

PEEBLES HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL/PTA



**Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 6th December at 7pm
in the meeting room in the New Sports Facility**

MINUTES

Present

Paul Fagan, Margaret Hogg, Sarah Keen, Tommy Davidson, Lorraine Sykes, Eric Nightingale, Michael Pryor, Lisa Houston, Glenda Barton, Kirstin Worsley, Susan Bell, Gavin Jefcoate, Vanessa Rice, Lorraine Boyd, Sam Swinton, Holly Paton

From Scottish Borders Council: Shona Haslam, Donna Manson, Lesley Munro, Michelle Strong, Steven Renwick

Apologies

Lorna Boak, Katrina Culshaw, Eleanor Fairbairn, Kate Whalley, Vivienne Leckie.

Building a case for investment for a new High School

Donna Manson gave a presentation outlining the steps towards securing a bid to the Scottish Government for a new High School. Four schools within the Borders are up for consideration. Any successful bid will require detailed plans which must show how it can secure academic improvement for pupils but also show it to be a successful and welcome addition to the whole community which it serves. It must be sustainable not just in terms of future proofing the rising school role but also form part of the master plan for the wider Peebles community, and also be an eco-friendly building. Such a project must be beneficial to all generations within the community and offer facilities which are accessible over the whole calendar year. It is vital that the whole community not only contributes ambitious ideas and aspirations for what a new building could provide but support the bid 100%.

A further meeting of all four Head Teachers and the 4 four Chairs of the Parent Councils will take place in early February with community workshops arranged for before the end of February

***** NB This meeting will now take place on the 26th of January and its purpose will be to organise the community workshops due to be held in Peebles in early February.*****

This would be the opportunity to meet and collect ideas from all parties. By March an Executive Report must be completed with the plans to include the funding proposal or possibly even sponsorship arrangements with Industry for the project being addressed.

An initial report on 'Building the Case for Peebles High School' has been drafted by Paul Fagan with assistance from Margaret Hogg and Glenda Barton. A copy of this is appended to the minutes.

At this point four members of Borders Council left along with Gavin Jefcoate. However Councillor Shona Haslam stayed on.

1. **Approval of minutes** Given

2. **Matters arising:**

Bids update

Ms Reville was in touch with Margaret to thank her for the allocation of funds for the French text books.

The successful bids may cost less than expected if they can be ordered on behalf of the school and so avoid the VAT.

Lorraine was able to secure the football strips for £250, down from the original cost of £600, which the PTA agreed to fund.

Locality Funding Bid

The bid to the Scottish Borders Council for £10,000 from their community funding is now in. If successful it would go towards the school Opportunity pot.

Group Communication

No update yet from Ross McLaren

Bring Your Own Devices (BYOD)

A letter will be going home with pupils shortly and we plan to go live for pupils in years 4-6 from 8th January 2018. It will be possible for parents to opt out of this should they not want their child to bring a device to school.

The school will have to make available devices for pupils to use to ensure that nobody is disadvantaged through this. If any devices are being bought by the school they must be purchased through the Border Councils preferred supplier.

Parents Evening Booking System

This had been very successful over its period of use. 86% of the feedback given has been favourable.

A slight change is needed to the programming behind the automatic allocation of times as it doesn't skip a slot. Some parents were then allocated successive time slots which did not allow enough time to get from one appointment to another.

Climate Change Programme

Our only involvement with the Climate Change Programme 'You Can Cook' was in sending out a survey, this has now been done.

Duke of Edinburgh

Paul and Glenda are still looking for ideas for questions for the website. The aim is to provide a Frequently Asked Q&A section to help parents of children starting up with DoE

External Sign

No response for a request for help from the parents. Sam Swinton has however spoken with his father who produces signs for South Lanarkshire. He can hopefully provide a quote for the sign. Scottish Borders council hope to send someone the last week of term to the school to discuss designs. Kirsten has agreed to come in if suitable time can be arranged.

Tesco Bags of Help

The Clerk of Works for the Council and the curtain supplier are visiting the school together to decide where best to position the curtains in the dining room to improve the acoustics. It may require the curtains to be placed along the longer wall which would unfortunately mean they would cover the window, but we wish to ensure we get the best acoustic value for the money.

3. Subgroup Updates:

Flexible Pathways

Margaret and Paul met to discuss. Paul is now going to discuss with the SMT.

School Dinners

We are still waiting on Scottish Borders Council to carry out the cabling of the new machine for the ordering and payment for the lunches. This requires further contact with Scottish Borders Council.

