

Minutes of the Broughton High School Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 2 May

Present:		See Appendix 1
Item		Action
1	Welcome and introductions	
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
	Apologies	
	Apologies were received from Jane Bremner (M), Hal Osler (C)	
2	Minutes of previous Parent Council Meeting held on 21 February 2018 The minutes of the parent council meeting held on 21 February 2018 were approved a true record, proposed by GB and approved by GC	
2.1	Matters Arising: Disabled Spaces in Car Park: MITE have kindly cut the foliage around the present signs and have upgraded the signage.	
3	<p>Kenny McLaren with Pupil Parliament members: Leigh, Aruwi, Chloe, Lily, Amen</p> <p>6 Pupil Parliament members attended the meeting</p> <p>Pupil Parliament requested to meet the Parent Council to link up ideas. This idea was welcomed by the Parent Council and Kenny McLaren liaised to organise 6 pupils to attend the May meeting. A member of the PC hopes to attend the next pupil parliament meeting in June.</p> <p>ACTION: KM to inform AR of June Pupil Parliament date</p> <p>Pupil Parliament members explained the structure they have put in place. Individual year groups have a rep from each class, and then one person is nominated from each year to represent their views at Pupil Parliament. They meet once a term and discuss any issues with the SLT.</p> <p>Their broad goal is to reflect pupil's views and be part of school improvement.</p> <p>They mentioned some recent discussions they had had.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● They feel there are insufficient bins in Stockbridge. This is leading to increased rubbish on the streets. <p>ACTION: AR to forward concerns with Hal Osler and to invite her to next Pupil Parliament</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● They voiced their concerns that Broughton pupils and Fettes pupils are treated differently by Waitrose staff. They also mentioned some pupils are taking risks by walking up the car route in order to bypass the queues at the door. <p>Their suggestion was to have lunch at different times. As this might be logistically difficult, an alternative idea raised by GB was to meet the manager or to hold a meeting in their community room. GB has had a meeting with the Waitrose manager and was assured by him that Fettes and Broughton pupils are treated the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● They had some Health and Well-being suggestions. They would like the option for Yoga and Martial Arts Classes. They also thought there should be a sensory space in school, to visit if you are feeling down. ● They suggest a gender-neutral toilet 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They would like to increase respect between pupils. They discussed “Rights Respecting Schools”. JW mentioned that this is on the school's agenda and thanked them for bringing it up • They would like to take an active role in Septemberfest and to engage more with the community. They suggested a Pupil Parliament stall at Septemberfest. JW mentioned the Neighbourhood trail in Inverleith Park as positive Community interaction. There are also opportunities to meet people from the community at the BroCafe on a Friday afternoon. <p>ACTION: KM will forward Pupil Parliament’s ideas for Septemberfest to AR & onto the BHSA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They thought badges which identified them in school would be a good idea so that pupils could approach them if they wanted to ask them questions. Their photos could also be displayed on the board near Reception. Leigh, who after S6 will study law at Glasgow University, encouraged them to “step up and make themselves heard - small changes make big changes” 	
4	<p>Headteacher’s report:</p> <p>The PC read the Parent & Carer Survey 2017- 2018. 250 BH School parents were chosen at random. Of these, 87 responded to the survey. In the main part, responses were positive. The remaining percentage in the answers below were ticked “Neither agree or disagree”</p> <p>The school helps my child to be more confident - 69% Agreed 6% Disagreed</p> <p>My child enjoys learning at school - 76% Agreed 6% Disagreed</p> <p>The school sets suitable targets for my child’s learning - 68% Agreed 11% Disagreed</p> <p>My child’s learning is progressing well - 66% Agreed 11% Disagreed</p> <p>The school keeps me well informed about my child’s progress - 53% Agreed 28% Disagreed</p> <p>My child feels safe at school - 78% Agreed 6% Disagreed</p> <p>My child is treated fairly at school - 77% Agreed 4% Disagreed</p> <p>I feel staff really know my child and support them well - 56% Agreed 15% Disagreed</p> <p>My child has the opportunity to take part in school clubs - 77% Agreed 6% Disagreed</p> <p>The school provides information about parenting support - 58% Agreed 19% Disagreed</p> <p>I feel supported to engage actively in my child’s learning - 45% Agreed 29% Disagreed</p> <p>The school supports my child to overcome barriers to participation - 48% Agreed 14% Disagreed</p> <p>The school asks for my views - 43% Agreed 27% Disagreed</p> <p>The school takes my views into account - 35% agreed 22% Disagreed</p> <p>The school is well led - 66% Agreed 6% Disagreed</p> <p>Overall I am happy with the school - 77% Agreed 4% Disagreed</p> <p>My school has the resources it requires - 62% Agreed 10% Disagreed</p> <p>There were 45 individual comments which the PC read and discussed. Some new objectives raised by the survey were suggested particularly relating to increased communication with parents.</p> <p>ACTION: To be confirmed and progressed at the June PC meeting</p> <p>Parents asked for an increase in Parents Evenings. JW explained that almost every secondary school has the same pattern of engagement, communication and participation NWT nationally negotiated Teachers’ Working Time Agreement of 195 hours. The numbers of pupils assigned to each guidance teacher (300 pupils) and subject teacher (between 120 and 180 pupils) are so high</p>	PC members

it is logistically very difficult to increase Parents Evenings to meet the expectations of parents used to the Primary model where each teacher has the same 30 pupils all week.

In response to the points raised in the survey, new ideas were debated regarding communication of homework, guidance teacher summary on reports, curriculum etc.

Clearer guidelines for parents on how to contact guidance teachers on the website, and further clarification on number of reports and parents evenings were also discussed. The PC hope to proceed with a Parent's Guide raised at our last meeting.

School Improvement Plan

This year's School Improvement Plan is going to run alongside the teachers personal Improvement Plans. Together with the requirements of the National Improvement Framework, the specific focus for our school this year will be on

- Excellence through raising attainment: ensuring that every child achieves the highest standards in literacy and numeracy, set out within the Curriculum for Excellence levels, and the right range of skills, qualifications and achievements to allow them to succeed, with a particular focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap
- Achieving equity: ensuring every child has the same opportunity to succeed, with a particular focus on closing the poverty-related attainment gap

ACTION: PC invited to write a self-evaluation for the Improvement Plan

Mental Health Issues - BH School use some of their funding to fund a school counsellor, and JW also thanked youth workers at St Stephens Church for their support. There will be more training opportunities for teachers, however, there is a pressing need for greater input in this area and support for our pupils. This was confirmed by CS who informed the PC of some of the challenges which teachers experience.

ACTION: PC to support with Mental Health & Wellbeing by contacting volunteers to give pupils extra support & to answer teacher enquiries - AR & CL

Music School: JW had a productive meeting with Andy Gray. It is possible that the Music School Budget will eventually be controlled by the school. It was also made clear that the Music School is safe for the duration of this administration. Isla Radcliffe (recent leaver of the music school) is presently visiting local Primary schools to promote the benefits of music for wellbeing.

ACTION: JW to continue negotiations (including, if possible, an extra budget for Outreach work)

Local Resident Complaint

JW had met with a local resident who had posted complaints on Facebook about the behaviour of some BH school pupils outside their house. This in turn, led to some very inappropriate and disturbing comments - the school has contacted Facebook to report these.

The resident is now satisfied that the school have responded appropriately to their complaint.

Other initiatives at the school regarding the relationship with our local community include:

- Senior Staff Neighbourhood Patrols during lunchtime
- Planning actions with Stockbridge Community Group
- Community Cafe and planned community garden
- Continuous work with school police link officer (& requests for community wardens)
- Focus on respect for people and property in and out of school
- Assemblies twice a year on expectations in and out of school. Underlying aim to have a safe and happy community
- Neighbourhood trails including litter picks. Started this year.
- Assembly from ECO schools to encourage respect for the environment

Fettes Proposal re: Cadets

Fettes school has discussed a new partnership with BH School - up to 30 x S3 pupils could be offered the opportunity to sign up to the cadets programme at Fettes.

