

Brannock Parent Council

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

20th October 2025

School Bistro - 7pm - 8:30pm

School representatives present:	Kevin McConnachie (Headteacher) (HT) Des Bradshaw (DHT DB)
Parents present:	Vicki Lavelle (VL) (Chair) Arlene Rafferty (ARa) Collette Smyth (CSm) Claire Young (CYo) Marina Lyle (MLy) Elaine Greenshields (EGr) (KW) (Vice Chair) Mick Lavelle (ML) Arlene Twaddle (ATw) Alyson Thomson (ATH) Jennifer Bogie (JBo) Martin Dean (MD) (Secretary)
Guests:	Cllr Gerry Brennan
Apologies:	Gordon Murray (GMu) Eileen Donn (EDo) Carol Simpson (CSi) Gail King (GKi) Cheryl McVey (CMc)

Diary 2025/26

18th August	Monday	First Meeting - Introductions and HT Exam Report
18th September	Thursday	AGM - Our year ahead
20th October	Monday	
20th November	Thursday	
15th December	Monday	Short Meeting + Social
15th January	Thursday	
19th February	Thursday	(moved from Monday due to holiday)
19th March	Thursday	
20th April	Monday	
21st May	Thursday	
22nd June	Monday	Close of Year + Social



Minutes

Date	Act	Documents made available
20/10/25		<p>The following documents were made available,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes from the previous meeting, • HT Update / Courses / Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) budget

Date	Act	Welcome and Introduction
20/10/25		The Chair (VL) welcomed all attendees, including some new faces. We continued with a round table introduction (not minuted)

Date	Act	Treasurers Update
20/10/25		A short discussion – we will look for an alternative bank account due to the charges and costs levied by the current one.

Date	Act	Chairs update – ASN meeting with NLC
20/10/25		<p>NLC hosted a meeting, chaired by Stacey Stevenson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was indicated that this was the first meeting of many on the subject. It was agreed, by NLC, that there was not enough consultation and that NLC had a willingness to change. • 94% of pupils in LCSC/ASM are also part of mainstream. • Pushing forward with training for all teachers. • NLC's target is to have a ratio of 6 pupils : 1 teacher : 1 learning assistant <p>The discussion evolved from the update to how this looks in our LCSC/school – covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On paper the provision appears to be ok, however the physical constraints of the real world ensure that in practice the ratios and support are impractical. • Expected absences are not included, meaning there is often a constant deficit. • There is no included cover or support to accommodate McCrone Agreement time. • Mainstream support for pupils using the 1:1:6 model does not work for pupils in mainstream subjects; [It is unlikely that an ASN employed to support a 1:6 model would be able to assist 6 pupils across 6 different classrooms simultaneously.] • It was noted that GIRFEC and GIRFMe plans are not being completed. It was discussed, from multiple sources, that in a situation where there are limited resources and time and something has to be dropped, the paperwork is suffering and it was noted that these documents had not been updated and that was common knowledge amongst staff at all levels. It was suggested that there is not sufficient time being given to staff in order to complete these plans. • With regard to paperwork and plans – The Headteacher indicated that the “level of need” created by pupils/children in the LCSC was in many cases extremely high and so, “staff are prioritising the current and presenting needs”. i.e. there is no time for background tasks since foreground current tasks and emerging issues take up 100% of available time. <p>CLlr Brennan asked a question as to whether there was a statutory requirement to complete the paperwork. The Headteacher agreed that there was. (GIRFEC and GIRFMe plans).</p> <p>CV asks whether pupils plans move from Primary to Secondary. Des Bradshaw said yes.</p> <p>There was a round table quick fire analysis from many sources that raised many symptoms and issues, – all of the issues appear to have come from not having enough staff, notwithstanding that “on paper”, and without absence, it appears that there are enough staff to support the current approach. In short : there does not appear to be enough staff to support the model that the school has selected and is attempting to deliver. The increasing “need profile” makes this unsustainable going forward.</p>



Date	Act	Chairs update – ASN meeting with NLC (cont.)
20/10/25		<p>MD asked: what can we do to help alleviate and resolve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action : Take this information back to NLC via the ASN meeting to point out what is and is not working. <p>MD asked – in response to what appeared to be an understanding of the situation, but a continuation of the current approach without a change of direction – Where is the information blockage? Who is aware, and who is not aware of the issues, and why does there appear to be dissonance in either understanding, action or both.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HT said that NLC had already allocated all the staff and money that they are willing to. It was now left to the school to choose a pathway that was sustainable on that resource and budget. <p>Cllr Brennan added that an additional two hundred (approx) houses are to be built directly in the current catchment for Brannock and Taylor [HS].</p>

