



SCOTTISH
PRISON
SERVICE

HM PRISON
Penninghame
Newton Stewart
Dumfries & Galloway
DG8 6RG

Telephone 0671 402886

Fax 0671 403470

Please address any reply to the Governor

Your Reference

Our Reference

Date

Professor Hans Toch
School of Criminal Justice
Draper Hall
135 Western Avenue
Albany
New York
122 22

15.1.96

Dear Hans,

COMMUNITY MEETING BEFORE CHRISTMAS LEAVE

With reference to the above I thought I would just drop you a wee line to let you know of a very interesting community meeting we had at the close of the year.

Just prior to the prisoners going on a 5 day Christmas leave we had a community meeting to discuss a number of ongoing questions which concerned the community and in order to address some of the issues which a number of them would face during home leave.

The first half hour was taken up by looking at things like why was Sky TV cut off and when are we getting it restored. This refers to the fact that Sky TV have put up their bills a hundred fold for non domestic users and our bill has shot up from £25 a month to £120 and therefore Sky TV has not been paid and therefore no Sky TV.

Another favourite was prisoners' wages which really pointed out that the best workers get the best pay.

Another point of hot discussion was what to do about the "Peter thief" (stealing from fellow prisoners), we talked about locks on dorm doors - but as agreed, with reluctance, the real answer was with the community.

However after the above we set them a task dividing the staff and prisoners into 3 groups they were given about an hour to consider a) the problems that could arise during home leave and b) solutions to these problems. When the groups fed back (a mixture of staff and prisoners) they really were most revealing and they had been brutally frank with each other. Some of the problems that came up were 1. Harassment by the police. 2. Harassment by other "gangs". 3. Involvement with old pals. Perhaps some of the most revealing 4. Meeting the victim or victim's family and 5. A "non event".

You can imagine the discussion that ensued from the above especially the last 2 it really was very positive and for a number of lads who had not been present at a community meeting before it was a real revelation on just how things can be tackled in an open way.

As you can imagine there was a lot of laughter and hilarity about the whole thing (I will not mention too much about the prisoner who said he was going to take 20 condoms home with him!) but it was something I think would have cheered your heart.

Solutions/answers ranged from 1. Keeping your licence (authority for release) on you at all times. 2. Doing a bunk (running away). 3. Tell them to get lost - give excuses to get away from their company - don't go out of the family home. 4. Don't get involved and avoid if possible. 5. Be ready for this - and try and understand other peoples feelings.

At the end of it all our new Social Worker Bob Barr gave a brief talk on another thing relevant to Christmas - selfishness, that was received in stony silence which developed into a positive agreement. (I think he hit home). Another interesting part of his delivery was he strayed into theological grounds (for reasons best known to himself) and ended up saying he did not believe all of the Christmas story. The next interesting development was a prisoner publicly declared his full belief in all of the Christmas story and was supported by a number of others. At this point I intervened fearing another Reformation, summarised and drew the meeting to a conclusion, with the promise that if anyone experienced "things going wrong", get out of the situation, hand yourself in to the nearest jail and if there were not other problems, their time would be given back.

You will be pleased to note that all of our desperadoes arrived back from Christmas leave despite the bus breaking down and being 4 hours late and despite arriving to a building that was very cold due to burst pipes due to an exceptionally heavy frost. All this was carried with good order and good humour and really to my eyes and indeed to the eyes of many it was a good example of a community pulling together and actually producing the goods.

I trust this year brings you a lot of happiness and good health and look forward to seeing you when next you enter the land of the chosen. Warmest wishes.

Yours Aye



H ROSS
Governor



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Professor Hans Toch
University of Albany
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New York
122 22
USA

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28.11.96

Dear Hans,

It is now 5 months since we last were in touch so I trust this note finds you well.

By now you will be aware that John Pearce is on the sick list, with no sight of him returning to work. I am afraid his illness has all the hallmarks of someone who has tried to do too much again and again.

On a more cheerful note Penninghame is still on the go, although since we moved to accepting only those serving 10 years plus and Lifers our numbers dropped steadily to under 40! However, with a temporary change to 8 years plus we are on the climb again currently standing at 62

This has had an effect on our community, with many knowledgeable prisoners being released and few replacements, all of which have to be "instructed" in our community ways. You will note from the enclosed minutes that we have now had to cover "old ground" but that is to be expected. The pre-Christmas meeting will have to repeat this exercise for all those latest admissions. The Independent Units still have their own house meeting but I have mislaid their minutes at the moment, sorry!

The Government's Policy of Mandatory Drug Testing has pushed aside our own Penninghame Voluntary Drug Policy and I am afraid we have taken some months to get anywhere near the open and relaxed discussions concerning drugs you have witnessed.

This will be my last letter to you, as Governor of Penninghame. On Monday 2nd I move to Inverness for my last 3 years of service with SPS. I am very pleased with the move and so are the family, but we leave Penninghame and Newton Stewart with many regrets.

Until a new Governor is appointed Bob White will be i/c so there should be no problems with the principals of community living etc.

I must go now, trust you will hear well of John soon, many thanks for your support and kindness during my time at Penninghame.

Every blessing for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours aye

H ROSS
Governor

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT HM PRISON PENNINGHAME ON
WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 1995**

PRESENT:- H ROSS - GOVERNOR
R WHITE - DEPUTY GOVERNOR
A O'CONNOR - UNIT MANAGER
B BLAIR - HOUSE COMMITTEE
W SCOTT - HOUSE COMMITTEE
R SMITH - HOUSE COMMITTEE
P McGARRY - HOUSE COMMITTEE

ITEMS RAISED FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES OF HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING

1. Canteen

The House Committee felt that after having got 4 names for the Governor they now must pursue this matter for the benefit of all. It was agreed that Mr Williams the Office Supervisor would be approached concerning this proposal that an Officer and prisoner go to look at the Cash and Carry. Details to be discussed when Mr Williams returns from leave. It was indicated to the House Committee that part of the establishment's Strategic Plan was to get a dispensing machine which would hopefully serve a number of items automatically as per the present coke and hot drink machines.

2. Phone Card Machine

This is to be purchased in the very near future and will mean that phone cards will be available 7 days a week. It was agreed that the machine, for security reasons, should be sited in the Gate.

