

EYEMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD 13 JANUARY 2026

Present: Emily Rennie (Chair) [ER], Sarah Sam (Treasurer) [SS], Toby Foster (Secretary) [TF], Robin Chapman (Headteacher) [RC], Katherine Lymer (Principal Teacher of Community and Partnerships) [KL], Naomi Davie [ND], Jonathan Evans [JE], Sarah Martin [SM], Shannon French Scott [SFS], Carrie Haddow [CH], Jo Moulin [JM]

Apologies: Michaela McIntyre, Lindsay Wood

SBC building proposals—next steps

RC has had following quote from SBC:

‘Officers were instructed by Council on 4 December to develop a comprehensive engagement plan that seeks to directly engage with a diverse range of focus groups and community stakeholders including headteachers, staff, parents, parent council chairs, pupils and local residents, who through open discussion will work with the project team to help inform proposals for the primary school. This engagement plan should be developed in discussion with local Ward Members and the Executive Member of Education in Lifelong Learning and it should begin early in 2026.

‘A proposal and a programme is being finalised by John Curry and the project team during the course of this week. Information will be provided in due course to explain the approach that will be taken, setting out proposal timescales etc.’

Plan should be finalised by end of January. RC wants to make sure staff have a voice.

Discussion was had about potential contact with our representatives at SBC, Holyrood and Westminster. JE and CH offered to represent PC in any meetings. It was agreed to wait until the engagement plan was published to decide, although TF would send introductory email to Julie Pirone (Executive Member for Education, Youth Development and Lifelong Learning), Lesley Munro (Director of Education and Children's Services) and John Curry (Director of Infrastructure and Environment).

The primary focus will be on pushing for separate sites for primary and secondary schools, as the community made clear is the majority opinion during the consultation and in our survey of parents and guardians.

Goals for the year

1. Fundraising

The PC has been successful in fundraising for school in the past, and will continue to keep it as a key goal. Working with staff to apply to funds can be very effective, and it was agreed that we should streamline this process (e.g. access to required documents, accounts, etc.). KL to liaise with TF over best way to make required information available. ND, ER, JM to be involved. RC can provide additional info from school's side.

One important fund is Drone Hill & NnG East Berwickshire Fund. Deadline for current round of funding is 1 March. KL to share more details. RC to introduce PC to person in SBC who can help direct us to funds.

2. Parental engagement

Increasing parental engagement with the school has previously been a goal, and will continue to be.

RC: EyeNews has had positive feedback, and has been a good way of increasing communication. It would be good to increase turnout at parents' evenings.

KL: Can they be announced further in advance? ER: And more regularly? JM noted that it would be good for S1 parents to have an understanding of timeline of parents' evenings, report card, etc.

To increase involvement with PC, ND noted that personal invites help. TF has set up card payments and fixed coffee machine for future events. Suggestions for future PC-led initiatives: ceilidh (JE), quiz night (CH), class/pupil/family photos led by photography students (KL).

Treasurer's report

Bank balance at £65.43

Cash at £177.13

SS to add TF as signatory.

Headteacher's report

Phone system: phones have been removed from classrooms, and calls are now made on iPads. There have been some problems with the change, PC will be kept abreast.

RC gave a presentation on how the school has been recognising achievement among pupils, and plans for further improvements (see attached).

AOB

KL raised a point on behalf of some teaching staff about unforeseen problems with getting materials photocopied in preparation for the prelims. For information, printing services are centralised, and have a two week lead time.

Date of next meeting

24 February 2026 at 6pm in the staff room. Main points for discussion will be fundraising and buildings proposal.