

# The Educational Institute of Scotland Perth and Kinross Local Association

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Minute of the 2006 A.G.M. of the Perth and Kinross Local Association held in the Queens Hotel, Perth, on **Thursday 2nd March, 2006**, with the President, Mrs Patricia Duncan, in the chair.

**Apologies** were received from Gordon Burns, Duncan Munro, Louise Reid.

**The minutes of last year's AGM** were approved.

**The President's Report:** T.Duncan reported a busy year for the local association. A current acting Director in P&K E&CS, with a new Director to be appointed soon – part of the continuing upheaval following the HMI report on E&CS. The employee survey showed concerns at work/life balance. There is ongoing concern over stress on teachers. The President thanked the Executive for all the support she has been given.

**Secretary's Report:** C.Mackie reported on the many issues tackled over the year. Continuing problems faced by P&K E&CS. The HMI report subsequently led to the resignation of the Director, George Waddell. (L.McConnell acting as Director in the meantime). An external evaluator, M.Allen, made recommendations for further restructuring. This might result in several new personnel at Directorate and Head of Service level. Management restructuring was an issue in schools. In the Secondary sector, the decision to retain Principal Teachers, primarily in charge of subjects and guidance was welcomed. In the Primary sector, P&K have been considering having Headteachers in charge of more than one small school; also the introduction of more Principal Teachers. Reduction in class contact time discussions are underway to implement contact maxima of 22 ½ hours. Due to the failure of the Scottish Executive and Perth & Kinross to adequately fund this, there is likely to be a reduction in subject choice in the upper years of Secondary school. Nursery sector – P&K has maintained the numbers of qualified teachers. Discipline – ongoing monitoring of assaults. Still awaiting P&K policy on Exclusion. New school building (IIL project) – still no preferred builder announced. Grave concern at future of whole project. An ageing profession is leading to more teachers suffering stress-related conditions (and hence the Secretary's workload). There is a need for younger teachers to carry the EIS mantle forward but this is not greatly evident. The Secretary thanked all the Office bearers for their assistance over the year.

**The Treasurer's Report:** W.Henderson presented the audited accounts for the year 2004-05. There was a near balance of income with expenditure. Finances remained healthy.

**Finance Committee:** The following recommendations were approved: (i) The local levy should remain at the highest allowed level. (ii) Honoraria – to remain at present levels as increased last year.

The reappointment of the auditors was approved.

**Benevolent Fund Correspondent:** D.McFarlane reported on ongoing work. Two retired members continue to receive assistance.

**J.N.C. Correspondent:** A.McAuley reported on the following issues:-

She attended a conference on the role of local JNC's. It emphasised the need for good communications and skilled negotiators locally. Definitions of "Collegiality" were agreed.

The JNC has established a sub-group to facilitate business.

There is a need to establish how well collegiality is operating in schools before any review of the McCrone agreement.

In the light of the employee survey, management style and leadership, and work/life balance need to be addressed in the new Service plan.

Staff will soon be issued with ID cards.

The Freedom of Information Act may have ongoing implications for schools.

**Health & Safety:** W.Henderson reported concern that the Health & Safety committee of E&CS was being sidelined by the P&K corporate H&S committee. In 2005, there were difficulties in obtaining reports. Better representation of E&CS has now been agreed.

**Election of Office-bearers:**

The following were duly elected: President – Rod Dickson, Vice-President – Holly Conlon, Past President – Patricia Duncan, Secretary – Colin Mackie, Assistant Secretary – Scott Peddie, JNC Correspondent – Audrey McAuley, Treasurer and Membership Secretary – Bill Henderson.

**Election of Executive Committee:**

The following were duly elected: Gordon Burns, John Devine, Alison MacKenzie, Doreen McFarlane, Jennie Millar, Duncan Munro, Janet Ramsay, Ian Scott, Steven Simpson.

Douglas Stewart is a member as one of the representatives on EIS Council.

**Delegates to National A.G.M.:**

The following were duly elected: Holly Conlon, Rod Dickson, Audrey McAuley, Doreen McFarlane, Jennie Millar. (Bill Henderson and Gordon Burns as reserves)

( Trish Duncan, Colin Mackie and Douglas Stewart attend as Council members.)

**AOCB:** Nil

The Meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m. with thanks to the chair.