3. Sky Television

The Governor explained the position to the prisoners that the Scottish Prison Service Headquarters were seeking to negotiate with Sky for a better deal. The House Committee supported this but felt that meanwhile they were still not getting Sky TV and were quite prepared, feeding back from the rest of the establishment, that if 25p could be deducted from each prisoner's wages this would give them Sky Sports only.

A new video was to be purchased and in addition some blank tapes. (Since the above discussion has taken place Sky Television have concurred they are in debate with the Scottish Prison Services but have submitted a bill, based on the rateable value of the establishment, of £120 to £130 per month. This would mean that the 25p from each prisoner would be inadequate. Enquiries to continue.

4. Mountain Bikes

The Governor stated that mountain bikes must always be used with a member of staff present. Outworkers would not get the use of them. The Committee suggested that the new area of ground being developed as an additional walking area may well be used for the mountain bikes without staff being present, as they were still within the institution grounds. It was agreed to look at this nearer the time when we could see exactly what we were achieving with the addition to the walking area.

5. Night Activity in Club House

The Governor stated that there is no problem for 3 nights a week and Saturday and Sunday all day that the club house games room could be used for any prisoner activity. The step aerobics as suggested by the Committee could certainly be part of this programme as the equipment was there, including badminton (which was being used), indoor bowls and the facilities to set up a circuit. The Committee agreed to this and said that they would look, with the Games Officer, to setting up a programme.

6. Five-A-Side Football

The suggestion to have five-a-side football on Saturday mornings was referred to Mr Stewart and Mr McDowall the Games Officers. The Governor said that this had been done on previous occasions but the problem arose that prisoners simply would not get out of their beds on a Saturday morning to play, but the bill had to be met as the football pitch had been booked. Coupled with this request the Committee expressed an interest in swimming being reinstated (it had been suspended due to the bad behaviour of a group of prisoners who were permanently banned from the swimming) this was agreed and would commence on Saturday.

7. New Year's Dinner

The staff conveyed a request from the Catering Officer to the House Committee, so that they may check with their members what they would wish for a New Year's Dinner. Would it be a conventional New Year's Dinner or an "extra dinner" with steak or steak pie etc. Opinions to be conveyed to the Catering Officer.

8. Drug Liaison Group

Part of the Penninghame Drug Policy was to form this Liaison Group, membership of which would be extended to prisoners and a member of the police. Staff requested the Committee to find one lifer and one determinate sentence prisoner who would be interested in sitting with this committee, approximately 4 times a year, to monitor and develop the present Drug Programme. Some members of the Committee expressed reservations about a prisoner being present but it was pointed out that individual prisoners cases would not be discussed (this would be done during the Risk Management Committee Meeting with the Doctor) and that it was a good exercise to see the police and to work with the police on a problem that affects the establishment. It was agreed that the Governor would write to the local Police Inspector and a time was set for 24 January 1996.

9. Recent Fire

The Governor wished to convey to the Committee, although he had put a notice round the Dorms, the sincere appreciation expressed by staff for the commendable way prisoners behaved during the recent fire. The fire started as a result of a faulty light, which is now on its way to the makers for examination, and the situation really was just caught in the nick of time.

Hamilton Rose
Governor
30/10/95



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9.5.96

Professor Hans Toch
School of Criminal Justice
Draper Hall
139 Western Avenue
Albany
New York
12222

Dear Hans,

PROGRESS WITH PENNINGHAME HOUSE COMMUNITY

Please find enclosed recent minutes, counter minutes and Penninghame Post Booklet which I trust will give you a flavour of what's happening.

All in all Hans, we did have a stagger after Christmas but now we've got a full committee of 4 prisoners who took a very active part in the last Community Meeting. Contrary to my practice when you were here the last time I did not "call them out" after the emotional end of play Community Meeting but left them to simmer and brood on all they'd said and then asked for volunteers some time later, to which we now, I am pleased to say have a full house.

The opening up of the 2 new Independent Units (now called Wallace (Braveheart) and Bruce) have certainly generated a number of strong points for debate. They really are first class and the long termers who have recently joined us are still gob-smacked at Penninghame's relaxed atmosphere and even more so at the concept of the Independent Units.

You will also notice that we have appointed an officer to look after the Units and this is an addition to changes in the staffing roster which gives them fixed posts for 3 months. The Supervisors are taking a fair share now of what's going on and this coupled with the officer's direct interest in the Units has led to a more constructive approach to some of the points they raise.

I trust this finds you well I am looking forward to seeing you the next time you join us here at Penninghame. Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

H Ross

H ROSS
Governor

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY MEETING HELD AT HMP PENNINGHAME
ON 27.6.96 AT 2.00 PM**

PRESENT:-	Mr Ross	GOVERNOR
	Mr White	UNIT MANAGER
	P Weldon	SPORTS & RECREATION
	J Brannan	VISITS & WELFARE
	G Webster	SUPERVISOR
	M Stapleton	OFFICER
	R Rodger	CATERING OFFICER

The others on the committee have resigned as they thought they were making no progress.

1. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENINGS?

Although this is already up and running it was pointed out that it is only escorted cycle runs. At present there are 2 bikes out of use, but 2 prisoners have volunteered to take responsibility for doing minor repairs such as punctures. Bill Stewart was to be approached about this.

2. UPGRADE BACK OF HOUSE FOR FOOTBALL

At present nothing has been done with regards to the above as there are low numbers in the gardens at present. Prisoners are willing to clear area of stones and begin digging it out with their normal working hours and the Governor agreed to this.
Gardens are to be approached regarding the use of equipment at nights and weekends.

3. CAN NATURE TRAIL BE OPENED TO ALLOW VISITORS TO WALK IN THIS AREA?

The rules state that visitors are to stay at the front of the house as visits have to be observed and for health and safety reasons. This also means that they have the area to themselves. By allowing visitors to the back of the house it also means more staff have to patrol the grounds which is not possible. Although Dungavel have a nature trail for visitors use it is not yet completed.

4. NEW SIGN ON ROAD TO ASSIST VISITORS TO FIND PENNINGHAME

This point has been agreed with the council but not at the moment due to a shortage of funds. Two signs are to be put up this financial year. It was pointed out that visitors are past before they realise where they are as bushes cover the signs at the back drive.
Bobby Blackley was to be approached about tidying this up.

