



# Sgoil an Rubha

## Parent Council

Minute of Meeting held in Sgoil an Rubha  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 6pm.

### PRESENT

Donna Macleod (Head of School)	Anne Macaulay
Anne MacPhail (Principal Teacher)	Mairi Murray
Kathleen Macleod (Executive Head)	John Moffat
Donald MacDonald (Vice Chairman)	Esther Molla Aبراilla
Joan Morrison (Treasurer)	Marcos Dasi Esparza
Jaclyn Campbell (Secretary)	
Anna Maree Paget	
Donna Mackinnon	
Louise Mackenzie	

### APOLOGIES

Alex Malceod (Chairman)

### Welcome and Apologies 1

Apologies were sent from Alex (Chair) who could not attend the meeting. Donald (Vice) chaired the meeting in his absence and welcomed all to the meeting and thanked those who attended.

### Report from Head Teacher 2

#### COVID-19

During Term 3 there were a high number of cases in the school. Fortunately, everyone had mild symptoms and were able to return to school after their isolation period. There is still a COVID-19 risk assessment in place, however we are returning to normal in many aspects of school life. There are no longer staggered morning breaks, classes are able to mix more freely, in person assemblies are able to happen, they can work and sit in groups, house meetings have resumed, morning and afternoon lines are back in operation, and we are finally permitted to have visitors and parents back in the school.

No regular testing and no set isolation period, as long as staff/pupils do not have a fever and feel well enough they are able to come back to school.

We still have rigorous handwashing protocols in place and our day cleaner.

#### Mod

The school had 25 entries between solo/recitals to the local Mod. Members of local community came into the school to support the pupils to learn their songs/poems.

GM1-3 and GM4-7 also took part in the drama competition (Marissa Macleod was a great help in supporting the younger class.) this week which was live streamed from An Lanntair. Both classes represented the school very well and GM1-3 were placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the competition.

#### Decider Skills

Teaching staff are undertaking training in Decider Skills. This will be a refresher for some staff. The Decider Skills use Cognitive Behavioural Therapy to teach children skills to recognise their own thoughts, feelings, and behaviours, allowing them to monitor and manage their own emotions and mental health. The skills were designed to enable participants to make effective changes to help manage distress, regulate emotion, increase mindfulness, promote effective communication and to live a more skilful, less impulsive life. Some classes are already implementing these skills and it will be rolled out across the school next session.

#### Childsmile

Captain toothpaste has been back in the school to talk to the children about mouth hygiene. Regular toothbrushing in the infant classes has resumed. Ally also created some short videos to encourage our younger pupils to brush for 2 minutes, this has been

shared on the FB page.

### **Bikeability**

P6 have had their first Bikeability session with Strada however the second had to rescheduled due to high winds and will go ahead on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Dandelion Project**

Several classes are taking part in the Dandelion Project, which involves growing their own potatoes. P7 pupils have documented the planting process and will share the progress of their potatoes as part of a transition project. Other pupils will harvest their potatoes in September and plan to have some form of Harvest Celebration.

### **Wildlife ambassadors**

Pupils from P7, GM4-7 and P3/4 have taken on the role as our Wildlife ambassadors. The project is being run by RSPB and the pupils are carrying out research into Otters. They will visit Bayble beach on 15<sup>th</sup> June to see if they can spot any otters. Some of their work will be shared at The Outer Hebrides Wildlife Festival to be held between 25<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

### **RRSA**

Donna stated that work towards becoming a Rights Respecting School has continued. All our assemblies, including class-led assemblies are based around articles from [UNCRC](#) and all of the classes are undertaking topic work related to the articles. The pupil council have created a whole school charter. We have applied for our Silver Award – there will be a virtual visit on 7<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Pocket Garden Competition**

GM1-3's entry won the Western Isles category of the Pocket Garden Competition and had the opportunity to bring their design to life, with the help of several members of the community and mums and dad. Pictures and videos of their real-life Pocket Garden has been shared on the Keep Scotland Beautiful website between the 8<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> June where the public [can vote](#) for their favourite garden. We have also shared on our FB page so please get sharing!

### **Transition**

Transition arrangements are well under way. New entrants visit the P1 classes every Wednesday so are becoming very familiar with their new class and some of the staff. The new P1s also spent all of yesterday morning in the school to get used to the classes, routines and staff. The transition morning went very well and there were few tears! P7 pupils have had several workshops with Erica Clark, from CLD, and feedback from these has been very positive. P7 pupils also had a visit from Tracey Gordon, one of the guidance teachers from the NI prior to their induction days to ask any questions they had. As I'm sure several of you will be aware, that P7 pupils have been in the NI yesterday and today for their formal transition days.

### **P7**

P7 Trip – Girls had a day in Scaladale and boys had day, unfortunately the second trip had to be cancelled due to covid amongst centre staff. Anne Macphail worked with P7 teachers to arrange a day of fun activities for the children instead of their trip to Scaladale. On 22<sup>nd</sup> June they will go altogether to Adventure Island for the morning, have their lunch there and then Roy has arranged some activities in the Castle Grounds for them. Many thanks to Point and Sandwick Trust who have agreed donate towards the trip/activities.

The P7 Leavers' lunch will take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June, pupils have chosen their menu. The Leavers' assembly will also take place that day at 1:15pm, where pupils will receive leaver certificates and gifts.

All P7 parents are invited to attend.

