

Minute of Meeting
Clackmannanshire EIS Local Association
ABM
Alva Academy

4.3.14

1. Constitution of Meeting

Chair: Graeme Wright

Minute: Teresa Barker

Present: Wendy Cowan, Gavin Hunter, Linsay Hunter & 6 members of EIS.

Apologies: Rosie Dempster, Karen Farrell, Gordon Joyce.

2. Approval of the Order of Business

Agenda approved

Proposed: Gavin Hunter

Seconded: Linsay Hunter

3. Minutes of the AMB 2013

Minutes approved.

Proposed: Wendy Cowan

Seconded: Teresa Barker

4. Secretary's Report

4.1:1

LNCT/Joint LNCT been very busy this session. Lots of productive discussion regarding policies and procedures such as maternity leave, flexible working procedures, accelerated incremental progression etc. but final agreements still to be reached at LNCT. There has been an attempt to streamline procedures across both local authorities whilst still retaining the autonomy of both LNCTs.

LNCT working to protect the interests of Clacks. EIS members where changes in policies are being considered. Still two councils involved

and two sets of union representatives. Head of Service, David Leng, keen to move towards one joint LNCT in the longer term but policies and procedures would have to be aligned first.

4.1:2

Appointment procedures for HTs/DHTs currently being considered at LNCT. Professional Update/new PRD procedures on the table too. Currently these have been circulated by the local authority for wider consultation and have yet to be approved by LNCT. The GTCS would also have to approve any changes and the EIS currently has a strong voice on this group. There will be some communication soon to EIS local members regarding the new proposed procedures.

4.1:3

Classroom Observations Working Group – currently looking at local procedures for quality assurance via observations. Local EIS happy with the direction this discussion is taking at present. Any proposed changes that would directly affect members will be put out for wider consultation first before agreement is reached regarding possible changes.

4.1:4

Current Supply Shortages – Working group looking at ways to improve the situation. Still being discussed at LNCT. Recognised by all parties locally that this is causing significant problems in schools. Generally there seem to be fewer people interested in short term supply since changes to conditions. It is now impacting regularly on non contact time, class cover etc. Working group still ongoing.

4.1:5

Proposed changes to email system – There were suggestions of a large scale migration to Glow Mail. LNCT suggested further staff training and planning re timescales would be needed before such a move en masse could be made. It would not provide a huge saving so it was decided to postpone.

4.1:6

PVG costs – Local authority are targeting one school at a time for new PVG procedures. EIS are contesting the payment of such fees for members given that many other local authorities have funded this directly. Advice remains the same to local members: do not complete mandate and suggest politely that they do not wish to be PVG checked at this time.

Negotiations are ongoing at a local level with national EIS support. It would appear that some groups may have gone through locally and been funded. LNCT members to investigate further. All staff have until October 2015 before new PVG must be in place. There is also ambiguity over the phrase “retrospective checking” and whether or not **not** being PVG covered at this time would actually involve disbarment.

4.1:7

CfE Progress/Workload Secondary

Group meeting every six weeks to ensure secondary staff are well supported and ready for new CfE exams and to look at developments at senior phase.

A local co-ordinator, Linda Hamilton (DHT) has been seconded to oversee the developments and to help address any local issues arising. The state of readiness for the new highers is also being considered but there is no “blanket approach” to this. It is up to individual schools and departments to make that decision themselves. Some departments had felt well prepared until members had attended network meetings which may have impacted on confidence levels. Agreement has been reached that staff can opt out up until a few weeks before new timetables begin and that flexibility still exists within timeframes.

4.1:8

Summary

Lots of really productive dialogue on LNCT/Joint LNCT. Local members are working hard to maintain local positions after the merger, to ensure Clacks. staff interests are protected rather than adopting Stirling policies without proper consideration of the impact.

5. Treasurer’s Report

In Karen’s absence, Graeme Wright submitted reports for approval.

5.1

Audited accounts finalised. Auditors found everything to be in order. Accounts available and presented to all attending ABM.

Proposed: Gavin Hunter
Seconded: Teresa Barker

ABM approves accounts.

5.1:2

Local subscriptions to remain at the lowest band for the next year, £9.84 per month.

Proposed: Linsay Hunter
Seconded: Wendy Cowan

5.1:3

Haines Watts Edinburgh to remain as accountants for the Local Association.

Proposed: Linsay Hunter
Seconded: Wendy Cowan

6 Donations

6.1:

Honoraria to remain static.

Proposed: Gavin Hunter
Seconded: Linsay Hunter

6.1:2

Charity donations for the coming year:

EIS Benevolent Fund £100

Proposed: Liz McGregor
Seconded: Lynne Dugan

Breast Cancer Awareness £100

Proposed: Miriam Cox
Seconded: Teresa Barker

Local Food Bank (details to follow) £100

Proposed: Wendy Cowan
Seconded: Lynne Dugan

7. Constitutional Amendments

There are no constitutional amendments.

8. Election Results

Gavin Hunter: Secretary
Graeme Wright: President
Karen Farrell: Treasurer
Teresa Barker: Committee
Wendy Cowan: Committee
Rosie Dempster Committee
Lynne Dugan: Committee
Linsay Hunter: Committee
Gordon Joyce: Committee

EIS Council Members: Gavin Hunter & Linsay Hunter
EIS National ABM Reps: KF, WC, LH, GH, one remaining space to be agreed at next executive meeting.

9 President's Address

Graeme thanked Executive Committee members and school reps. for all their hard work on behalf of the association last session. He is keen to increase the profile of the EIS locally and make reps. and LA members more visible in schools to raise awareness of the work of the LA and LNCT committees. He will be in contact with school reps. in the near future to discuss the way forward. Arranging training for school reps. with regards to WTA will be an important part of this work.

9. Date of AMB 2015

To avoid any clashes with other events (as has happened this year) a degree of flexibility with the date was agreed. It will take place in the **first week of March 2015**, day to be arranged nearer the time.

The remainder of the meeting was a discussion about workload issues affecting local members. Linsay Hunter took notes.