5. OVERNIGHT FISHING/CAMPING TRIP

This point was agreed some time ago. It was suggested that in the future they walk the southerland upland way, leaving on a Saturday morning from Port Patrick and arriving at New Galloway forest on a Sunday afternoon. Various pieces of cooking equipment etc would be needed although we have tents etc. Food would be no problem.

If staff were willing to do this, Mr Ross had no objections to this as it would be all about working in a team but would put the idea forward to department.

6. IDEA OF CARAVAN IN GROUNDS

The Governor is still awaiting clearance from department regarding this and Cree Cottage will also be available soon. It has not yet been decided if this will go to an open market and if it did would the occupants object to the caravan being situated across from them?

All resources are available we are just awaiting clearance.

7. REQUEST FOR KETTLES IN EVERY DORM. WHEN ARE FRIDGES BEING INSTALLED?

Complaints were made as to the number of kettles available and having to go looking for them. The prisoners suggested that each dorm would be more apt to look after their own kettle. We could buy kettles from Davidsons but this would be discussed at a separate meeting. This was to me mentioned to Colin Cassidy.

There will also be a meeting to discuss the fridges, what could be kept in them and how long things could be kept etc. Staff would have to inspect fridges on a regular basis but all this would be discussed at a later date.

8. VARIATION ON WEEKEND MEALS

Roy Rodger answered this by explaining that at weekends he has a shortage of cooks due to home/local leaves and days off therefore meals have to be as easy as possible. He stated that prisoners could think up some simple ideas and he would certainly consider them.

9. MATTRESSES

Any old mattresses are to be replaced as soon as possible. Peter Hyslop has to check mattresses and a regular inspection has to be carried out.

10. REQUEST BOOKING IN AT COOKHOUSE INSTEAD OF GATE AT WEEKENDS

As the gate officer is responsible for the numbers, booking in should always be done at the gate as there is always an officer there and you can't guarantee anyone in the cookhouse.

11. STAMP MACHINE

This is not possible as there is not a large enough profit. However, the library run and Saturday run is available to purchase stamps.

12. MICROWAVE BOWL TO BE MADE AVAILABLE

Would microwave bowls mean that meals would be taken upstairs and plates would be left lying about?

Again this is to be discussed at a separate meeting.

13. CLUB HOUSE TO BE RE-FURBISHED FOR 5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

Colin Cassidy reports that tenders are back and we are waiting on the work being carried out.

14. AEROBIC/STEP CLASSES

Mr Ross has no objections to this if Mr McIntyre is qualified. Mr McIntyre is to see Governor regarding this matter.

15. MORE EQUIPMENT FOR GYM

A list is to be prepared of any equipment needed and a fax will be sent to other establishments to see if they can help and the PTI's are to approach other establishments.

16. VISITS TO AYR

The purpose of the Ayr visit scheme is for people whose family are not able to come to Penninghame and may eventually stop. There is also an agreement with the police that only 3 people are allowed so this cannot be increased to 6.

17. LEAFLETS ON LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

The outworker at the tourist board is dealing with this and Roy Rodger is trying to get a stand to display them on. These would have to be put back to enable everyone to see them.

18. TO BE ABLE TO GO TO CINEMA WHEN RE-OPENED

This would depend on whether the times coincided with lock up times etc and if the van was available for picking up. No decision can be made as we don't know times etc.

19. TOILETS UPGRADED IN CLUBHOUSE FOR VISITORS

Visits will now take place in the Hans Toch room and it will be a no smoking area. Anyone wishing to smoke should do so outside or in the main hall. Signs are to be up and buckets are to be bought for rubbish. Anything purchased from the machine can be taken into the Hans Toch room but anything else should be consumed in the dining room.

Baby changing facilities are still to be arranged. Trolleys have been taken off the market due to health and safety reasons and the space factor has to be considered as wheelchairs also need access.

At the moment the gym toilets are being used.

Colin Cassidy is at present looking into where wheelchairs can get access into the house where there are no steps.

Roy Rodger has to continue to look for baby changing facilities.

20. PRISONERS ON PLACEMENT BEING REQUIRED TO BOOK IN AT 8.00 AM

As the numbers check is vital booking in is essential.

21. LITTER BINS

Bobby Blackley is looking at the matter of litter bins on the grounds as more bins are needed. The 'can crusher' may be too expensive but Mark Stapleton will report on this next week.

22. INTER JAIL COMPETITIONS

A complaint was made that Penninghame never take part in any inter jail competitions.

Although distance may be a problem there is no objection to this but prisoners should approach staff if they hear of such competitions or write letters themselves. Chic McDowall is to check with other PII's why we aren't getting invited to these.
However is there is an arranged trip on that day which will suffer as there is not enough staff to do both?

23. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr White stated that the house is to be left tidy before going on home leave and everyone will be issued with 3 coat hangers when they come back.

Property will also be looked into and if there is an unreasonable amount then it may be stored in reception.

Meeting closed at 3.25 pm.

Harold Kall
Gunner
1 9/7/96

Tomorrow the establishment will be visited by Prof. Hans Toch. For those of you who don't remember him, Professor Toch is the wee guy with the foreign accent (Dutch, if I recall correctly) who has been advising the S.P.S. on turning prisons into communities.


Anyway, my information is that he visits tomorrow, and again on Friday, when he'll be accompanied by the Area Director, Mr. Pearce. Professor Toch is to be honoured on Friday by having the new Community Room (the old rec. room) named after him. The room is to be known as the Hans Toch room, though he doesn't know this yet! Apparently he is coming to officially open it on Friday.

FOOTBALL TEAM

A question was put forward as to whether we could have a football competition. Bill Stewart answered that if there was one this year then we'd be in it, but last year there was none due to outside agencies.

COMMON GOOD FUND

A prisoner asked where the profits from the common good fund went. The Governor explained that it was used to purchase TV's and pay for sports features etc. It was decided that a monthly bulletin will be put up for prisoners to see where the money has been spent.

 The meeting was then split into 4 groups. Two were to discuss the No Smoking Policy and the other 2 were to look at the Criteria for the New Units. The groups thoughts were as follows:-

GROUP 1 - NO SMOKING POLICY

Group one were asked to discuss the No Smoking Policy and came up with the following thoughts:-

The number of no smoking dorms should be extended to perhaps 4 as this would give more choice as to who you shared a dorm with.

They thought there should be one of the new independent units non smoking and 3 for smoking but group one felt that they couldn't really comment on this as the criteria had not yet been decided.

