Inchture Parent Council Meeting. Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 18:30

Present:

Lindsay Andrews

Jo Bell (Headteacher)

Fiona Bienkowski

Claire Brough

Sara Cassidy

Louise Chalmers (Deputy Headteacher)

Jenna Gallazi

Scott Headley (Treasurer)

Catherine Lamont

Emma Mathieson (Secretary – Minutes)

Adrienne Miller McLaughlin (Social Media Officer)

Dawn North (Chairperson)

Tasha O'Hare

Jordan Russell

Apologies:

Fiona Callaghan

Laura Malloch

Dawn opened the meeting and the minutes from the last meeting were approved. These had been circulated among members and were available on the School website. Dawn asked Scott to update the list of new members on the website which Scott said he would action.

The Christmas raffle did well. Some parents had complained that there was too many things to contribute to near Christmas. Decided that next year we will ask for donations for Christmas earlier, after Hallowe'en. There will be a dress down day on Friday 6th November 2026 in exchange for donations for Christmas raffle. The provisional date for light switch on for 2026 is 3rd December.

Treasurer's Report:

Scott to attach.

Headteacher's Report:

Mobile phone policy which had been shared with Parent Council members at the last meeting was agreed with the staff at the in-service day. This has been shared in the newsletter and with Senior pupils from P6 and P7. There has been good compliance with this and no issues with mobile phones.

School Improvement plan - Staff received Learning through landscapes training as part of their CPD and this was very well received. This has led to lots of open ended learning opportunities being available to the children. Wagons and other resources have been purchased. On 6th March 2026 an outdoor learning day has been planned which will include a shared learning element. Each class will present an area of their learning. It was felt that parents would enjoy coming along to see their children do this. Mrs Laing has been successful in obtaining a grant towards this. Options for obtaining seeds were discussed including asking if people wanted to donate seeds. Local businesses such as Linden Garden Centre, James Hutton institute and ASDA Community Champions were suggested. They will also need volunteers to help with the planting. Inchture Community Orchard may be interested in helping – the parent of a former pupil runs it.

Rights Respecting Schools silver awards visit is Monday March 9th with a mock visit on Monday 2nd February. Parent Council volunteers were asked to come along in the morning.

The Book fayre at Parent's Night was very successful raising £650 profit for the school to purchase new reading materials. The children has asked for graphic novels and books about diversity.

There have been ongoing issues with irresponsible/unsafe parking at the school. Cones were sourced through Bikeability/Sustrans and these have been put out daily. Initially Primary 7 pupils were doing this, but this had to stop as they had been shouted at by adults. Now Mrs Bell is needing to spend around 30 minutes in the morning putting cones out and moving people on. This interferes with meetings which occur at this time in the morning and is not sustainable. If Scott does this task, it means there is nobody available in the office to answer the phone and the door. The police have been to the school. Parking services at Perth and Kinross Council have been asked to come. This is a small public car park but the way people are parking is putting the childrens' safety at risk. There is a letter which is coming out on 22nd January jointly from Mrs Bell and the police to address this. Parent Council have agreed to share this letter on our social media page.

Parent volunteers all need to be PVG checked now – Dawn has a list of all parent council members and other parents who have had this done so they can be included in a bank of volunteers. This will be needed in Term 4 as there are lots of trips planned for then.

Vandalism – over Christmas there was vandalism in the school grounds. Unfortunately, the police said nobody had reported this to them. They have appealed for people to let them know if they have any information. Laura Malloch had asked Dawn to bring up the subject of CCTV again in light of the recent vandalism which damaged the container and contents owned by Inchture Wraparound Care. CCTV is not an option due to reasons such as privacy of pupils, who owns and polices the information and who is responsible for it. Some schools such as Grove Academy and Perth High do have CCTV but Mrs Bell suggested this could be to do with new build properties having this installed when they were built and also, they have full time janitors. Inchture only has a janitor for 17 minutes a day. It was suggested that the MUGA could be locked but then the children would not be able to play in there after school. It was pointed out that when the MUGA was locked people just broke the lock or tried to climb the fence. PKC would be very unlikely want to pay thousands to fit a high fence to stop people entering the school. Dawn thanked everyone who had helped with the tidy up of the playground/MUGA over the holidays, including the janitor and his sons. The community were appalled that this had happened. It was discussed whether Laura could investigate private CCTV to

cover her container. Motion activated ones are available or could be set not to record during the day. Someone suggested whether lights were an option but Jo thought this might just make the area more appealing.

Chairperson's Report: The light swich on was a success. The bad weather made it a challenge on the day. Next year plan to set up as an indoor event. Was popular with stall holders and customers being inside and seemed to make more money. Volunteers needed for next year. Dawn thanked everyone who helped. The fire pit run by Vicki Dunbar and Inchture Brownies was very popular but did not make much profit. Need to source more cost-effective ingredients for next time. Santa was popular with an extra 10 visitors on the night than planned! Dawn and Claire are aiming to get more lights this year for the main street. They are planning to apply for a grant from the Community Investment fund. This will need to be done soon. It was reported that many people had been unaware of when the lights were being switched on and they were disappointed to miss it. Plan to advertise the actual switch on time on posters next year.

The Nursery raffle was a success. £577 was made which included £250 raised on silent auction for St Johnstone hospitality and the Christmas tree drive was a nice afternoon.

Parties – items which were left over from Hallowe'en Discos were given to school for use at the Christmas parties. Dawn expressed thanks to all the businesses who made donations towards this including Crieff Road Tescos and Morrisons.

Thanks to PC members who wrapped the Christmas presents for Santa to deliver to the youngest pupils at their Christmas parties.

Movie night was a success despite the high prevalence of illness among the pupils that week. £220 was raised.

Quiz night has been booked for Friday 27th March 2026. This was a big success last year and it is anticipated that we will be able to easily get 20 teams sold. Adrienne will put a save the date on social media. The cost will be £20 per team of 4. It was noted that the raffle prizes could have been better last year. May need to spend money to make money. Adrienne and Jordan organising.

House Event planned for 30th April. Sports Day is 28th May this year. Plan to repeat Sports Day colour raffle this year as it was well received. Jo suggested could have a dress down day on 1st May to bring in an item in house colour. The children are off school for in-service day on May 29th this year. There will be no BBQ on Sports Day, will encourage people to bring family picnic again. School plan to have a pupil only BBQ towards the end of term.

Fiona B has been kindly collecting Christmas jumpers and unwanted gifts for prizes since Christmas. There has been very little "tat" handed in so whoever is organising the Hallowe'en discos this year will need to purchase more supplies to sell at the shop and for lucky dip.

Someone brought up whether school were still using X in light of AI deepfake concerns in the media. Jo said that Inchture is still using X – PKC have not issued any guidance on not using it. It is a good way of providing evidence for teachers that they have achieved things. For example, for school improvement plan and for sharing information. Schools often follow each other and parents and prospective parents can see what is happening. Facebook is not allowed to be used by schools as was suggested as an alternative.

Funding requests:

£100 towards a polytunnel. Fiona B says she has personally bought cheaper ones before but they have not withstood bad weather. Nursery have one which has lasted well. Scott will ask Nursery to provide the dimensions, cost and where it was purchased from. It was suggested that could get advice from Stewarts of Tayside, Mains of Errol or Highland Show education trust. Claire has a contact for the latter. £100 was approved for this purpose.

Parent Council agreed to purchase 3 new IPADS for school – the monthly lottery is for the purpose of buying electrical equipment.

Next meeting is 13th May 2026 at 18:30.