

MACKIE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

NOTE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : 11 SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT : 14 Parents

Head Teacher: Louise Moir

Clerk: Rhona Grant

Education Officer: Christine McLennan

The Chairperson, Rachel Shanks, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted.

The Chairperson provided a brief report of the Parent Council's activities during the previous year, and thanked everyone for their involvement and input during the year.

Ms Christine McLennan who is part of the team that Aberdeenshire Council has established to provide support to Parent Councils and other parent bodies, presented details of the Authority's suggested Constitution, explaining the reasoning behind it. Those present asked a number of pertinent questions and expressed their doubts on the need for a voting process to elect parent members; the feeling being that it was not necessary at Mackie and could act as a barrier to participation in the Parent Council.

The Chairperson thanked Ms McLennan for her attendance and presentation, and she then left the meeting. The draft Constitution was gone through, item by item, and adjusted where necessary, to suit the purposes of Mackie Academy and its Parent Council. Everyone was given the opportunity to voice their opinion and the draft Constitution, with amendments, was agreed unanimously by those present.

It was agreed that it was desirable that Mackie's Parent Council and Parent Teacher Association continue to be separate entities.

The Head Teacher provided a succinct presentation on school matters, especially data and statistics from the recent exam results. She explained that further data was still awaited from Insight Tracking and recommended that anyone who was interested visit the Parent Zone on Insight's website, where they would find parent-friendly information in relation to last year's results.

The Clerk provided a summary of the current financial position. The Chair requested that members give thought to purchasing an item of equipment for Parent Council use, which could also be utilised by the school.

In response to a query, the Head Teacher provided an update on foundation apprenticeships uptake, and possibilities for how the initiative will develop in future.

The Chairperson advised that the school is 125 years old and the Head Teacher said that next year it will have been in the current building for 50 years. The Chairperson asked attendees to give consideration to how these milestones could be celebrated/marked appropriately. The Head Teacher advised that the PTA has raised £3000 which will be spent on something significant for the benefit of the school.

The Chairperson undertook to provide the Head Teacher with names of Parent Council members, prior to the next school group emailing, which will include an invitation to anyone not able to attend the AGM but interested in participating in the Parent Council.

The first meeting of the new Parent Council was scheduled for Wednesday 10 October. At that meeting new office-bearers will be sought. It was underlined that a new Chairperson will be required, as Rachel had undertaken the role on the understanding that it would be for one year only.