Visits should be non smoking and anyone wishing to smoke should go outside. They stated that anyone wishing to smoke should do so in the dining room or corridor but this could create problems as non smokers were having to walk through smoky corridors. The group then thought that the corridors should be a smoking area due to the time waits for phone calls etc.

Next to be discussed was the vehicles. The group thought that on long run, for example Glasgow, smoking should be allowed and on short runs into Newton Stewart etc there should be no smoking. Bill Stewart pointed out that at present there were smoke stops on long journeys, therefore no need to smoke in the vans at all.

Also discussed was the gate area which group one agreed should be a non smoking area as this is the first point of contact with external visitors.

The general office is at present non smoking as should be the education unit.

GROUP 2 - NO SMOKING POLICY

Group 2 were also asked to discuss the No Smoking Policy. They came up with the following views:-

The gate, dining room, dorms, offices, muster room and conference room should all be no smoking areas. They agreed that smokers have to go somewhere but we needed to reach a tolerance level as it is up to each individual whether they wish to smoke or not. They thought that smokers should have consideration for non smokers and non smokers should have consideration for smokers.

For anyone visiting they thought half an area should be for smoking and half for non smoking.

Group 2 thought that the recreation room should be smoking but asked if the ventilation could be looked at and perhaps ask for an extractor fan.

This group also looked at smoking on journeys and as there is at least one stop there was no need to smoke in the vehicles.

Group 2 also looked at the criteria for the new independent units and from a smoking group they thought that one unit should be non smoking. They also thought that the units should be mixed and lifer only units would be no good. They agreed that suitability should not apply to their time served at Penninghame but a prisoner who has spent a longer period of time in prison (not necessarily at Penninghame) should get priority. There was debate over this comment as many prisoners thought it should be first come first served.

GROUP 3 - CRITERIA FOR NEW UNITS

Group 3 were discussing the criteria for the new units and initially discussed what they should be called. They came up with various names - Horseshoe, Stables, Annex, Saddles and Southfork.

They agreed that the criteria should be equal opportunities for all arriving at Penninghame and all names should be put on a list. They didn't think TFF and people with parole dates should get priority that they should work their way down the list like everyone else.

Objections were raised to this as people with long sentences going into the units could be tying up a place for years and it would take a long time to work down the list. Some may never get into a unit.

With regards to the double and single rooms, the group thought that this should be decided amongst whoever is in the units but if a single room became vacant then seniority should rule. So, if someone from the house was to move into the unit they should automatically go into a double room.

The group thought that prisoners should only be allowed one move in 6 months, but if someone was moved back into the house for health reasons then their place in the unit would be left open for them until they were fit for return. If anyone lost their place due to a report then the group thought that their name should go to the bottom of the list.

GROUP 4 - CRITERIA FOR NEW UNITS

Group 4 were also asked to discuss the criteria for the new units and came up with the following ideas:-

They thought it should be a progressing system and that a move to the present lodges to prove yourself should come before a move to the new units. A name they discussed the Stables or the Dog & Duck.

At present to qualify for the lodges a prisoner has to take part in sentence planning. However, lifers can get in if they have a date. This group agreed that prisoners shouldn't get in if they have 18 months or over to serve as others won't get a chance.

For the new units, the group decided that these should be for prisoners serving 10 years and over. Lifers shouldn't get in unless they have a date or have parole board or medical recommendations. Apart from this, sentence planning should determine entry.

Many prisoners disputed this as they thought people serving more time should be able to prepare themselves for society and everyone was beginning to do this with home leaves and local leaves etc and they thought it was a good idea for long term prisoners to mix with short term prisoners.

However, this group's conclusion was that you had to earn a place in the units by looking at offending behaviour and taking part in sentence planning.

Finally, the Governor stated that we needed names for the committees to discuss any problems and reach decisions.

Handwritten signature: Harry Ross
1991

Education Unit
Penninghame House

15th November 1994

Dear Member of Penninghame Community

To improve communications within Penninghame I have initiated a weekly newsletter - please see first issue, attached.

The production will be carried out in the Education Unit, but the contents must come from all sections of the establishment - Council, Committees and individuals as well as Works Gardens, Kitchen, Education, etc., etc..

Responsibility for its production should reside with the PR committee, myself and whoever is doing the 'donkey work' - Chic Smith at present. We also need Link people for all the sections so please nominate someone in your department or committee.

Its aim is to be informative, so that everyone knows beforehand of changes which will concern them; visitors that they may encounter in the house or grounds; dates of meetings proposed trips and courses; decisions and ideas coming from the Council and Committees - to mention a few examples. In addition it can be used to advertise future events or sound out ideas.

Please use the Education Unit as the point of contact both for contributions and names of Link persons.

THESE SHOULD BE HANDED IN BY 9.30 AM THURSDAY

Please let me know if you have any problems with these proposals as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully



Meg Hopkins

Community Council Information

Council Members

F. Reilly, P. McNair, K. Boyle and J. Kelly. Plus duty S.O. and M. McKie. (sub C. McDowall)

Visit Sub-Committee

A. McKenna T. McGinnis and R. Rodgers. (sub M. Stapelton)

House Sub-Committee

P. Hogg, J. McArthur and K. Lumb. (sub S.W.O. Cassidy)

Sports and Recreation Sub-Committee

D. McEwan, P. Mackin and C. McDowall. (sub W. Stewart)

Public Relations Sub-Committee

C. McIntosh, S. Garty and P. Williams (sub W. Stewart)

Coordinator

C. Smith.

Penninghame Sub-committees Remit

All complaints should first be pursued through the normal channels or grievance procedure. However ideas for improvements or changes to the present system should be given to the appropriate Sub-committee which covers the area of the suggestions. There are a number of ways for ideas to be put to the appropriate Sub-committee: the normal procedure would be to put your idea in writing and deposit it in the suggestion box, another way would be to approach a member of the Sub-committee and give him/her your proposal or alternatively ask the co-ordinator to put your proposal in writing and forward it to the appropriate committee meeting.

