



ABEL (Anti-bullying East Lothian)

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held at the Brunton Hall on Thursday 1st June, 2017

Opening

The Annual General Meeting of ABEL was called to order at 4.30pm on Thursday 1st June, 2017 by Janice MacLeod, Chairperson, in Brunton Hall, Ladywell Way, Musselburgh EH21 6AF.

Welcome Address

Janice MacLeod, Chairperson welcomed everyone who had come along to the meeting.

Present

Audrey Cowan
Charmian Currie
Judith Ferrier
Liz Gibson
Caroline Harris
Wendy Herriot
Fiona MacDonald
Janice MacLeod
Janet Scott
John Williamson

Apologies

Marie Prior
Gordon Horsburgh

1. Approval of Minutes of 2016 AGM

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by Janice MacLeod and Janet Scott.

2. Treasurer's Reporting and Funding Update

Liz Gibson (Administrator) presented the financial statement (see attached Budget Figures and Trustees Annual Report and Accounts dated 31st March 2017)

Liz advised that ABEL had come in under budget. Attention was drawn to a Broker Fee of £450 still to be received from Keegan & Pennykid. The final balance on budget is sitting at £2,040.55 and Liz confirmed that £79,000 funding has been secured from East Lothian Council for 2017/18.

Liz expressed concern that in light of ELC Mediation Service not receiving funding for 2017/18, it was necessary to ensure that redundancy arrangements were in place for 2017/18 (see Redundancy details for 2018 within the 2017 Budget Figures). John Williamson agreed to discuss with Tom Shearer ABEL's concerns in relation to the deficit of £18,000 which is the additional cost for paying staff 12 weeks after March 2018. Janice stated that East Lothian Council should be informing ABEL of the following year's funding in the January and John asked why ABEL did not receive 3 year funding as the current arrangement must be very unsettling for staff. Liz pointed out the huge workload which has to be carried out every September in preparing the application paperwork for funding.

Liz suggested the possibility of running the financial year from June to June.

A further discussion of having to possibly fundraise the £18,000 such as Tesco's 'Bags for Help' as suggested by John. Charmian also mentioned Asda's 'Bags of Help'. ABEL to investigate and apply online.

Janice thanked Liz for her Budget Report.

3. Project Co-ordinator's Annual Report and Annual Review

Caroline thanked Liz for producing the Annual Review 2017 booklet and made reference to Josh Cowan's painting on the front cover. Caroline highlighted that 100% of parents found the service delivered by ABEL to be helpful and to the many positive parental statements of how ABEL helped. Caroline referred to the number of children engaged in group work and how the 'Friendship and other weapons' group had worked very well. Jenny Gibson, a pupil from Preston Lodge had successfully supported the programme over 12 sessions and Caroline is keen to involve more S6 girls across East Lothian. A new volunteer contacted ABEL last month and depending on ability and confidence, she could eventually work with P6 girls independently.

John gave contact details for Dr Jane Culpan who could possibly provide students from the Physical Health and wellbeing honours course.

Caroline mentioned that Preston Lodge is currently looking at 'mindfulness training' to possibly target S1 & S2 pupils. Lorraine Sevestre, DHT, Prestonpans Primary is keen to extend this training into the primary school. Although ABEL would be interested in becoming involved, they could not afford the £600 required for training.

4. Election of Office Bearers

- Charmian Currie – Chairperson proposed by: Janice Macleod; Seconded by Fiona MacDonald
- John Williamson – Vice Chairperson proposed by: Wendy Herriot; Seconded by Janet Scott
- Janet Scott – continue as Secretary
- Janice Macleod – Treasurer proposed by: Janet Scott; Seconded by John Williamson

All the committee were in agreement.

5. A.O.C.B.

Liz reminded the signatories that an email has been sent out re the PIN log on for the Unity Bank Account.

Next Management Committee Meeting

The next Management Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday 21st September 2017 at 4.30pm in the Brunton Hall, Regent Room, Musselburgh.

Please advise Liz Gibson as soon as possible if you are/are not available to attend this meeting.

Minutes submitted by: Janet Scott

Accepted by:

Seconded by: