

Beaconhurst Parent/Teacher Association

Meeting held on 30th October 2007 at 8pm in the Dining Room, Beaconhurst School

Present:	Annie Beckham	Chairperson
	Iain Kilpatrick	Headmaster
	Graham Scott	Treasurer
	Diane MacKenzie	Minute Secretary
	Uli Schlafli	Member
	Dawn Haughton	Teaching Staff
	Laura Murgatroyd	Teaching Staff
	Lorna Jackson	Teaching Staff
	Kim Clingan	Member
	Karen Fletcher	Member
	Rachel Vevers	Member
	Pamela Knight	Member

Apologies: Suzanne Teed Member

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 28th August 2007

Amendments:	Lorna Jackson was present
Matters Arising:	There were no matters arising from the previous minute
Approval of Minutes:	Proposed by Annie Beckham; Seconded by Iain Kilpatrick

3. Headmaster's Report

- (i). Open Morning:**
Many thanks for parent support at this. We had a record 33 prospective families attending.
- (ii). School Trips:**
Battlefields Tour – an excellent trip at the start of the October holiday. Some 26 pupils in S3-6 toured the battlefields of the First World War in Belgium and France and were excellent ambassadors for the school.
Next trip is a joint Modern Languages/Art Trip to Paris in the Spring Term.
- (iii). Website:**
About 90 families have registered to date, which is encouraging. Please spread the word to those who haven't!
- (iv). PR:**
A delegation from the Bavarian Parliament visited on Monday to observe teaching in the Modern Languages department. Beaconhurst was the only independent school on their itinerary and the delegates were most impressed with what they saw. Coverage should appear in *The Stirling Observer* and *Bridge of Allan News*.
- (v). HMIe Inspection:**
This will take place on week beginning 19th November and may involve members of the PTA in interviews with the inspection team.

Many thanks to the PTA Chair, Committee and Staff Members for the work they have done in raising the profile and value to the school of the PTA. Kim asked the Headmaster about the parents having to pay for tea and coffee at Open Morning – Iain explained the funds raised went to the Joint Educational Trust who offer school fee subsidies to those who may not be able to afford. Iain apologised for the inadequate publicity of this. Diane asked Iain to thank all the teachers who gave up their own time to arrange the Battlefield's Trip and who gave the children such an amazing experience.

3. Treasurer's Report

Graham Scott presented the financial statement and the balance at 30th October 2007 is £4,183.47.

4. Teacher's Report

Dawn informed the meeting of the various charities the 'Houses' are raising funds for this year:

Brown House	War Memorial Bridge of Allan
Cameron House	Scottish Society for Autism
Morton House	Children of Chernobyl Programme
Plant House	Sponsor a child with 'World Vision'

PTA Meeting in August agreed to look towards supporting the House Charities and perhaps other charities agreed by the PTA e.g. Mum's Christmas Night Out is supporting Breakthrough Breast Cancer. Agreed to review progress of House fund-raising after Spring Fair and determine then which charities to support.

Ken Milligan emailed his thanks for the Digital Camera and the Modern Language Dept has taken receipt of the 'Task Magic' software and 10 licences.

Melanie Drake has emailed a request for help with the collection and drop-off of costumes for the drama production – Agreed Dawn will email Annie details of the request for circulation. **Action: Dawn**

Laura gave her thanks for the Junior School 'Wish list' items and advised the 'Sainsburys' toys had arrived. Sales of the 'eco-bag' went well at Open Morning and Erica Reed will take over the bag sales when Laura leaves. Junior School Christmas Production this year themed around 'time travel' and costumes should be much more manageable. Mrs Murru creating props and any help appreciated. Laura gave her thanks to the PTA as this will be her last meeting before leaving to return to Canada – Mike Bray will be taking over role on PTA and Arlene Fletcher as CLP.

Annie thanked Laura for all her help and enthusiasm on the PTA and best wishes for Canada.

Lorna gave her thanks for the Nursery School 'Wish List' items and advised that Christmas has begun in the Nursery! Preparations are underway for the HMI Inspection.

6. Future/on-going Events

- (i) **Christmas Wrapping Paper** – Rachel advised £1600 of wrapping paper has been ordered giving the PTA £400 profit. Orders will be processed on 16/11 and **any help appreciated**. Requested £35 of funds raised be used to send out information to senior school parents next year as school bag mailing had not been successful. Thanks to Rachel on behalf of PTA.
- (ii) www.buy.at/beaconhustpta - agreed only going to be good as a fund-raising venture if promoted.
Actions: Diane will print off posters and Rachel will display in Junior School; Dawn will raise in assembly; Ken Milligan to be contacted to encourage children to promote website; Annie will email CLP's to try and get more email addresses; Diane will publicise at Concert of 14/11/07.
- (iii) **Bag-2-school** – Bags distributed to all pupils and can be dropped off 7/11 & 8/11 prior to lorry arriving at 8.30am. **Any help appreciated to load lorry. Sign to go on Cameron Hall.**
Action Kim/ Rachel
- (iv) **Mum's Christmas Night Out** – 7th December 2007 at 7.30pm until midnight. Agreed raffle prizes left over from Ball would be donated to school and PTA given donation in exchange. **Any help appreciated to set up dining room on the Friday afternoon.**
Action: Annie to email CLP's re ticket sales.
- (v) **Spring Fair – 15th March 2008!** Sub-committee volunteers – Annie, Uli, Kim, Karen, Pamela, Iain and Diane (08 onwards).
Action Annie to arrange meeting.

7. AOCB

8.

- (i) **School trips** – Annie enquired about the number of school trips planned for next year and in particular the lack of information on the hockey trip to Canada – cost, dates, destination, fund-raising without definite plans agreed. Iain advised issues with confirming fixtures delaying confirmation of arrangements. Arrangements for other trips well in hand with French Language trip for S5/S6 only and Skiing trip taking place Jan 09. **Iain will undertake to speak with Mrs Wilson to ascertain progress with hockey trip plans.**

- (ii) **Safety of children walking to school** – Diane expressed her dismay at the on-going problem of traffic congestion and speed posing a threat to children/other car users in Kennilworth Road. Iain advised the only option is for Kennilworth Road residents to complain directly to the Council/police.
- (iii) **Cycle Proficiency** – A number of parents have asked if the school will provide course and Iain advised being considered as part of Outdoor Education Week.
- (iv) **Hire of Games Hall** – Stirling Wanderer's Hockey Club are interested in hiring games hall for indoor training. Iain advised club to write to Assistant Bursar.
- (v) **Radio Micorphones** – Diane aware school hires radio mikes each year for production and is aware of special offer for purchasing own equipment. **Iain advised Diane to email Melanie Drake.**
- (vi) **Theft from Changing Rooms** – Uli raised the problem of items going missing from changing rooms during games. Iain advised locks being fitted to changing room doors, however **all items to be labelled and missing items reported immediately.**
- (vii) **Donation of £10,000 from Anniversary Ball** – Graham enquired if there were any funds unallocated from this donation. Iain reported this has been spent on the outdoor shelter, outdoor furniture and the 'Honour Board' is in the process of being completed and will be erected when the main building entrance hall is decorated.
- (viii) **Match Funding RBS** – Graham aware RBS may match funds raised. Diane advised HBoS offered similar scheme and match funding had to be applied for by staff member and agreed in advance of event.

8. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be **Tuesday 15th January 2008 at 7.15pm** in the Dining Room.

Diane MacKenzie
Minute Secretary