To All Concerned

- 1) All complaints/requests that require to go through the G.P. procedures cannot be dealt with by a sub-committee or the council.
- 2) Any complaint/request of a less serious nature should be dealt with through normal channels (gate/personal officer) before consideration by a sub-committee or the council.
- 3) All complaints/suggestions must first have been considered by a sub-committee and then submitted in writing with relevant comments/considerations. Written complaints/suggestions by individuals on their own cannot be considered by the council.

medical revue board

The management are meeting with Mr. Ross sometime this week to hold a Medical Revue Board. The purpose of the meeting is to assess the drug testing programme with a view to fine tuning the working arrangements and methods. Some residents have already been asked to provide samples and the second fridge out of the west lodge has been requisitioned to keep these in. As with any new thing, some teething troubles are anticipated (questions of legality or ethics etc. as well as unforeseen problems cropping up). Olaf the social worker is keen to set up a "liaison committee" of two

residents (with a good knowlege or close association to drugs) to attend at meetings of this board to take an active part in discussions and provide the residents perspective. These changes are to be arrived at by a democratic process and it is felt important that representations be made by us at the planning stages. This committee will be separate from the other usual house committees and will be involved with the medical staff as well as social work and management on a regular basis. Anyone interested in this challenging post should contact Olaf or leave his name with Elaine at the office, and soon !!



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10.7.96

Professor Hans Toch
University of Albany
135 Western Avenue
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12222

Dear Hans

Please find enclosed up to date minutes for the Lodges and Committee Meetings plus (with exception of No 34) all the relevant Penninghame Posts.

Sorry not to have a blether with you when you were with us last month but trust you enjoyed yourself - especially your visit to the romantic West Coast Islands with JP. I sincerely hope he did not lead you astray and force you to indulge in a bizarre selection of malts and other brands of the demon drink!

You will see from the enclosed that we are still battling on with a we want we want attitude and problems with the prisoners committee. However, I do believe we are making some good progress and the prisoners are starting to take ownership of things - for instance clearing stones out of a potential football pitch. Recently I have asked them to tidy up after their visits and not always leave it to the passman (in the Hans Toch room) and little advances like this has to be capitalised and built upon.

The prisoners committee has suffered from an internal problem this time and cannot agree amongst themselves hence at this moment in time, we are only left with two. They are fortunately a force to be reckoned with and have conducted themselves with energy and diplomacy and therefore we are also moving forward in this field.

The change in status for the prisoners (ten years plus and lifers) has certainly led to a different type of prisoner arriving at Penninghame. Stronger I would say and more determined and obviously with a lot of "porridge" behind him. This is both good and bad but in the end we have to adjust to their demands, requests and get them on our side, which most at this moment in time seem to be quite happy to agree to.

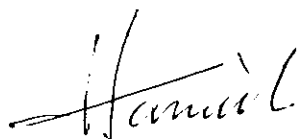
You will notice the Independent Living Units are having regular meetings with their Unit Officer. This is a new post that both staff and prisoners felt was necessary for the sake of continuity and communication. As a matter of interest the Officer in question has asked that the post be extended for a full year as opposed to the normal three months posts in the rest of the establishment, quoting the above reasons for an extended time on this central post. This is encouraging and also I must say staff are taking more interest and indeed action in the various group work going on in that they are addressing offending behaviour and, perhaps even more rewarding, taking a much more active part in evening activities ie mountain bike cycling, walking, fishing. I am pleased to say that there is an activity on every evening (weather permitting) and this as you can imagine has led to quite a relaxed atmosphere and good repartee between staff and prisoners.

As a note of interest during the last Community Meeting I did not select a new committee with my usual Billy Graham evangelistic zeal but left them to cool down from the "emotion" of the meeting and got my volunteers after that. This may have paid off in that the two that did remain are really with us all the way.

I trust the above ramblings are helpful to you as indeed was your enclosed brochure with your last letter "prisoners, inmates reaction to furlough" most interesting and really backing up some of our own experiences here.

I must go now but do trust you are well and look forward to hearing and better still seeing you in the days that lie ahead.

Yours aye

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hamish". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Hamish

PS Sky TV is now pie in the sky due to increased costs and surprise surprise it is never mentioned now.

MEMORANDUM

TO John Pearce
FROM Hans Toch
RE: VISIT TO PENNINGHAME: 9 AUGUST 1994

A goal discussed for participatory involvement in Penninghame was to prepare prisoners for re-integration by creating opportunities for them to engage in problem solving as groups or in communities, with staff participation and guidance.

Two benefits of such activities would be for prisoners to live up to the responsibility model, while escaping from the prison culture and its norms.

Despite Hamish Ross' interest in advancing this cause, he said "we are just touching it". One reason for the lack of sensational progress lies in the absence of prisoner motivation. Prisoners expect a relaxed end-of-sentence respite when they arrive. The prison is viewed as an "easy option", a place to mark time. The stance is, "I don't want to open up, especially in front of staff or in groups. I have the right to be left alone. As for you staff, what do you know about real life"?

There are counterpart resistance among staff. At monthly staff meetings, attendance is respectable but participation minimal. The stance is one of quiet resistance to getting involved. The litany of concerns is impressive:

They just keep adding more work to what we already do.
Prisoners get everything, we get nothing.
We get the wrong prisoners here.
They are going to close us down anyway.
The moment you think you know what you are doing, they try to change it.
With all these changes, it's not clear what is wanted.
The Governor is the one who is paid to talk, not me.
Don't believe this empowerment stuff: seniority governs.
I have nothing to say, and I don't care. There is no use to any of this, anyway.

Staff are insecure about being able to do expanded jobs, even with training. Beside, there is the matter of reputation: If you are not strong, you are weak. You don't get too close to the suits and you can't buddy up to a man you must discipline two hours later.

Among activities under way at the prison, some border on being participatory or have the potential of doing so. There are re-socialising group-centred programs and "every one is expected to join one of these groups." But the social worker who runs groups sees himself as a trained rehabilitator, and it remains conceivable that his format is didactic or autocratic. A more unambiguous picture is presented by organised charitable work jointly undertaken by staff, prisoners and members of the community. Meetings are held in which targets of charity are selected, fund raising is organised, and other joint problem solving is undertaken. Equally relevant are conjoint recreational pursuits which depart from the customary separation of staff and prisoners into mutually exclusive informal groups. Recreation is a good example of an area of shared interests which can serve as a respectable front or excuse for the building of relationships or the broaching of other subjects.

Three other activities have obvious potential. One is the relationship of staff, inmates and community members that gets established when prisoners do volunteer work.

The second is the implementation of the Personal Officer scheme which is taken seriously at Penninghame and favourably viewed by participants.