Date	Act	Chair Update – Fundraising
20/10/25		<p>Our Tesco blue token period has ended, and we're still waiting to hear how much we raised. The minimum will be £500, but it could be higher.</p> <p>At the forest opening, the Tesco community champion mentioned we could explore other in-store fundraising options, such as bag-packing or having any musical students play at the front of the store to collect donations. Is this something we want to pursue?</p> <p>We also won an Easyfundraising banner to promote our cause—an effortless way for people to support us at no cost to them. Could we display this at the front of the site to encourage local residents to sign up?</p>

Date	Act	Staffing
20/10/25		<p>JB asked about whether there was a teaching assistant allocated to "Support for Learning". The HT informed us that although an offer had been made that it had [de facto] not been accepted and the offer had currently expired. The HT has asked to rehire from a subsequent interview set. In summary – no there is not a teaching assistant, however hiring is an ongoing action.</p>

Date	Act	Cover Classes
20/10/25		<p>A concern around what was felt to be a high volume of cover classes, due to absence, has been combined with reports from pupils that they were invited to self-amuse on phones or self-study. It was felt by some that this adds up to a significant amount of class time, which would be viewed differently if the pupils had been absent from school.</p> <p>VL asked for "off the shelf" lessons to be made available.</p> <p>The HT confirmed what a few others also indicated which was that there should always be work left which was planned and well meshed to the current lesson and course being taught.</p>

Cllr Gerry Brennan left the meeting – We are very thankful for his time and input and hope to see him at future meetings.

Date	Act	Culture Day
20/10/25		<p>A concern was raised by some parents, via the chair, over the volume of time being spent on culture day.</p> <p>The HT responded that there was a balance of benefits in running an event like culture day in the timetable. It had taken up time that would have allocated to class but in return learning and knowledge had been delivered by a pupil-led activity which generated a lot of positive feedback.</p> <p>DHT (DB) said that he had overwhelming positive staff feedback from the event and was hoping to run similar events again and more often.</p>



Date	Act	HT Update - College Courses
20/10/25		<p>In response to concerns raised at previous PC meetings regarding college courses, their organisation and implementation, the HT brought some statistics to the meeting. [They are included as three pages attached to these minutes, or available directly from the school]</p> <p>There was a reading of the statistics which, in summary, indicated that initially 44/200 pupils had expressed an interest in a college course as part of their normal school timetable. Currently 19/200 are progressing with this approach, with at least one course.</p> <p>MD asked, given the discussion over the previous PC meetings and concerns raised what can be done better next year, or was everyone happy with the current situation? There were no firm answers, yet.</p>

Date	Act	HT Update - PEF budget
20/10/25		<p>The current PEF budget is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>The current year's budget is £83'300.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff costs (+admin) take up the largest slice of this at £72'500 • Various trips: Alton Towers, Transport for NL challenge, LCSC time capsule (£5'483) • Breakfast Club, staff training (outdoor learning) £2'322 • Replacing PCs affected by windows 10-11 migration (£2'995)

Date	Act	Christmas Fayre
20/10/25		This is still planned for 28th November. Arrangements are ongoing.

<Meeting Ended 20:45>



PEF Budget 2025-2026		83300
1. Employee Costs Total	0.5 Match Funded Teacher Mr Crichton, PT 1 Mr Connor and Mrs MacDonald, PT 1 Maternity Cover Mr Crichton and Mr Lavelle - Aug -Dec	67502
2 Property Costs Total		0
3. Supplies & Services Total	Breakfast Club, Forest School Training & Sfl Textbooks	2322
4. Transport Total	LCSC Time Capsule Trip	960
5. Administration Costs total	Admin Costs for staffing	4998
6. Payments To Other Bodies total	Alton Towers Trip Subsidy, Tranpsort for NL Challenge	3350
7. Other Expenditure Total	Extra-Curricular Trips	1173
Total		80305
Balance		2995
	Remaining balance will contribute to the Purchasing of PCs	

