

Madras College Parent Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting

21 April 2011

1. Present: John Barnett (Chairman), Iain Jones (Rector), Cllr Robin Waterston, Cllr Ron Caird, Andy Primmer, Henry Paul, Dawn Waddell, Ms A N Other (name unknown)
2. This meeting was convened at short notice to discuss the outcome of the PFAM meeting earlier in the day and to hear a report of the previous evening's Development Group meeting. Not all members were therefore able to attend. Cllr Tim Brett and Cllr Dorothea Morrison asked that their apologies be minuted.
3. A link to the Report by Mr Ken Greer to the PFAM had been provided with the call notice and the background had been widely reported in the Courier.
4. Mr Jones gave a report on the Development Group meeting and on the decision of the PFAM meeting which was to continue negotiations with the University and to contribute an amount of £2.55 million towards a new University indoor sports facility which would offer school, community and pan-Fife shared use.
5. Cllr Caird had been present at the PFAM meeting and read out the statement he had delivered as a local councillor. He also reported various comments made by elected representatives and officials.
6. A wide-ranging discussion of the issues ensued with various views being expressed. The Parent Council was supportive of the continued negotiations and wished the parties every success in achieving a positive conclusion. Concern was expressed over budgetary issues with the committee being unanimous that the £40 million budget allocation (which included £1 million for a new access road) would not be compromised to find new financial resources for the Council's contribution to the additional £2.55 million for the (shared) University sports facility. The chairman was instructed to write to Mr Greer and Councillors to express the committee's position on this matter.
7. It was noted that the PFAM chair had called for a final report to be presented at its 16 June meeting at which a final decision on the proposal for a co-located new school building would be made. Members were therefore aware that considerable progress was required to be made within a short timetable in order to meet this deadline and wished all the parties well in their negotiations.