The third is the independent living unit and similar enterprises to be opened. Community living has obvious potential for deepened and more consequential interactions. The units also offer the possibility which remains to be realised for staff to get involved in leadership or catalytic capacities.

Understandable

(1)

more immediate ~~concerns~~ ~~concerns~~
more personal ~~concerns~~ ~~concerns~~

more pressing concerns & worries than what happens with a bunch of subcommittees that can't do anything about your real problems such as getting out of here as fast as possible, & getting on with life, which does not include getting too heavily involved in what happens at Penninghame

(2)

It also might strike you that this whole business of elections ~~committees~~ & subcommittees ^{maybe} is a farce - an obvious ~~and~~ ~~stiff~~ farce - and ^{then} you have better things to do with your time than playing games

You know that nothing will get done ~~urgently~~ ~~urgently~~ - it never has in any prison you have been in before - So, why pretend?

So, ^{you} sit back and relax, which will make sure that nothing gets done, so you can say, "I knew it all along!"

(1)

It is also possible to prove to your ~~own~~ ^{entire} satisfaction that ~~getting real problems~~ that any ~~problem~~ ^{problem} you have cannot be helped or resolved by a bunch of committees. All you get to do is to keep whatever concerns you have strictly to yourself, and to make ^{certain} ~~sure~~ that you regard any problems you run into as ~~strictly private~~ ~~and~~ nobody else's business

It of ~~course~~ helps to ~~assume~~ assume that any problems you have are different from

anyone else's problems, (5)
and that even if you can't
solve them no one could
possibly be of any help.

In fact, the best thing
to assume is that if you
mention any problems or
concerns, ^{you lead to anxious} someone is sure to
use the information to hurt
~~to~~ your reputation,
to label you as weak and
incompetent, or ~~to~~ take
advantage of you.

(6)
Especially since you
~~know~~ or think you
know, that no one
can be trusted,
except possibly yourself,
and there ^{may be} lots of
people who wonder
whether you can be
trusted.

It's ~~easy~~ to prove
that you are right ^{about} all of
All you have to do is make
some impossible demand,
or make any sort of
demand in a ^{calculated} ~~calculated~~
way, and you ~~can~~ can
~~surely~~ ^{manage} to get turned down,
which proves ~~conclusively~~
that there was no point
in trying to communicate
your concerns, ^{it helps if one}
Of course, ~~if~~ ^{if} refuses to
compromise, ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~all~~ or
~~the staff~~ impugns the
staff's integrity which

8.

gets them upset, and
you'll have a nice demo
that nothing will get done,

If you are
still not convinced,

~~exists~~ that this is ^{not so} ~~impossible~~ (9)

All you have to do is to sit back at a time and place like this and keep your own counsel - or preferably, look bored and protest and disquieted and disapproving of what's going on for not going on/ and you get a good start.

But if you really want to do a job you can think up every possible injustice that has ever been committed, and every incident in which you didn't get what someone said you would get, or ~~such~~ promises that were not kept or

occasions in which the world was manifestly unfair, and you can rant and rave but these events are hardly and angrily, or possible, and invite others to do the same in ^{injustice they remember.}

And soon you have a whole room of people who are ranting and raving, or trying to defend themselves against ^{those} people who are ranting and raving, and no one could possibly conclude that this ^{since a} group could ever work

But you don't have to do any of this. Next time there is an election in this place, make sure you don't run for anything, and don't support anyone who does.

And if despite your best efforts, some committees get put in place, make sure you don't use them in any way, and if possible

try to completely ignore them.


And if you do that, this ^{prison} establishment will be run like any other prison, and you'll never know that you have missed a tremendous opportunity to show that staff and prisoners can work together to improve this place

FOOTBALL TEAM

A question was put forward as to whether we could have a football competition. Bill Stewart answered that if there was one this year then we'd be in it, but last year there was none due to outside agencies.

COMMON GOOD FUND

A prisoner asked where the profits from the common good fund went. The Governor explained that it was used to purchase TV's and pay for sports features etc. It was decided that a monthly bulletin will be put up for prisoners to see where the money has been spent.

 The meeting was then split into 4 groups. Two were to discuss the No Smoking Policy and the other 2 were to look at the Criteria for the New Units. The groups thoughts were as follows:-

GROUP 1 - NO SMOKING POLICY

Group one were asked to discuss the No Smoking Policy and came up with the following thoughts:-

The number of no smoking dorms should be extended to perhaps 4 as this would give more choice as to who you shared a dorm with.

They thought there should be one of the new independent units non smoking and 3 for smoking but group one felt that they couldn't really comment on this as the criteria had not yet been decided.

Visits should be non smoking and anyone wishing to smoke should go outside. They stated that anyone wishing to smoke should do so in the dining room or corridor but this could create problems as non smokers were having to walk through smoky corridors. The group then thought that the corridors should be a smoking area due to the time waits for phone calls etc.

Next to be discussed was the vehicles. The group thought that on long run, for example Glasgow, smoking should be allowed and on short runs into Newton Stewart etc there should be no smoking. Bill Stewart pointed out that at present there were smoke stops on long journeys, therefore no need to smoke in the vans at all.

Also discussed was the gate area which group one agreed should be a non smoking area as this is the first point of contact with external visitors.

The general office is at present non smoking as should be the education unit.

GROUP 2 - NO SMOKING POLICY

Group 2 were also asked to discuss the No Smoking Policy. They came up with the following views:-

The gate, dining room, dorms, offices, muster room and conference room should all be no smoking areas. They agreed that smokers have to go somewhere but we needed to reach a tolerance level as it is up to each individual whether they wish to smoke or not. They thought that smokers should have consideration for non smokers and non smokers should have consideration for smokers.

For anyone visiting they thought half an area should be for smoking and half for non smoking.

Group 2 thought that the recreation room should be smoking but asked if the ventilation could be looked at and perhaps ask for an extractor fan.

This group also looked at smoking on journeys and as there is at least one stop there was no need to smoke in the vehicles.

Group 2 also looked at the criteria for the new independent units and from a smoking group they thought that one unit should be non smoking. They also thought that the units should be mixed and lifer only units would be no good. They agreed that suitability should not apply to their time served at Penninghame but a prisoner who has spent a longer period of time in prison (not necessarily at Penninghame) should get priority. There was debate over this comment as many prisoners thought it should be first come first served.