The Student Council are looking at ways to reduce the packaging on the lunches. One way considered was the provision of plates but pupils are eating their lunches in different locations.

Homework

Justin not present to give further update.

There is still a significant number of parents and pupils not using 'show my homework' this could be due to a range of reasons.

There are also around 20% of teachers not using it to post the homework on. They continue to provide the details during class instead.

We would like to see a much higher up take from parents especially if we want to

feed this into helping with family learning support.

4. Rector's Update

Peter Wilson joined the Maths department on Monday 4th December.

5. Parent Groups Updates

PTA Next event is the school concert on Thursday 14th December. This is a key fund-raising opportunity for the PTA.

PHSLS Have donated £1,300 to Peebles Players at the Eastgate Theatre. They have also allocated money for senior training and money for a school visit to the German markets in Edinburgh for pupils with complex needs. They are also holding a coffee morning at the ex-serviceman's club this Saturday (9th)

PHS Lottery This has a new logo and is being re-launched. Forms and envelopes are being handed out to pupils at their next assembly. This will hopefully be followed up with a group call, a tweet and a face-book message.

PHS200 A big thanks goes out to all parents, staff and employers who helped with the Careers Evening. It was deemed a successful evening.

Delegates, pupils and parents were surveyed.
100% of delegates strongly agreed/agreed that the organization in advance of the event was good.
93% of delegates felt the interaction was worthwhile and useful.
94% of parents found it useful in considering after school options.
68% of parents & pupils found the pack provided was helpful.

Around 140 families attended the event, (NB they may have brought more than one child) and although we would love to see more families, it was significantly better attended than an event held in another Borders School shortly afterwards.

As part of the Developing Young Workforce project workshops were held on Monday 4th December for the 6th year pupils. Advice was given across a range of topics including Finance, Interview technique, CVs and Social Media. Pupils had found this extremely useful. Phs200 were invited to conduct mock interviews with students and Glenda had been very impressed by the 6th year pupils that participated.

6. **AOB** Paul Fagan informed us that Campbell Wilson is being moved home.

Margaret is sending a card but we would like to send something on

behalf of the PC. Please send suggestions to Margaret.

Tommy raised the Health & Wellbeing issue, regarding lunch times especially for pupils who have travelled in by bus. It was mentioned again that ordering lunch can be done the day before – this maybe still needs to be promoted within the school. There are also opportunities for pupils to buy and eat food during the morning break.

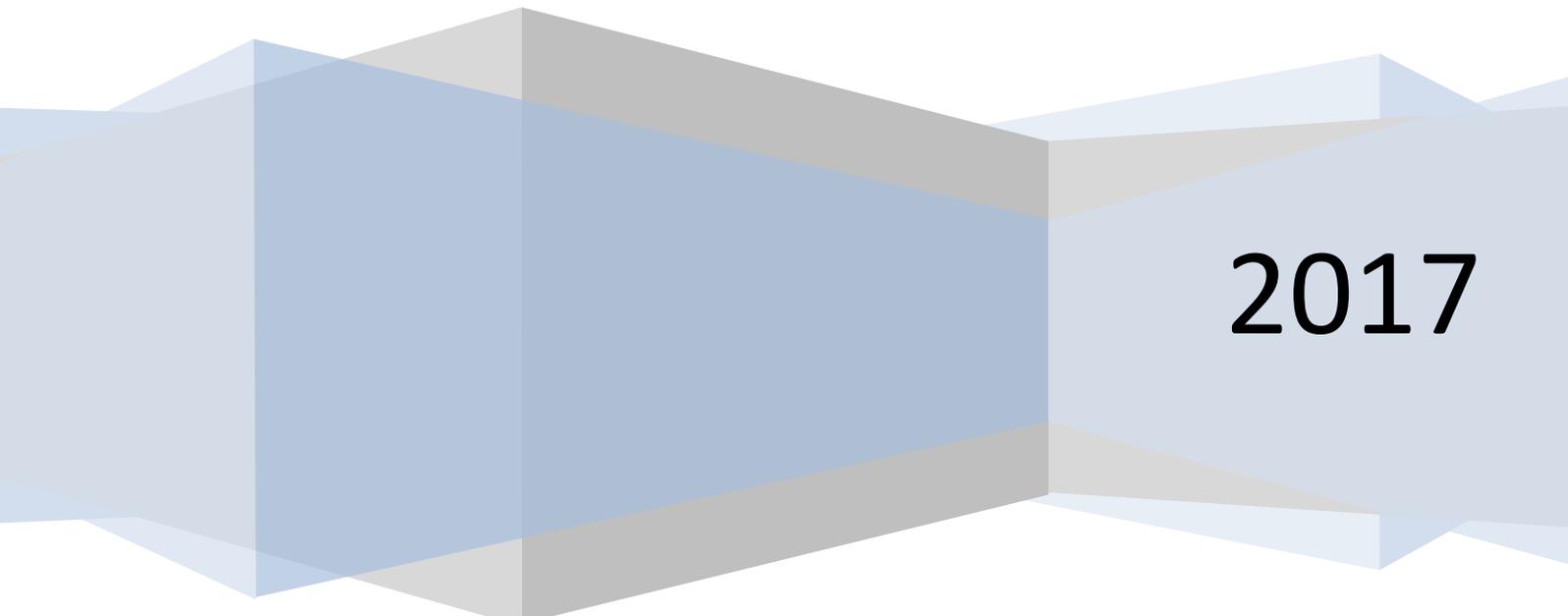
Next scheduled meeting is Monday 29th January, 7pm in the new Sport Facility.

