

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 Algo Business Centre, Perth, at 7 pm, on **Thursday 27th March 2008**, with the President, Mr Duncan Munro, in the chair.

1. **Sederunt: G.Burns, W.Henderson, A.McAuley, A.MacKenzie, D.Munro, S.Peddie, I.Scott, D.Stewart, T.Summers.**

D.McFarlane, Benevolent Fund Correspondent; G.Campbell, Local Officer.

2. **Apologies: H.Conlon, J.Devine, T.Duncan, C.Rose**
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 19th February were approved.**
4. **Matters Arising:**

None arising which are not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

5. **Reports:**

- (a) **Secondary Staffing Formula Group** (7th March) D.Munro reporting:

I.Borthwick now involved with group looking at staffing formulas in other authorities. Areas to be considered in future include criteria for allocation of Support Staff; additionality, and the rationale for differing PT positions in different schools.

- (b) **EIS Council** (7th March) A.McAuley reporting:

Recruitment and retention of members – need for more training events. A person is to be appointed to look at ways of increasing participation in EIS activities.

Situation of members returning to work after violent incidents was considered. (P&K appears to have a supportive regime here.)

Rural schools – viability. All situations should be considered on their merits.

Curriculum for Excellence – time to be set aside at future Council to consider EIS position.

Misuse of camera phones discussed. (Need for clarification of P&K policy on confiscation here. Position on removal of unauthorised images also needs clarification.)

Probationers – concerns that costs may impact on full time staff recruitment.

- (c) **SNCT Event** (12th March) A.McAuley reporting:

Collegiality discussed. P&K appears to be well progressed here. May be a need for school agreements to be collated centrally.

Deployment of support staff – concern at wide variations between authorities and schools – budget pressures. Smaller class sizes likely to spread support staff more thinly.

Need to monitor the effect of removal of ring-fencing on areas within education.

Workload – concern that “decluttering the curriculum” has had no effect on workload.

(d) JNC Sub-group (18th March) A.McAuley reporting:

M.Anderson presented the final draft of “Guide to Managing Teacher Competence”. Need for more familiarity at school level of the basic teacher competencies. Paper welcomed by teacher representatives as being supportive.

RCCT in Primary Schools. Most Primary teachers feel reasonably happy at dealing with PE and Art, but less so in Music.

Shared Headships paper presented. EIS does not agree with proposal. Many aspects yet to be worked out.

EAL pupils. Major immigrant community are Polish, who are concentrated in St.John’s Primary and St.Columba’s High School.

Seemis (School admin computer system) implementation – concern at lack of training for teachers.

Child Protection Training – all staff to get at future ISD.

New Pupil Support (Guidance) paper not yet gone into schools.

(e) Staffing Meeting (26th March) D.Stewart reporting:

Staffing exercise – generic Primary and Secondary candidates have completed application.

Job-sizing. Concern at lack of trained and active job sizers in P&K. Meant to be a joint exercise between management and unions.

Supply staff – need for a better system for P&K to contact supply teachers.

C.Webb wishes a review of the 21st Century Agreement (McCrone).

Probationers to place in 2008: 32 Primary, 29 Secondary.

(f) SEMP meeting (27th March) D.Stewart reporting:

School Estate Management Plan meeting, looking at changes to zoning and capacities of schools.

III – all sites now working building sites and on schedule.
Present work on the expansion at Dunning and Errol Primaries taking place.

(g) Primary Staffing Formula Group (26th March) D.Stewart reporting:

P&K has no PT's in larger Primary schools. Considering appointing more PT's but financial implications.

Looking at effect of less class contact for DHT's.

Issue of shared headships – discussion of roles of PT's and DHT's in these circumstances.

(h) Treasurer's report W.Henderson reporting:

Treasurer having ongoing computer problems. Finances remain healthy.

6. Election of Negotiating Committee (representatives to JNCT)

Error at last Executive in appointing 5 EIS representatives, when should have been 6. T.Duncan is therefore also appointed, and, as previously agreed at JNC, will become Vice-Convenor.

Membership of JNC Subgroup: W.Henderson nominated as EIS rep with D. Stewart. S.Peddie nominated as substitute for B.Guthrie.

7. Visits to Schools by Area Officer and L.A. Secretary

Douglas Stewart and Graeme Campbell have visited several schools including Crieff HS. Has had no rep. since S.Simpson left. A member has agreed to act as point of contact.

Concern that Primary Headteachers are being influenced to think that the EIS does not adequately represent promoted post holders. This is far from the truth.

8. Executive Committee and AGM delegates

Carol Rose has agreed to join the Executive and also to become an AGM delegate.

A.MacKenzie to consult with her Headteacher.

9. Correspondence

b6) Discussion of method of calculating salaries of part-time members at Kinross HS.

c4) Concerns from Dunning PS members about issues during school "flittings".

10. Date of Next Meeting:

Executive Meeting Thursday 15th May 2008 Algo Business Centre 7pm

11. AOCB Nil

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9.00pm, with thanks to the chair.