



In Attendance

Parents: Aynsley Lawrence, Dawn McMillan, Emma Brown (Vice Chair), Gail Aitken, Heather Knox, John Malakoty, Josephine Docherty (Secretary), Karen Donn, Lewis Hedge, Lisa Thomson, Lucinda Ferguson-Hunter, Lyssa McCartney, Melanie Baird, Niall Finnie, Rachel Jesson, Susan Bell (Chair)

Staff: Kevin Boyd (Head Teacher), Lynsey Pollock (Principal Teacher – Modern Studies & History)

Pupils: Saskia (Captain), Hope (Vice Captain)

1. Welcome & Apologies

Chair, Susan Bell, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from Graeme McLean (Depute Head Teacher), Ian Watson (Principal Teacher – Guidance), and parent members - Michelle Gass, Lee Geddes, Jonathan Hagen, David Codling & Kate Ludkin.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minute of the meeting held on 28 May 2025 was approved:

- Proposed by: Lynsey Pollock
- Seconded by: Lucinda Ferguson-Hunter

3. Matters Arising

- a) Gambling Licence: Awaiting update from Treasurer David Bulloch.
Action: David Bulloch / Susan Bell
- b) Pop-up Shop: Confirmed for 31 Oct – 6 Nov at The Gathering, Maybole. Circular to be issued for donations. Parent volunteers requested to staff the shop.
Action: All Parent Members
- c) Calendar of Events: Emma Brown circulated a list of events running October–June. Volunteers needed for ticketing, raffles, hospitality.
Action: All Parent Members
- d) Prize-giving: Parent Council funded awards totalling £275.
- e) Accounts: Last year's accounts not yet audited. Susan Bell to follow up with David Bulloch.
Action: David Bulloch / Susan Bell

4. School Captain's Update – Saskia & Hope

- House Points: Reintroduced with challenges. S1 "Deal or No Deal" event won by Cumbrae House.
- Lunchtime Club: Planned for pupils seeking a quiet space with games, music, and movies.
- S6 Costs: Leavers' expenses (hoodies, Prom, Burns Supper) to be added to ParentPay for staggered contributions.



- Homework Club: Proposal to support S1–S2 pupils. Further details to follow.
Action: School Captains
- Mental Health Awareness Week (w/c 10 Oct): Activities include bake sale, karaoke, face painting, green ribbon sales. Details to be shared at assemblies.
- Mindful Mailbox: Anonymous submissions for advice to be posted on pupil noticeboard.
- Halloween Party: Joint event for Belmont and Kyle pupils to be hosted at Belmont Academy.

5. Pastoral Update

No update provided – Ian Watson absent.

6. Belmont Funding Futures – Emma Brown

Ideas proposed for future fundraising:

- Christmas Fair
- “Money Can’t Buy” experiences
- Book exchange/sale
- Rag Bag initiative

To be discussed further at next meeting.

Action: All Parents

7. Treasurer’s Report

David Bulloch absent. Susan Bell to liaise for final update, as David has stepped down.

Action: Susan Bell

8. Head Teacher’s Update – Kevin Boyd

- a) Welcome: Extended to all, especially new S1 parents.
- b) Roll & Staffing:
 - Census Day (10 Sep): Pupil roll at 1165; S1 intake of 195.
 - Staffing: 81.6 FTE (up 0.1 from last session). Largest secondary school in South Ayrshire.
 - Accommodation tight but manageable. Thanks to Mrs Flanagan for timetabling.
- c) Staffing Updates:
 - *New Staff:* Miss Jennah Bowler (Clerical Assistant, 0.5 FTE)
 - *Returning Staff:* Mr Craig Reid, Mrs Anne Nicol, Mr Andy Farrell, Miss Emma Blain, Ms Jennifer Risk, Miss Ana McCallum, Miss Grace McGill



- *NQTs*: Miss Claire Irvine, Ms Constance Mills, Mr Andrew McAllister
- *Acting PTG Posts*: Miss Nina Melville (Lomond House), Miss Ashleigh Fulton (Cumbrae House, 0.4 FTE)
- Farewell to Laura Kirkwood (PT Biology) – moving to Williamwood High School
- d) Staffing Status: Absence levels low; two long-term absences. Business Ed staffing remains challenging.
- e) S6 Leadership Team: Appointed pre-summer. Working with Mrs Flanagan on Pupil Improvement Plan. Captains to attend Parent Council meetings.
- f) Extra-Curricular Activities: Launched 22 Aug. Thanks to Miss Laura MacMillan.
- g) Senior Phase Attainment: Strong SQA results. Thanks to staff and Mrs McCaig. 18 Departmental Reviews underway. School Improvement Visit scheduled for 4–5 Nov.

9. Any Other Business

- a) Cycle to School:
 - Low uptake noted.
 - Bike shelter is sometimes locked; potential to repurpose for outdoor learning.
 - Road infrastructure concerns (lack of cycle lanes, potholes, traffic congestion).

- b) Calendar of Meetings:

January 2026 meeting missing from agenda – to be added.

Action: Josephine Docherty

10. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 29 October 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: School Library (1st Floor), Belmont Academy