	<p>The PC had some reservations, regarding possible selection process and other issues.</p> <p>ACTION: JW to ask for further details about the programme</p>	
6.1	<p>200 Club - CL & JW</p> <p>Funds from the 200 club have been given to the Broughton Association and Friends of Stockbridge. There will be a renewed drive to increase numbers, as Graeme Robertson has made it easier to sign up to the 200 club online. The PC are actively looking for someone who could take over from GR next year.</p> <p>ACTION: JN will organise for Colin to meet GR</p>	
6.2	<p>Broughton Works Parent Group - AR & JW</p> <p>BWPG has initiated the BroWorks Breakfast Sessions - our March session was on Psychology and in April, Software Development. The events were well attended and the pupils were engaged and asked the speakers relevant questions. Notes from each session have been taken and will be available to pupils in the Guidance Base and also relevant subject teachers will be sent a copy. The PC kindly funded mugs for the event, which can also be used at Parent Council Meetings, and other relevant events. Parents are welcome to volunteer to come in to speak to pupils.</p> <p>BWPG also held a feedback session with S6 pupils. Pupils made some very insightful observations. Their (anonymous) comments have been passed to the SLT.</p> <p>This year, we will organise the Careers Fair on the Friday of Employability Week in November (to avoid the clash with prelims for senior students).</p>	
6.3	<p>Broughton Association - JB (by email)</p> <p>Funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Chess Café on 22nd April was very busy indeed and made a profit of £500. · We ran a bake sale at Scottish Widows which brought in another £150. · The Saturday Café continues to bring in regular income and we have 3 youngsters helping out as part of their Duke of Edinburgh voluntary work. <p>Bids</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · We have supported the Debate Mate with a sum of £500 · We have just received a bid to print numbers and Broughton High School onto football strips already bought by the PE Dept and Active Schools and this will be discussed on Thursday. <p>Other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The group is currently working on Septemberfest plans. The theme is “The Year of the Young Person” so if anyone has ideas of some good activities, please let us know. · Natalie Araujo has all purchased sanitary products and is waiting to hear back from the school about who to hand them over to. <p>Eco-Uniform Swap - Both the PC and the BHSA are keen to start this project. JW will ask Jane Wallace where in the school it can take place, GC and CC offered rails. When it is set up, we will request washed and ironed new or 2nd hand uniform from parents.</p> <p>ACTION: JB/CL/LL to follow up</p>	
6.4	<p>North West Locality Group Meeting/ CCWP - AR & GB</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on 10 May at Broughton High School</p> <p>To be taken to North West Locality meeting: The School Roll is currently at 1130. There is pressure to increase this to 1200.</p> <p>Parents raised concerns about increasing numbers of pupils in a building which already feels at capacity. They were worried about the safety of pupils in an overcrowded environment. Various features which were in the original design and would reduce overcrowding have not been</p>	