GROUP 3 - CRITERIA FOR NEW UNITS

Group 3 were discussing the criteria for the new units and initially discussed what they should be called. They came up with various names - Horseshoe, Stables, Annex, Saddles and Southfork.

They agreed that the criteria should be equal opportunities for all arriving at Penninghame and all names should be put on a list. They didn't think TFF and people with parole dates should get priority that they should work their way down the list like everyone else.

Objections were raised to this as people with long sentences going into the units could be tying up a place for years and it would take a long time to work down the list. Some may never get into a unit.

With regards to the double and single rooms, the group thought that this should be decided amongst whoever is in the units but if a single room became vacant then seniority should rule. So, if someone from the house was to move into the unit they should automatically go into a double room.

The group thought that prisoners should only be allowed one move in 6 months, but if someone was moved back into the house for health reasons then their place in the unit would be left open for them until they were fit for return. If anyone lost their place due to a report then the group thought that their name should go to the bottom of the list.

GROUP 4 - CRITERIA FOR NEW UNITS

Group 4 were also asked to discuss the criteria for the new units and came up with the following ideas:-

They thought it should be a progressing system and that a move to the present lodges to prove yourself should come before a move to the new units. A name they discussed the Stables or the Dog & Duck.

At present to qualify for the lodges a prisoner has to take part in sentence planning. However, lifers can get in if they have a date. This group agreed that prisoners shouldn't get in if they have 18 months or over to serve as others won't get a chance.

For the new units, the group decided that these should be for prisoners serving 10 years and over. Lifers shouldn't get in unless they have a date or have parole board or medical recommendations. Apart from this, sentence planning should determine entry.

Many prisoners disputed this as they thought people serving more time should be able to prepare themselves for society and everyone was beginning to do this with home leaves and local leaves etc and they thought it was a good idea for long term prisoners to mix with short term prisoners.

However, this group's conclusion was that you had to earn a place in the units by looking at offending behaviour and taking part in sentence planning.

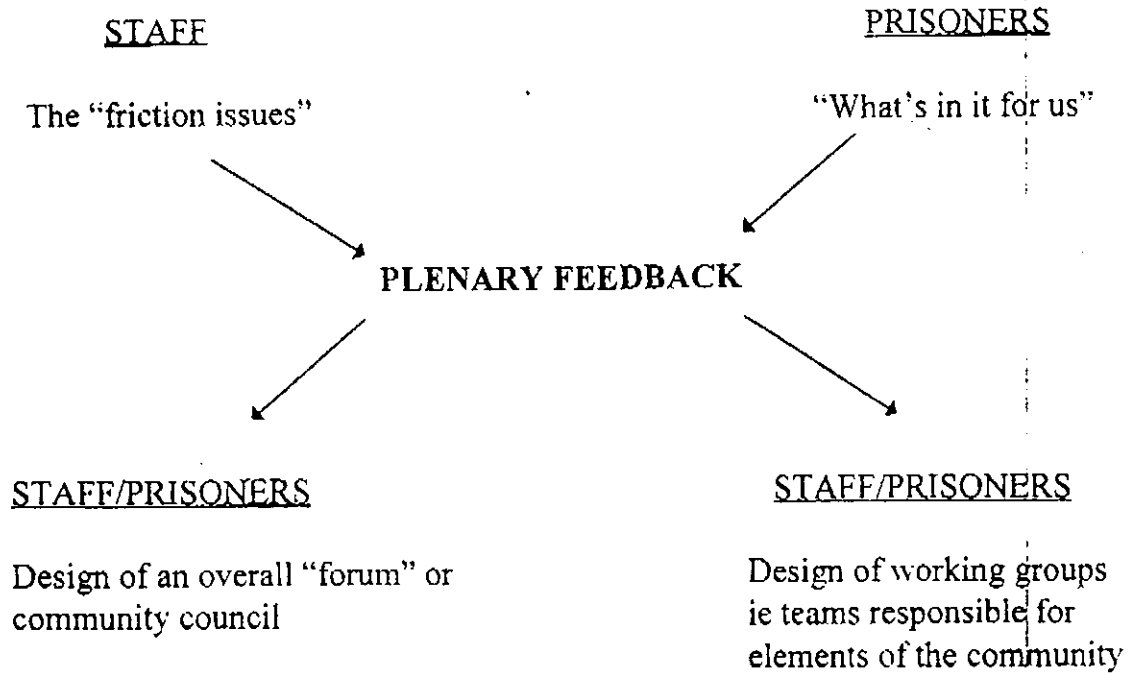
Finally, the Governor stated that we needed names for the committees to discuss any problems and reach decisions.

Handwritten signature: Harry Don
1/1/11

WEDNESDAY AM

The Governor - Responsibility and Accountability.

Why I need a structure to ensure "quality and continuity". That is, how to maintain the system?



PLENARY

Is there a basis for taking forward a Penninghame Prison "Council" which operates participatively using some principles of democracy?

INITIAL PLAN OF ACTION

TEA MEAL

10-10-1994 16:07

FROM CUSTODY DIVISION

TO

TUESDAY AM

Presentations by Ed Wozniak to Staff) The Prisons
Prisoners) Survey

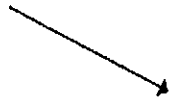
LUNCH

**SENTENCE PLANNING - OPPORTUNITIES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES (30 mins)**

STAFF ETC



The Issue of Responsibility
What do we do that they can/should
do for themselves



PRISONERS

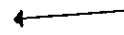
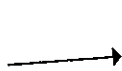


The Issue of Responsibility
What do they do that we can/
should do for ourselves



PLENARY

Is there any alignment?



TEA MEAL

Hans Toch - Participative and Democratised Structures

PENNINGHAME COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

1) The community council will consist of one executive committee and four sub-committees.

The executive committee will be known as the council committee and will consist of four residents, one S.O. and one officer, who have been duly elected to serve.

The four sub-committees will be known as ;

- 1) House-committee**
- 2) Visits and family welfare Committee.**
- 3) Sports and Recreation Committee.**
- 4) Public Relations Committee.**

Each sub-committee will consist of two residents and one officer who have been duly elected to serve. The executive reserve the right to increase the size of any sub-committee to look into different aspects of any changes or problems which may arise, and also to co-opt anyone who has specialised knowledge to help to solve problems in their field.