Course	Numbers	Location	Start Date	Comments
CYP Cumbernauld	22	Cumbernauld Campus	18/08/2025	
CYP Motherwell	16	Motherwell Campus	18/08/2025	
Foundation Apprenticeship Healthcare	26	Coatbridge Campus	18/08/2025	
Civil Engineering	17	Coatbridge HS	18/08/2025	
Construction	144	Details on next tab	18/08/2025	
Creative Digital Media	16	Coatbridge Campus	18/08/2025	
IT Software	9			not running due to low uptake
Hospitality (B)	9	Cardinal Newman HS	18/08/2025	
Hospitality (C)	15	Cardinal Newman HS	18/08/2025	
Hospitality (D)	17	Cardinal Newman HS	18/08/2025	
Tigers Construction	17	St Andrews HS	18/08/2025	
Tigers Construction	15	Calderhead HS	18/08/2025	
HNC Business Skills	22	Coatbridge Campus	25/08/2025	
HNC CADD	13	Motherwell Campus	18/08/2025	
HNC Construction Management	13	Motherwell Campus	18/08/2025	not running due to low uptake
HNC Cyber Security	19	Motherwell Campus	18/08/2025	
HNC Social Science	18	Coatbridge Campus	18/08/2025	
HNC Social Services	10	Coatbridge Campus	18/08/2025	not running due to low uptake
L5 Healthcare Braidhurst	12	Braidhurst HS	18/08/2025	
L4 Auto - full day Friday	28	Remit Training, Wishaw	18/08/2025	
L4 Beauty	14			not running due to low uptake
L4 Hairdressing	5			not running due to low uptake
L4 Hospitality	5			not running due to low uptake
L4 Photography	5			not running due to low uptake
L4 Construction - Kilsyth	14	Kilsyth Academy	18/08/2025	
L5 Beauty	14	Coatbridge Campus	18/08/2025	
L5 Beauty	15	Cumbernauld Campus	18/08/2025	Cancelled by College - Staffing
L5 Beauty		St Andrews	18/08/2025	School have arranged directly with college
L5 Beauty		OLHS Motherwell	18/08/2025	School have arranged directly with college
L5 Early Learning & Childcare	18	Greenfaulds HS	18/08/2025	
L5 Early Learning & Childcare	18	Coatbridge Campus	18/08/2025	
L5 Early Learning & Childcare		Cardinal Newman	18/08/2025	School have arranged directly with college
L5 Early Learning & Childcare		St Aildans (host)+ olhs Motherwell	18/08/2025	School have arranged directly with college
L5 Hairdressing	17	Cumbernauld Campus	18/08/2025	Cancelled by College - Staffing
L5 Hairdressing	20	Coatbridge Campus	18/08/2025	Cancelled by College - Staffing
L5 Make Up	8	beauty/hairdressing		not running due to low uptake
L6 Business Skills	6			not running due to low uptake
L6 Cyber	7			not running due to low uptake
L6 Dental	11			not running due to low uptake

College Overview

Surname	Forename		A	B	C	D	E
Offered	Too late offer	4					FA Construction
Accepted		4				FA Healthcare	FA Healthcare
Offered	Chose 2 subjects	4				FA Civil Engineering	FA Civil Engineering
Offered	Chose 2 subjects	4				FA Civil Engineering	FA Civil Engineering
Accepted		4				FA Civil Engineering	FA Civil Engineering
Accepted		4				FA Creative	FA Creative
Accepted						FA Creative	FA Creative
Offered	Employment	4				FA Civil Engineering	FA Civil Engineering
Offered		4					FA Construction
Offered		4				Early Education	Early Education
Offered		4					FA Construction
Offered		4					FA Construction
Offered		4					FA Construction
Offered		4					Automotive
Accepted		5				HNC Bus	HNC Bus
Accepted		5				CAD	CAD
Accepted		5				FA Healthcare	FA Healthcare
Accepted		5	College				Animation
DID NOT RUN	Offered alternative	5				Social Services HNC	Social ServicesHNC
Offered		5					FA Construction
DID NOT RUN		5				IT SOFTWARE	IT SOFTWARE
Offered		5					
DID NOT RUN		4		Scots Law			
		4		Hairdressing			
Accepted		4		Scots Law			
Accepted		5		Scots Law			
Accepted		5		Scots Law			
Accepted		5		Scots Law			
DID NOT RUN	Offered alternative	4			Hairdressing		
Offered	Issues with times	4			LEVEL 6 FIT		
Offered		4			Dental		
DID NOT RUN		5			Music Tech		
LCSC COLLEGE ACCEPTED		5			College		
SFL COLLEGE NO ACCESS		5			College		