

Wallace High School PTN
Tuesday, 27th October 2015 at 7pm in the Wallace Room
Notes of Meeting

1. **Attendees:** Maureen Firth, Kitty Gallan, Alison McGregor, Rachel Metcalfe, Wendy MacKinnon, Janet Laverty, Mara-Anne Jack, Pamela Steel, Adele McAdam, Jane Riley, Jennifer Bairner, Mr Pennock, Mrs Harris
2. **Apologies:** Sandra Hayashibara, Susan MacKenzie, Isabel Van Weert, Paula McColl
3. **Welcome from Chairperson (Kitty)**
Kitty welcomed everyone to the meeting.
4. **Matters Arising from Last Meeting**
None.
5. **Young Carers (Ms McAdam)**
 - Took over a couple of years ago. Young Carer is someone who looks after someone in their family. Started group 2 ½ years ago in the school. Pupils come along for one timetable period per week and we do some cooking with them in an informal environment.
 - Mixed group from S1 to S5. Cooking healthy meals.
 - Group has grown and we have done some exciting things. Hoping to take part in the tall ship experience – 4 days sailing around the North of Scotland with Ocean Youth Trust. A lot of the young carers haven't been on holiday because of the constraints at home. Stirling Young Carers will offer respite during the holiday. Ms McAdam thanked the PTN for helping – and made biscuits//cakes as a thank you.
 - Group are aiming to raise some money themselves – bake sales, bake sale at Prudential. Using fundraising as an opportunity to raise awareness.
 - Speaking at assemblies and encouraged other young carers to come forward (don't need to go a teacher, can speak to a peer). Putting it out at assemblies, stigmas are broken down. Some of the older pupils work with Stirling Young Carers. Trying to capture awards for some of the young carers – bronze duke of Edinburgh for older pupils. 10 places on the trip. John Muir award available during trip. SQA sailing award.
 - Staff training one evening by Stirling Young Carers – what we can do, homework, deadlines, etc.
 - Tuesday, period 6 – anyone who wants to come along and help, please do so.
 - Could have a stall at the Ceilidh, parents evenings.
 - Organising a pop up banner – pupils can't always come along to evening events because they are carers but our S6 pupils will run stalls on their behalf.
 - 12 currently come to the group.
 - Meeting with other schools in December to roll out similar schemes in their schools.
 - Identified more young carers in our school than in other schools.
6. **Headteacher's Report (Scott)**
 - 33 period week consultation results. Choice between later lunch on 2 days or 3 periods in the afternoon. Advantages and disadvantages on both. All faculties preferred a preference for Model 2. 12 parental responses received in favour of Model 1. Pupils – girls interested in Model 2 and boys in Model 1. Also spoken to schools in Stirling and Falkirk who operate similar timetable. Experience is to avoid 3 periods in the afternoon. Bearing in mind the feedback, clear push to Model 2. Therefore based on consultation and feedback, we are going for Model 2. Double period 4-5, break in

between or going between classes. Pupils allowed water, flavoured water in class. Encourage pupils to make sure they take advantage of the break. Full servery at break time. We have an eye on most vulnerable pupils. If we feel it is becoming an issue, we will do something about it. Late lunch for 2 days (Monday and Tuesday) only. For buses, need 30 minute different start time than St Modans and 35 minute difference in end time. Mr Pennock will write to all parents on decision. ASN transport team for Ochil House – no significant issues, will iron out small issues between now and August 2016. Thank parents for the feedback.

- Impossible to join up with other schools because of the transport issues.
- £550.80 from non uniform day going to Ocean Trust. Also raised £4,500 for sponsored walk school fund.
- Staffing - New permanent Physics Teacher.
- Healthy eating – will make this a bigger focus in the second half of the year to tie in with the on-line payment system.
- Latest update on the next round of Stirling Council budget cuts – now in public domain and can be found at [Stirling.gov.uk/what's new/shaping Stirling's future](http://Stirling.gov.uk/what's%20new/shaping%20Stirling's%20future). Series of community engagement events – good opportunity to feedback views. Next one is 7th November at 7pm. Question time event also to be held that night with senior politicians (across parties). £25m gap – Education £4.1m annual savings. £816k from secondary schools – Wallace £106k p.a. 3 FTE savings generated by 33 period week. By £350,500 savings required from Wallace. Made some posts temporary. £64k to support staff and not replaced some support staff – office and technician. Trying to invest whilst having the money. Management – reduce £41,500 over the next 3 years. Anticipating retiral and staff changes and hope to achieve this. No short term budget from next year. Savings to be made in purchases through education supplies budget. Rely on staff morale in the school to keep things going. We are trying to make big savings whilst giving pupils a good learning experience. We are now at the limit of budget savings. Might have tighter element of course choice over future years. Couple of pupils doing on-line higher courses this year – school gets the money back because they are school pupils. May mean changes to office hours in the future (staff available at certain times of the day only to allow them to get on with their work). Not all options have been accepted yet – have gone to the Council awaiting approval. Long term staff shortages is ok because there is a budget available. A big thank you to the team including Mr Pennock and Mr Ramsay for their work on the school budget.

7. Fundraising Report (Jen)

- Winter Family Ceilidh featuring Reelin'
Tickets are available for sale. 120 tickets available.
Entertainment – Mrs Steele – 2 performances by dancers. Piper at the start/Dancers/Dinner/Ceilidh/Raffle.
Card stall, jewellery, cakes (for tables), bar.
Meeting with Paul Ramsay – logistics in hall, catering, PA system. How do we want meal served. Glasses for drinks.
Mo to resend letter to Scott with details on Ceilidh – he will text, tweet, send letters out to all parents in school bags. 7.30pm for dancers. Pipers for 7.15pm.
Set up for band/set up for decorations. Banner to be put up before hand.
Friends of Logie Kirk/Rev Fulton – Mo to send on.
Jen to be master of ceremonies. Mr Pennock will do a thank you.

8. A.O.B.

- How get access to minutes of last meeting. Problems with the website – host company had been doing maintenance on the server. Minutes are on now.

- Wallace High – School of Sports – proportion of PE staff isn't affected because the school of sports is funded through coaches from Cashback Funding (proceeds of crime via Scottish Government) – rolling 3 year contracts (2 years left). Dance is through Active Stirling. We have contingencies in place in case we don't get the funding through the Government. We have a strong complement of PE staff because there is a big uptake.
- Looking for keen volunteers to step up Chair, Secretary, Communications and Treasurer.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday, 19th January 2016