

The Educational Institute of Scotland Perth and Kinross Local Association

Minute of a meeting of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Local Association held in the Dewars Rink, Perth, at 7 pm, on **Tuesday, 31st October 2006**, with the President, Mr Rod Dickson, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt:** G.Burns, H.Conlon, R.Dickson, T.Duncan, A.McAuley, D.McFarlane, A.MacKenzie, C.Mackie, D.Munro, S.Peddie, J.Ramsay, I.Scott, D.Stewart. G.Campbell, Local Officer

2. **Apologies:** J.Devine, W.Henderson, L.Reid, S.Simpson

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 27th September 2006 were approved.**

4. **Matters Arising:**

6)a)3 STUC Women's Conference: T.Duncan is unable to accept the nomination as a delegate.

5. **Reports:**

(a) **EIS Council** (29th September) T.Duncan reporting:

Discussions with HMI on new 6-point quality scale and the frequency of Nursery inspections.

Care Commission inspections in Nursery – discussions which should result in the avoidance of inspections when the Head Teacher is out of school.

Curriculum for Excellence – slow development. Concern at lack of involvement of teachers – appears to be a “top-down “ approach.

Classroom Assistants: concern that, in some local authority areas, Assistants may be undertaking duties for which they are not qualified.

(b) **JNC** (30th October) C.Mackie reporting:

HMI follow-up report on P&K E&CS.

Secretary to meet with G.Bolland on various issues in need of progress.

Working Time Agreements: some yet to be submitted by schools. One Secondary school yet to reach agreement.

Guidance restructuring subgroup now chaired by C.Flanigan.

Collegiality survey: C.Mackie to talk to Head Teachers about the survey and the benefits of collegiality.

Precautionary suspension of teachers: new guidelines issued to HT's.

Statistics on Incidents of Violence & Aggression: similar numbers to last year. The EIS wishes to see evaluation of the statistics and a reduction in numbers.

Teacher working time research report tabled by Teachers' side. May eventually have benefits on teacher workload and prioritisation of tasks.

Health promoting schools. This concerns the wellbeing of teachers, not just pupils. Need to find means of reducing teacher stress.

Curriculum Improvement Networks: concern at the centralised control of the first meeting this session.

Appointment procedures. New Executive Director S.Powell wishes new procedures to appoint Head and Depute Head Teachers.

Sub-group minutes: concern at the lack of availability of these prior to JNC meetings. A.McAuley to meet with G.Taylor and L.McConnell to discuss this.

(c) JNC Subgroup (20th October) C.Mackie reporting:

Review of role of support staff.

Job-sizing. Proposals due on PT's of Music to reflect their responsibilities for Music Instructors.

(d) School Estate Management Group (28th September) C.Mackie reporting:

Looking at H.McRae's paper on organisation of education.

Need to look at Primary school capacities. Some in Perth near capacity.

(e) Standards and Scrutiny Committee (25th October) C.Mackie reporting:

HMI reports on 2 Primary schools and 2 partner provider Nurseries.

Attainment in P&K schools. Improvements at 5-14 levels, especially Maths. Figures in S4,5 and 6 are lower than in comparator authorities.

(f) Reduction in Class Contact Group (24th October) D.Stewart reporting:

Concerns at financial effect in Secondary schools: 4% increase in staffing costs, but only 2% provided.

Concern at lack of management time for PT's in Secondary schools.

Some Expressive Arts teachers are finding coping with the new arrangements difficult.

An evaluation of RCCT to go to all schools and Expressive Arts teachers with returns due by 1st Dec.

(g) **Treasurer's Report** W.Henderson absent.

6. General Meeting: Arrangements.

Peter Quigley, National President, to talk to General meeting at 7pm.

Executive High Tea at 5.30pm.

7. Local Association Training

C.Mackie/G.Campbell to organise a meeting in the New Year, as there are new reps. at several schools.

8. Correspondence

a7) Insurance cover for local office bearers – Treasurer dealing with this.

a8) Delegate to STUC congress. Agreed to nominate T.Duncan.

a12) Planning for Human Influenza Pandemic – need to have arrangements in place should this occur.

a13) GTC now has new regulatory powers.

a19) Occupational Networks – possible need to form local networks for Music Instructors, Head Teachers, Quality improvement Officers, Educational Psychologists. The Secretary to progress this.

a25) SNCT has issued information on Part-time staff and Public Holidays.

b1) School Terms and Holidays. Will not get an extra week in the Summer holidays until 2009.

9. Date of Next Meeting: Executive Meeting Wednesday 6th December 2006 Dewars Rinks 7pm.

10. AOCB

CPD event on Chartered Teacher Programme. Queens Hotel Tuesday 14th November 4.30 – 6.30pm.

A President's Committee meeting followed this Executive, to discuss the role of LA Secretary in future years and the need for a local office.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.15pm, with thanks to the chair.