

minutes of meeting held on: 11 June 2014**Minutes of AGM held on 11 June 2014**

In attendance	Initials	In attendance	Initials
Trisha Emblem (Chair)	TE	Colin Brown	CB
Jack Simpson (Headteacher)	JMS	Laura Brown	LB
Christine Wallis	CW	Anna Bowman	AB
Fiona Fitzgerald	FF	Hilary Brown	HB
Bridget Linton (Clerk)	BL	Maire Johnston	MJ
Su Hay	SH	Councillor Adam McVey	AMcV
Xanthe Bird	XB		

Apologies			
Councillor Gordon Munro		Hilary Marsh	

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
1.	Introductions TE opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. Introductions were made	
2.	Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising	

	<p>Hilary Brown pointed out an error in the Minutes of the previous meeting at point 7: where HB (Hilary Brown) is minuted as raising the issues of toilets, and textbooks – these should both actually be HM (Hilary Marsh).</p> <p>With the above exception, the Minutes were accepted as a true and fair account.</p>	
3.	<p>Aileen Cairns gave a presentation on the Leith Academy link with Malawi and we saw a video on the 2012 visit to St Joseph's School. LA pupils are going again in September 2014 – those chosen have been carefully vetted as they need to be very committed to the project. The school in Malawi is approximately the same size as LA but has only 14 members of staff. Pupils attend from age 5 until they pass their exams – in some cases until they are in their 20s. They arrive at 6.45 in the morning and clean the school prior to lessons starting. Last time the LA pupils were fortunate enough to attend a Sunday church service and a wedding and were invited to visit local homes.</p>	
4.	<p>Verity Ferry, the new school link police officer, introduced herself and outlined some of the facets of her role at LA. There has not been a police officer assigned to the school since last June. Verity will be at LA on Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Friday – she also works at Portobello High School. She has done Early Intervention Through Education at Tulliallan and has lots of new ideas as a mentor in violence prevention. Verity is CEOP trained and one of the subjects she focuses on with pupils is internet safety and online protection. Her role in school is threefold:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) to promote a positive relationship between school and young people (ii) as an investigator into crimes – speaking to both victims and perpetrators, but aiming for early intervention rather than punitive measures wherever possible (iii) to support the pastoral staff, doing talks from a police point of view; putting actions and consequences into perspective and outlining the support available. <p>Verity is involved in the Ripple Project Workshops (looking at relationship abuse) on Thursday nights and B27 – a disco for 12-15 year olds. Verity is also open to suggestions from parents and, diary permitting, would attend the S1 Parents' Evening, to outline the support she can offer together with other neighbourhood partners. Parents can make contact in confidence if they have any concerns about their own children, or their children's friends.</p>	

		TE/VF
5.	<p>Faculty Bids for Books 2014</p> <p>A long discussion took place regarding the allocation of £350 to those departments who had bid for it. It was eventually agreed to award it to Social Subjects, and also to develop a proforma to be used next year in order to be able to compare like with like more easily.</p>	
6.	<p>Speed Careers Event</p> <p>This was very successful and will be repeated in November for S5/6. It is hoped that former pupils will volunteer to talk about their destinations. It was a good way to include parents in school life and to open pupils' eyes to careers they might not otherwise have considered. JMS thanked the PC for this tangible evidence of our commitment to the school, which they will now build on.</p>	TE/JMS
7.	<p>Head Teacher's Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the PE changing room wall will be braced with metal struts (ii) the rebuilding of the CDT classroom wall has been signed off (iii) the temporary boiler should be delivered by August (iv) Financial support will be offered by the Parent Council to train a teacher to support the Duke of Edinburgh programme and S3 will be encouraged to sign up for it. (v) JMS commented that it has been a challenging year, especially for S4 pupils and their parents, and he was glad that LA had chosen to go for a maximum of six subjects in S4 – a model many other schools are now moving to. There will be a mixture of old and new Highers offered in the 2014/15 session, but for 2015/16 all departments will take up the new Highers (vi) The Evening of Celebration to recognise attainment throughout the year will take place on Wednesday 25 June. 	Parent Council

	JMS finished by thanking the Parent Council for its continued support, both for him and for Leith Academy.	
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>(i) HB expressed how proud she felt of LA when listening to JMS' radio interview – especially in respect of diversity.</p> <p>(ii) An LA presence at the Leith Gala Day was discussed. JMS explained that the timing can be problematic as it immediately follows exam leave. LB said she thought local firms would support the school if requested and also offered her help – this is to be added to a future agenda for further discussion.</p> <p>(iii) On Saturday 14 June Leon Rendle will carry the Queen's Baton along London Road as part of the preparations for the Commonwealth Games.</p> <p>(iv) AB asked about after-school sports activities and it was generally agreed that they seem to have run out of steam as the year progressed. A request was made that trampolining might also be considered. SH commented on the difficulty of arranging transport for pupils when they are playing in matches after school and Parent Council support was discussed. It was agreed to raise these issues when Craig Renwick could be in attendance. The Sports Fair for S1-S3 will take place on Friday, 22 August 2014.</p> <p>(v) TE thanked CW for her commitment, support, ideas and enthusiasm.</p>	<p>Add to agenda/TE</p> <p>Add to agenda/TE</p>
9.	<p>Election of Office Bearers</p> <p>Chair: Trisha Emblem (nominated by MJ, seconded by FF)</p> <p>Co Chair: Colin Brown (nominated by CW, seconded by FF)</p> <p>Treasurer: Laura Brown (nominated MJ, seconded BL)</p> <p>Clerk: Bridget Linton (nominated MJ, seconded AB)</p>	

	AB will speak to Diane Anderson about potentially attending the CCWP Meetings	AB
10.	Dates of Meetings for Next Session Monday 8 September 2014 Tuesday 18 November 2014 Wednesday 4 February 2015 Monday 27 April 2015 Wednesday 10 June 2015 (AGM)	