

Jenny Robertson read the Treasurer's report.

Summary of report:

Opening Balance (April 2022):	£5304.21
Deposit (PKC expenditure fund):	£ 760.00
Deposit (Easyfundraising):	£ 18.85
Deposit (Parent Council Fundraising):	£ 202.00
Interest	£ 17.84
Expenditure (Paddleboarding)	£ 450.00
Expenditure (School House Point tokens)	£ 401.82
Expenditure (Parent Council Leaflets)	£ 106.00
Expenditure (S6 Hanging Rail)	£ 80.93
Expenditure (Fundraising)	£ 84.78

Closing Balance £5179.37

Within this balance remains £1135.65 from Perth Decides. These funds belong to the school and not the Parent Council, therefore this amount must be removed from the closing balance.

Closing Balance (minus Perth Decides) £4043.72

The report was agreed by the parent members present at the meeting. A copy of the full report is attached.

Election of Parent Council Members

The following parents have stepped down as members:

1. Wendy Boag

We thank Wendy for her support of Perth Grammar Parent Council.

The following parents will remain as members:

1. Aimee Stark
2. Shona Shinwell

Aimee (in absence) is happy to continue as a parent member, however, she will no longer manage the Parent Council Social Media accounts.

Alexandra McQueen will now manage social media posts on behalf of the Parent Council.

Election of Office Bearers

The following people were elected to office.

1. Chair: Janice Napier (Proposed by Jenny Robertson, Seconded by Shona Shinwell)
2. Vice Chair: Roy McIntosh (Proposed by Janice Napier, Seconded by Jenny Robertson)
3. Treasurer: Jenny Robertson remains for a second term
4. Secretary: Alexander McQueen (Proposed by Janice Napier, Seconded by Jenny Robertson)

AOB

As raised in the Chair's report, before this AGM, the committee had become increasingly concerned by the lack of parental engagement with the Parent Council and that should it continue in line with the constitution, the Parent Council would be disbanded. Therefore the committee was pleased to have the AGM attended by several parents new to the school at the meeting.

Action point

Review of the Parent Council Constitution

Perth Grammar School Parent Council Chairs Report for 2022/23

Perth Grammar School Parent Council

Chairs Report 2022/23

We came back to some semblance of normality this year after the Covid restrictions of previous years. Parent Council meetings reverted to being face to face throughout the year. Notwithstanding the return to in person meetings, engagement from parents was almost nil; we had one parent attend the last meeting in May 2023.

The Parent Council meetings have been a good forum to hear from the Pupil Leadership Team and understand what is important to our young people. In the previous academic year funding had been provided by the Parent Council at the request of the Pupil Leadership Team for a House Point Collector system. This appears to have been a good initiative in practice and is currently being well used as a visual motivation tool.

Our meetings have also been a good opportunity to hear what's happening in Scottish education; what surveys and consultations are current.

In November we had a guest speaker from the Safer Communities Team. They work in an around the Grammar location and it was interesting to hear the work they do.

Back to normal traditions, post Covid, the Parent Council organised a raffle at the Christmas concert. We also funded a coat rail and hangers for the prefects. (Blazers and Scottish Winters don't mix well so this provided a storage system for blazers allowing prefects to wear suitable outdoor clothing in the Winter and change into their blazers at school.

Last year was another year of "school inspections" and Parent Council meetings were a good place to hear direct from Miss Robertson how the school has fared and it was very encouraging to hear that the school had passed its follow up inspection and should go through 2023/24 with an academic year in which teachers can focus on teaching our young people rather than be distracted by these reviews.

We had a very useful session in the March meeting when the school careers adviser attended ahead of the national exam diet and explained the exam points system and how to interpret the requirements of the various places of further education. She also set out the wide range of options available to pupils and confirmed the accessibility of suitable careers advice available to pupils in the school. It's a very useful resource to have in the school.

Most parents will be aware of the issue with the concrete in the roof above the assembly hall and the ongoing works that have been required there last term (and which are being finished off). Rather topical in the current political arena! School maintenance and improvement information has been provided over the course of the year by Miss Robertson and/or Mr Jewell.

The Parent Council was involved in the P7 Transition Night. The presentations were again split into 3 separate areas, according to house. Three of us (Jenny, Shona and myself) took part in presenting the "Parent Council" to new parents. The Parent Council is there to represent you and your child through their secondary years and we are hopeful that the face to face reminder of its existence/function will encourage new parents to engage in the coming year.

Another key function of the Parent Council has been to share relevant information on our Facebook page and, additionally, arranging for information to be put in the school bulletin where appropriate. Again, we issued our informative Parent Council leaflet which was issued with the P7 transition paperwork.

June saw the need for interviews for two depute headteacher posts. The Parent Council have a voice in the interview process at this level and we were represented, on this occasion, by Shona and myself. Within the interview process we both had a say in who was finally appointed to the two roles and are happy with the final outcome.

I would like to thank the other members of the Parent Council Board for their continued support over the last 12 months. I would also like to thank Miss Robertson and her senior leadership team for their attendance at our Parent Council meetings and for their updates during the year. I would additionally like to thank Baillie Aherne and Councillor Parrot for their attendance and keen interest at our meetings too.

I would just close by saying that, as a Parent Council, we could do more for the school. Sadly though, the lack of parent engagement has severely restricted the ability of the Parent Council to be as representative or imaginative as it could be. When a Parent Council for a school this size consists of only 4 longstanding members fresh ideas are more limited. This is your school. These are your young people. We should be working together to create a good partnership with those educating them to drive forward the school agenda of pride, respect and ambition. I would really encourage you to get involved.

Perth Grammar School Parent Council Treasurer's Report for Session 2022-2023

Account of Income and Expenditure to 31st March 2023

With a balance of £5,304.21 brought forward in April 2022, the main deposits to the account were the expenditure funds from Perth & Kinross Council at £760, Easyfundraising payment of £18.85 and raffle tickets money of £42 directly into the account and £160 pay in of cash. For information, the total raised from the hamper was £117.22.

The total income for the twelve-month period was £998.69.

The deposits from the account were for the £450 Community Investment Fund money as payment for paddleboarding, this funding was received in the previous session. The Parent Council are offering circa £450 annually to each pupil leadership team. In this session, the PLT asked for house point collection units and tokens which we ordered at a cost of £401.82. For the new S1 parents information evening, we printed information leaflets about the Parent Council at a cost of £106. We ran a Christmas raffle which had expenses of £84.78 for prizes. The final deposit from the account was for a coat rail and hangers for S6 blazers and coats at a cost of £80.93.

The total expenditure for the twelve-month period was £1123.53.

This sees a carried forward amount of £5179.37 into the 2022/2023 session, in line with the bank statement on 31st March 2023.

Within this total is £1135.65 remaining from a community funding application in 2018 for 'Perth Decides'. This money was applied for by the school through the Parent Council and the school received £1500. With PGS having spent £364.35, the remaining £1135.65 belongs to the school to spend as outlined by the funding application.

Therefore, the true total of Perth Grammar School Parent Council account is £4043.72 on 31st March 2023.

Jenny Robertson
Treasurer, Perth Grammar School Parent Council

Janice Napier
Chairperson, Perth Grammar School Parent Council

George Corstorphine
Independent Signatory
31st August 2023