



**Partnership Group  
Minutes  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2025**



**Present**

<b>Office bearers:</b>	<b>Staff:</b>	<b>Attendees:</b>
Mrs E Dempsie (Chair) Mr S Smith (Secretary)	Mrs W Gallacher (Acting Headteacher) Mrs M Reid	Mr C Gibney
	<b>Church representative:</b> Mrs V Stewart	

**1. Welcome & apologies**

Mrs Dempsie welcomed all. Apologies received from Mrs L. Lockhart.

**2. Actions from previous meeting (not covered by other agenda items)**

Mrs Stewart shared an email addressed to the Partnership Group from Mairi McAllan MSP stating her opposition to the proposed solar farm at Loch Wood.

**3. Headteacher's report**

**(a) Learning, Teaching, Assessment and Moderation Policy  
Update**

Mrs Gallacher and the members of the Partnership Group reviewed the updated Learning and Teaching and Assessment and Moderation Policies. Members of the Partnership Group contributed their insights and suggestions. Mrs Gallacher will now update the policies and share them with whole school community.

**(b) Parental Survey**

Mrs Gallacher presented key findings from the recent Parental Survey. The school values the feedback received and is committed to making adjustments in response to the comments provided. These planned adaptations will be communicated to the whole community as part of an ongoing commitment to continuous improvement.

**(c) Blue Sky (alternative to X)**

The Partnership Group discussed the introduction of Blue Sky as an alternative to X (formally known as Twitter). It was agreed that the whole school community should be surveyed, and Mrs Gallacher will do this via a weekly SWAY.



Partnership Group  
Minutes  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2025



**(d) P7 Hoodies/Shirts**

Another request was made to Mrs Gallacher to provide P7's with their hoodies earlier than in previous years. After reviewing this request, particularly in terms of value for money, Mrs Gallacher approved the change, and the hoodies will be distributed next week. 2 parents also helped to organise a fundraiser to reduce the cost of the hoodies, raising an impressive £862 which managed to pay the full amount, bringing no cost to the families at all.

Shirts for P7 girls were independently arranged for purchase, without prior consultation with the school, by a parent as a thoughtful gesture, believing this had been allowed in previous years. However, this decision is not in line with our Cost of the School Day policy or uniform policy. The school acknowledges that the parent acted in good faith and with the best intentions for the children.

In February, Mrs Gallacher met with the parent to discuss the financial impact and the gender-specific nature of the arrangement. While Mrs Gallacher did not support the purchase of the shirts, she requested that the parent include the boys as she felt there was a gender divide, and it is important to promote equality in schools. This was done to ensure inclusivity and fairness among all pupils and fundraising money was used to subsidise the cost for all families. While the school and South Lanarkshire Council do not support the use of these shirts, an exception has been made for this year only, allowing them to be worn during the final week of term in recognition of the financial commitment already made by families. To ensure fairness and adherence to policy going forward, the purchasing and wearing of shirts will not be permitted for the 2026 leavers and beyond. Instead, the school will consider an art lesson which includes children re-designing their used shirts.

If any parent/carer is concerned about the cost of the school day, the Partnership Group is happy to offer financial support. Contact with the Head Teacher should be made in the first instance to discuss.



**Partnership Group  
Minutes  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2025**



**4. Treasurer's report**

The current balance is £2268.56, which includes £500 ringfenced for the school garden, so our working total is £1768.56. The Asda Cashpot initiative from before Christmas has now been paid into the account and raised £183.49.

**5. Future Fundraising Ideas/Planning**

**(a) Summer Disco**

Was planned for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June in St John's Church Hall but the DJ was not available, so currently exploring Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June.

Planned for 6.30pm till 8pm; £2 entry per child.

Mrs Dempsie will explore the possibility of an ice cream van for the night (Partnership Group will cover costs).

**(b) Summer Fayre**

Was planned for Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May 12 - 2pm (setup from 10am) but the Church Hall has a potential booking that day so date TBC.

Men Shed have already committed to attend and pupils will work on Enterprise project at school for the Fayre.

**6. School Garden Update**

Mrs Stewart reported that the Men Shed were fixing the fence damaged in the storm using funds from the Sponsored Silence last session. They are also donating paint for the fence. The next phase of the Potting Shed roof is starting shortly, and Mr MacNeil has offered to help put in climbing plants. Mrs Stewart will be applying for funding for some wrought iron benches for the garden and asked if the Partnership Group could fund some bedding plants which the Committee agreed.

**7. AGM date to be agreed**

It was agreed that we would decide the date at the next Meeting.



Partnership Group  
Minutes  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2025



**8. Any parent issues/suggestions for discussions:**

- **Head Teacher permanent position**

Mrs Gallacher advised that the position is due to be advertised around Easter time; however, there may be a slight delay in this due to illness and absence of South Lanarkshire Council management staff.

**9. AOCB**

Mrs Gallacher enquired about the cost of last year's P7 leavers treat. Mr Smith advised it was £172

*Date of next meeting - 6:30pm, Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025*