P7 parents are also organising a P7 leavers' party which will be held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Quality Assurance**

We have been undertaking several quality assurance activities this term including pupil focus groups, learning walks, moderation of work, jotter sampling, tracking meetings and self-evaluation. All of which has been very good and will feed into our standards and quality report and inform our school improvement plans for next session. We are also working closely with John Daffurn, Education Scotland Attainment Advisor, for the Western Isles, to ensure that measures to raise attainment are as effective as possible. We will share the final SQIP with parents at the beginning of next session.

## **Coming up this term:**

### **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

We will celebrate 10 years of Sgoil an Rubha on 17<sup>th</sup> June by having a garden party. Parents and members of the community are welcome to come into the school and share in our celebrations. There will be tea/coffee and baking. There is no entry fee – however you do require a ticket which can be obtained via the school office. We are very grateful to Point and Sandwick Trust who are sponsoring the event and to the Point councillors who have also donated money towards it.

### **Olivia's Journey**

I'm sure many will have seen on social media that Sgoil an Rubha, Sgoil nan Loch and Stornoway Primary are getting together in memory of Olivia who attended Sgoil an Rubha. Pupils have already started building up their miles and recording their progress in their classes. Staff will take part in the 20 mile walk on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June. There has been a [Just Giving page](#) set up to raise funds for Glasgow Children's Hospital. Almost £5000 raised already.

### **Trip to Ness**

There will be a whole school trip to Ness playpark on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

### **Charlie Nicolson Cup**

Will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, we have around 22 pupils who have opted to take part in the competition instead of going on the trip to Ness. Gordon Macrae has been in doing some training with them and is back in tomorrow.

### **Nursery graduation**

Will take place on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – further information will be issued from Sgoil Araich.

### **Prize Giving**

Will take place at 1.30pm on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Parents of pupils receiving prizes will be invited by letter next week to attend.

### **School Uniform**

We researched other providers for uniform but have not made any progress. We will continue to use Leonard Hudson and have negotiated some discounts - £1 off sweatshirts, £1.90 off polo shirts and 50p off all other items.

The parent council may wish to research other companies which may offer more competitive costings.

### **End of Term**

School will close on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June and reopen to teachers on 15<sup>th</sup> August and pupils on 18<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Thank you**

Just to end by saying thank you very much to those members who will be stepping down from the PC. Thank you Alex, Mairi and Anne for your commitment to the PC and for making a difference to our pupils. Please come along to our Prize Giving on the afternoon of 24<sup>th</sup> June.

<b>Report Chairman</b>	<b>from</b>	3	Donald informed the attendees that there had been no fundraising activities since covid, and this is something that we will need to focus on when the school returns after the summer break. He thanked the members of the parent council Mairi, Anne and Alex for their service as they will be leaving the parent council as their children are moving onto S1. He also thanked the school and staff for their continued support.
<b>Report Treasurer</b>	<b>from</b>	4	Joan does not receive bank statements so could not advise how much was in the accounts. The statements are still being sent to "David MacKay" who no longer sits on the parent council. (Vice Chair) advised that this needs to be rectified as soon as possible.  Joan produced a report, and this was handed around the group, the report shows expenditures as there has been no fundraising there have been no ingoings. The total expenditure was £5,811.66.

Donald (Vice Chair) highlighted the need for the accounts to be approved by an independent examiner as per Section 8(d) of the constitution.

**Election of New Office Bearers** 5

**Chair**

Alex Macleod is standing down as Chair as his children are leaving the school, it was also advised that anyone who works in the Education Department should not become Chairperson as this may cause awkwardness in the future.

Donald (Vice Chair) asked if there were any nominations from any members of the forum. Jaclyn (Secretary) nominated John Moffat to become Chair and he accepted and seconded by Donald (Vice Chair).

**Vice Chair**

Donald MacDonald asked if anyone wished to take on the role of Vice Chair and there was no response. Donald agreed to carry on with the role of vice chair and this was seconded by the forum.

**Treasurer**

Joan Morrison said that she was happy to continue her role as secretary, this was seconded by the forum.

**Secretary**

Jaclyn (Secretary) asked if anyone wished to take on the role of Secretary and there was no response, she has agreed to do the role for a further year, and this was seconded by the forum.

**Chairman** – John Moffat  
**Vice Chair**- Donald MacDonald  
**Treasurer** – Joan Morrison  
**Secretary** – Jaclyn Campbell

**AOCB**

**Community Development Officer**

Donald (Vice chair) advised the group that there was a new" Community development officer" for the Point area (Donna Matheson). She has been appointed by Urras Storas to work closely with community groups. She may be able to assist or signpost the parent council to funding that may be available to us along with our fundraising for the school. Donald will contact her in due course.

**Constitution**

It was discussed and consent was given at the parent forum that the constitution should be amended to the following: -

*Section 8* – The annual meeting to be held in End of August/September each year instead of April.

*Section 12* – The accounts will be aligned with the school year rather than the fiscal year.

This is so that new office bearers could be selected at the start of the new school term rather than at the end of the school term and that all accounting is aligned with the school year to make it simpler.

**Executive Head**

Kathleen thanked the parent council for all their work and being instrumental in creating a good relationship with parents and the school. A special thanks to Mairi, Anne and Alex for their work with the parent council over the years and she hopes to see them all at the prize giving.

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**It was agreed that:**

- (1) The bank statements and signatory need to be sorted so that Joan Morrison (Treasurer) has access to the accounts.
- (2) An independent examiner to be appointed to approve parent council accounts.
- (3) Donna Matheson (Development Officer) to be contacted. ([development@storasarubha.co.uk](mailto:development@storasarubha.co.uk))
- (4) The constitution would be amended as above and reissued at the next meeting to all members and sent to the attendees of the Parent Forum meeting along with these minutes.

Date of Next Meeting  
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**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 at 6pm in the school**