	<p>installed including a reception for visitors at the car park entrance, fit-for-purpose additional social space and an extra science classroom. There would also be additional staffing requirements. Parents asked whether current pupils (except those in the specialist schools) were all within catchment. There are a number of out-of-catchment pupils despite other local schools not being full.</p> <p>ACTION: JW to highlight parents concerns to CEC about increasing the school roll. GB will support this, and raise it at North West Locality as an issue.</p> <p>ACTION: Ask KM if Pupil Parliament have a view on this issue</p> <p>Concerns over Vetting, see Chairperson's Report:</p>	
6.6	<p>Treasurer's Report - GC</p> <p>GC is finalising the bank account with the names of the new office bearers. There is presently £1447.68 in the Parent Council account but HT is owed £700 for the PC newspaper in 2015. Clerks fees are now automatically included in the PC annual funds from CEC but the funding allocated has reduced.</p> <p>Between meetings, a vote was held by office bearers to pay £110.39 for 30 x Broughton Works Mugs to be used at BroWorks Breakfasts and Parent Council Events. Six of these mugs are designated as gifts for the Speakers.</p> <p>GC will be standing down at the AGM in Sept 2018 as his son will have left the school.</p>	
6.7	<p>Chairpersons Report - GB</p> <p>Gary outlined the email (see below) which he wrote to the school staff in support of the recent stand by 3 teachers who reported the conduct of a supply teacher who had made inappropriate comments to pupils during his short employment at BH School.</p> <p><i>Prior to the Easter break, I was made aware of a press article, relating to Broughton High, a teacher's conduct and a hearing at the GTCS, all of which was a bit of a shock as, personally, I was unaware of the individual in question or the incident(s) in question. My shock was at this teacher's, at that time, alleged conduct. How a teacher could behave that way and how it could happen at the school my daughter attends, that I am actively involved in supporting, primarily in my role as Chairperson of the Parent Council for the last 2 school years and a member of the PC for 3 years. When you read this article, as is the 'norm' for journalists, the sensationalism painted our school in a bad light! This is basically what you can expect for your kids at Broughton High, when in reality, that couldn't be further from the truth.</i></p> <p><i>What I took from the article was slightly different, maybe because I am the Chair of the PC and I know the good work done by so many of the staff, pupils and parents. I saw an example of what, as a parent, I want to see at the school my child attends. I want to see caring, passionate, professional teachers who will work hard and who will look after our young people when things go wrong. My child's welfare is the number one care for me, even, dare I say, over their education. I can't look after my daughter every minute of every day, so I need to know, when she is at school, she and every other young person has these very teachers looking out for their best interests and taking care of them. Whether you like it or not teachers are on a pedestal and have greater expectations placed on them because of this. So my take, was more positive, my take was that something wasn't right and we had pupils and staff willing to stand up and say, this is wrong!</i></p> <p><i>In any establishment, one of the most difficult things to do must be to officially complain about a colleague, to take that stand and say this is wrong. I would personally and on behalf of the Parent Council like to say thank you and commend the courage shown by Nicola, Lydia and Michael.</i></p> <p><i>Having read through the transcript of the hearing, to read the further harassment and insults endured by you all, you stood firm, you acted professionally and were a shining example of all that is good about teaching. You will give young people the courage to know that they can speak up when they think something isn't quite right and you instil confidence into parents, that true professionals are looking after our kids.</i></p> <p><i>The actions of Nicola, Lydia and Michael as well as the pupils who spoke up, have in no way tarnished the reputation of Broughton High. In our opinion they have actually enhanced it, because they have helped bring to an end the inappropriate behaviour of an individual, who in all</i></p>	

	<i>accounts, should not have been in a classroom if he feels what he spoke about was appropriate and now he won't be there anymore to negatively influence our students, our kids.</i>	
8	<p>Communications Report - JN & JW</p> <p>Joanna Goddard met with JN and JW as they have kindly volunteered to man the Facebook Page and twitter account for the Parent Council, alongside Neil McCrindle. They have been posting School news and Parent Council events</p>	
9	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Community Engagement</p> <p>LL talked of recent meetings with Tudor Morris with the intention of creating a Community Orchestra. RT suggested a Community Choir would also be welcomed.</p> <p>Parental Engagement</p> <p>RT has created a leaflet for transition evening on June 4 to explain what opportunities there are to support the school as a parent.</p> <p>ACTION: RT/JN to finalise leaflet & get quote for printing costs</p> <p>ACTIONS from Feb/May 2018 meeting</p> <p>A Freshers Fair for S1 pupils and parents/carers was discussed in early September to showcase the many clubs and activities during and after school. The BA and PC will also have a stand to explain the many ways in which parents can help at school.</p> <p>ACTION: To discuss at the next PC meeting</p>	
10	<p>Next PC Meeting 2017: 13 JUNE 2018 PC - 6.00 pm, School Staff Room</p> <p>Next North West Locality Meeting - 10 May 6.30 - 8.30, Broughton High School</p>	

Appendix 1			
Attendees:			
Gary Bak (Chair) Gordon Chrumka (Treasurer) Claire Cowell (M) Lindsay Law (Vice-Chair) Claire Lewis (M) Jane Norie (M)		Alison Proud (M) Aletta Ritchie (Clerk) Cath Stewart (SM) Rozi Thomson (M) Jenny Wilson (M) John Wilson (HT)	
Acronym			
AGM	Annual General Meeting	(HT)	Head Teacher
BHSA	Broughton Association	Fte	Full Time Employee
BH School	Broughton High School	(M)	Member of Parent Council
CCWP	Consultative Committee with	PC	Parent Council
(Cllr)	Parents	SLT	Senior Leadership Team
CfE	Councillor	(SM)	Staff Member of Parent Council
	Curriculum for Excellence		