Scottish Borders Council

BUILDING A CASE FOR IN- VESTMENT

PEEBLES HIGH SCHOOL

PAUL FAGAN



2017

1.	What do you believe a learning campus for the future should contain?	
	Creative and functional space to provide for the intellectual, physical, emotional, mental and spiritual needs of the community.	
	<p>Values of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Teaching excellence ↓ Equity ↓ Community ↓ Inclusivity <p>Creative and Functional Learning Spaces that have/are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Space ↓ Flexibility ↓ Practicality ↓ Durability <p>Multi-agency site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Education ↓ Health ↓ Social Work ↓ Library Services ↓ Early Years ↓ Tertiary ↓ Partners ↓ Post Office ↓ Bank ↓ Live Borders 	<p>Centre of Health and Well Being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Excellent sporting facilities including swimming pool and mtb track ↓ Spiritual/Mindfulness Centre ↓ Family Spaces <p>An infrastructure that provides</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Security ↓ Safe social spaces ↓ Heat, ventilation ↓ Lots of natural light ↓ Future proofed ICT ↓ Connectivity ↓ Sustainability ↓ Communication

2.	What aspects of the current building and learning environment do you like and wish to be part of the future campus design?	
	<p>Learning Environment that provides</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ maintenance of the excellent teaching standards ↓ maintenance of collaborative teachers - parent council relationship/partnership <p>Classrooms that are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Spacious – CDT 3 ↓ Multi-Purpose – Lab 1&2 ↓ Attractive – AR3 ↓ Accessible – ML5 ↓ Teacher Specific ↓ Well resourced ↓ Views of beautiful countryside <p>Curriculum Areas that are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Connected e.g Social Subjects ↓ Well designed <input type="checkbox"/> Music - Stage/ Practice Areas <input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral – Interview Rooms <input type="checkbox"/> Science – AH Rooms <input type="checkbox"/> Lots of storage <input type="checkbox"/> New PE facility 	<p>Administration/ Management Spaces that are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Spacious ↓ Connected ↓ Central <p>Grounds that are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Spacious ↓ Attractive ↓ Purposeful ↓ Accessible – Ample parking <p>New learning opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Salon ↓ Construction House ↓ Media Classroom <p>Enhanced Provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Resourced ↓ Welcoming ↓ Adaptable <p>Pupil Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Lockers ↓ Study Spaces ↓ Common Room
	<p>Social Areas that are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Spacious ↓ Well lit ↓ Open plan <p>Catering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Good quality ↓ Well used 	<p>Buildings that have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ History

3.	What aspects of the current provision do you think make a case for investment?	
	<p>Lack of inclusion/Connectivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Significant issues with disabled access to and around the building ↓ Design of fixtures and fittings restricts independence ↓ Enhanced provision too small ↓ One pupil support facility (pastoral, additional needs, SEBN should be in one central area) <p>Lack of Security/Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ 12 access/egress points ↓ Many unsupervised areas ↓ Crush Halls <p>Grounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Poor access ↓ Pinch points ↓ Limited all weather facilities <p>Fabric of the building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Maths Tower ↓ Single glazing ↓ Water damage ↓ Lack of heating ↓ Drainage 	<p>Reception</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Poor design. Not inviting <p>Assembly Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Roof repairs required (£100,000) ↓ Tired. <p>Future Proofing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Distance from educational partners ↓ Small number of new learning opportunities ↓ Family Learning Facilities <p>Canteen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Canteen too small, tired and uninviting <p>Limited capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Too few labs ↓ No industrial kitchen <p>IT Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Limited capacity <p>Development of Tweeddale</p>