

PARENT COUNCIL

PRESENT: Carol Walker, Lee Menzies, Sam James, Irene Birtwhistle, Fleur Barron, Kirsteen Smith

Apologies: Carol Allan, Alan Chalmers, Shirley Anderson, Cllr. Anne Stirling, Cllr. Alastair Forsyth, Cllr. Iain Taylor, Jane Bisset, Ashley Strachan

DATE OF MEETING: 24th Aug 2020

	Minutes	ACTION
1	Carol Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2	Adoption of Previous Minutes Proposed: Fleur Barron Seconded: Sam James	
3	Matters Arising from Previous Meeting Carol pointed out that many of the provisions in the June Minutes were for the proposed opening of school on a blended learning basis. This was changed when the Scottish Government advised that a full return to face-to-face schooling would take place from August. Carol also advised that 4 applications had been made to the Co-op Community Fund by Friends of Turriff Academy	

	<p>on behalf of the school.</p>	
4	<p>Headteacher's Report/Building Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staffing – pleased to advise that we are pretty much fully staffed, appointed staff in Maths, Technologies, Biology and Home Economics ✓ Guidance staff for Craigston and Hatton are currently working from home supporting young people and their families. Letters were sent to parents of pupils in these houses ✓ Advice is given to pupils at weekly pupil briefings during their period 1 class – this has included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Hygiene and use of sanitisers *Community expectations *Trying to socially distance when they can *Encourage the use of face coverings (expecting there to be a gov't update soon) ✓ Pleased to report that the majority of young people have settle in well ✓ Enhanced risked assessments being produced for practical subjects based on government advice ✓ Fusion App – many of the younger pupils are using this which is reducing lunch queues as they can 	

	<p>pick up in the Assembly Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Parent Portal – awareness raised of the ability to update pupil details on line – more information will be issued shortly ✓ SQA – a fuller update will be provided at future meetings 	
<p>5</p>	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>Sam confirmed that the bank accounts for Turriff Academy Parent Council and Friends of Turriff Academy have now been audited, in preparation for the AGM. The balances at the time of auditing were £3,167.08 in FTA account and £1,602 in TAPC account (the £450 overpayment from Aberdeenshire Council needs to be deducted form this figure. Subsequent to the audit, £50 has been paid to the auditor and £50 clerk fee has been paid. The accounts were audited to May for TAPC and July for FTA.</p>	

6	<p>Communications</p> <p>Some discussion about how we improve our communication with the Parent Forum. A TAPC Facebook page had previously been suggested, but no-one had wanted to take on the administration. This needs to be an area we look at to try to encourage parental involvement.</p>	
7	<p>AOB</p> <p>Prior to the summer break it had been agreed, after consultation with the Parent Forum, that the AGM scheduled for June would be postponed. Carol proposed that this now be held in September and there were no objections. The AGM will be held virtually on 14th September 2020 at 7pm.</p> <p>The TAPC Constitution provides that committee members stand for a 2 year term. The current members whose tenure expires this year are :- Ashley Strachan, Sam James, Irene Birtwhistle, Alan Chalmers and Carol Allan. Carol expressed the hope that many of these would stand again. Sam will be stepping down as Treasurer. Anyone interested in taking on an Office Bearer's role (Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer) should contact the school or Parent Council.</p> <p>Carol confirmed that she had attended a Connect online session on the role of Parent Councils. She is due to attend</p>	

	<p>a Connect session on online meetings and AGMs this week. In addition, she will take part in an update session with Lawrence Findlay (Director of Education for Aberdeenshire Council) in September.</p> <p>Parental question – the subject of texts home when a child is not in school – errors in the system had been noted which causes anxiety when it is down to an administrative error (LM to follow this up with all staff)</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>The next meeting will be held on 14th September 2020 which will be the AGM.</p>	