

**Dollar Academy Parents' Association**  
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023**  
**Minutes of The Meeting**

**Present:**

Pamela Corsar (Chair)	Lorna Cameron (Secretary)
Roddy Urquhart	Robin Pyper (Deputy Rector)
Nick Schellenberg	Clare Johnstone
Marie Munday (Treasurer)	Craig Anderson (Vice Chair)
Sheena Gray (Thrift Shop Convenor)	Gillian Hunt
Shona Waddell	Angela King
Anja Siegert	Catherine MacDonald
Ian Munro	Stephen Bradshaw

Apologies received from Morven Cadell and Laura Crouch

**1. Introduction, welcome**

The Chair (Pam) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Last meetings minutes accepted with no changes. Anja was welcomed to the meeting as a boarding parent representative.

**2. Chair Report**

**2.1. Matters Arising**

**2.1.1. Buses**

The Rector attended to discuss the bus incident on McGills bus. This was discussed at length and several additional issues were raised regarding reliability of service and pupil lateness in terms of arrival at the school having used the McGill's bus service. However, the main focus of the meeting related to the general safety of the fleet and concerns raised by parents. CJ highlighted the parent concerns about the incident. The Rector confirmed that through the school's travel consultant, these issues would be raised directly with McGill's.

Action: DAPA to work with The Rector, ensuring all feedback provided from parents. The Rector will take steps to ensure Dollar's views are passed on to McGill's and local politicians. DAPA to also make contact with local government (Clare / Nicholas)

**2.1.2. Introduction & FIDA fundraising support (Rebecca McFarlane)**

DAPA were informed that the "James Bond" themed concert had been postponed to March 2024 due to poor uptake, insufficient time for marketing/advertising and a crowded calendar in the run up to Christmas.

DAPA discussed how they could support fundraising. It was felt following the launch there has not been much in the way of updates on the proposed build. Robin encouraged members to sign up for automatic FIDA updates. Meeting to take place in January 2024 with Rebecca, Angela and Marie to discuss fundraising initiatives.



### **2.1.3. Uniforms**

Uniform policy has been refreshed. The school is considering a phased introduction of winter jackets for Senior School pupils.

### **2.1.4. Boarding**

DAPA are pleased to have widened their representation to include boarding parents and are now working with the school to better understand the experience of boarding pupils and parents and how they can support the school.

### **2.1.5. Dining Hall**

It was raised at the last meeting that some pupils were experiencing lengthy queues and there was limited choice particularly towards the end of the lunch service. Robin has been tracking queueing times and provided details on the maximum average queue time, which is currently about 17 minutes. It was pointed out that for any school, not least one of Dollar's size, this is very good. A new catering manager started this week and a staffing review is underway. Robin is going to further explore the pupil demand (number) for each area.

## **3. Governor's Report**

Oli Pearce was not in attendance this evening and hence no report was tabled.

## **4. Dates for next meetings**

All members to ensure they are able to access Microsoft Teams and DAPA Members to be added to Microsoft Teams Channel with all dates for 2024 added to the calendar (Pam / Craig)

The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

## **5. AOB**

6.

### **6.1. Lockers**

Roddy suggested that an external company is brought in to undertake a site survey. Due to increase in digital working, there is currently limited secure space for pupils to leave expensive electronic equipment. Roddy is going to work with the school to take this forward.

### **6.2. School survey**

The parent body has requested to see the key issues raised/visibility of themes. The parent body is looking for feedback on the school response and actions taken.

The meeting closed at 20:15 hrs.



## Membership

Claire Silcock (on 2019, off 2023)

Oli Pearce (on 2020, off 2023)

Lorna Cameron (on 2023, off 2026)

Morven Cadell (on 2023, off 2026)

Pamela Corsar (on 2021, off 2024)

Marie Munday (on 2022, off 2025)

Sheena Gray (on 2022, off 2025)

Laura Crouch (on 2022, off 2025)

Craig Anderson (on 2022, off 2025)

Clare Johnstone (on 2023)

Shona Waddell (on 2021, off 2024)

Mark Bancroft (on 2021, off 2024)

Lesley Shepherd (on 2022, off 2025)

Angela King (on 2022, off 2025)