SUB-COMMITTEES

Each sub-committee will deal only with issues relevant to their remit.

Each sub-committee will meet at least once per week . Relevant time to be allowed.

Any resident will have the right to forward any suggestions, complaints or views to any member of the relevant sub-committee concerned with that remit.

It will be the duty of the sub-committee to deal earnestly , where possible, with all issues put to them by residents. The sub-committee will try to resolve all issues at their level.

Any issues that cannot be resolved at sub-committee level will be forwarded to the council committee.

It will be the responsibility of each sub-committee to put forward reasoned arguments backed by relevant documentation where appropriate, when forwarding issues to the council committee.

The sub-committee will have the right to reject any issues they feel to be irrelevant or unworkable providing their decision is sustainable. This decision will be taken by means of a vote.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE

It will be the duty of the council committee to review all proposals put forward by the sub-committees and to try and resolve all issues at council level. Any issues that cannot be resolved at council level will be forwarded to the Governor.

The council committee will have the right to reject any proposal they feel to be irrelevant or unworkable. This will be done by means of a vote. The council committee will elect a chairman at each meeting who will have the power of a casting vote where required. All decisions must be substantiated.

The council committee will have access to relevant documentation, stationary and equipment in order to put forward properly formulated issues to the Governor. The council committee will meet once every two weeks to discuss and resolve any issues put forward by the sub-committees.

The council committee will meet once per month with the Governor to update him on any relevant decisions taken, and to put forward to him any issues they could not resolve.

The council committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th weds. of the month, They will meet on the 3rd weds. of the month with the Governor.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

All officers and residents will be eligible to serve on the council committee or any of the four sub-committees.

Notice for forthcoming elections and for willing candidates will be posted on the notice board at least 7 days prior to the election. Anyone interested will put their name on the posted sheet. All candidates will be subject to a ballot with those attaining the highest number of votes being elected into office. If any positions are not filled from the notice board then proposals will be accepted from the body of the hall. All officers and residents are eligible to vote.

All committee members will serve for a period of three months when they will be subject to re-election. If, during a term of office anyone decides to drop out, the candidate with the next highest vote (relevant to the specific committee) will be co-opted on till the end of that term.

Elections will be held on the 4th Tuesday of October, January, April and July.

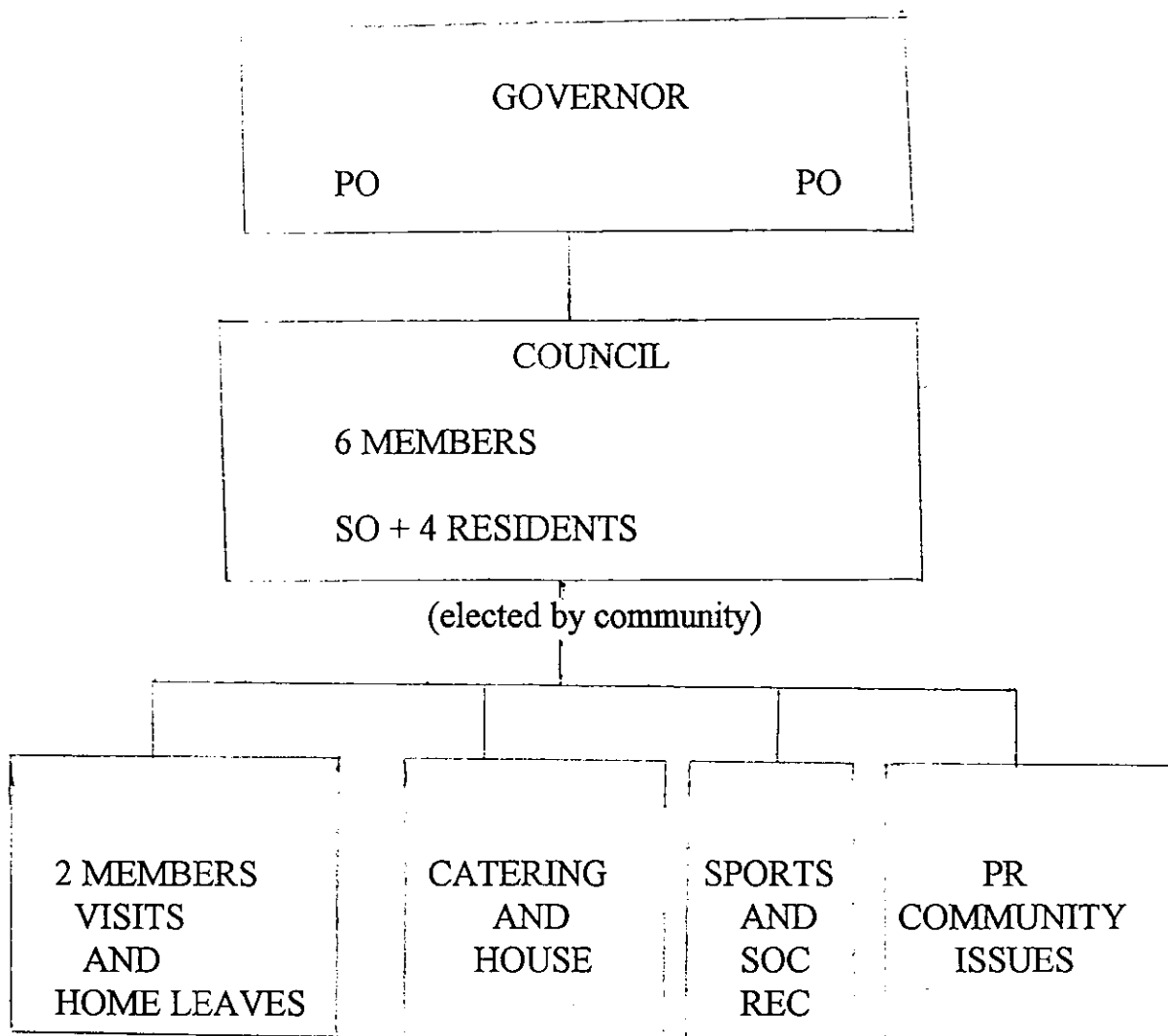
Any alterations or additions to the constitution can only be passed by a majority vote at an election.

The council committee will have the right to call an extra-ordinary election by giving the appropriate notice.

CO-ORDINATOR/ RECORD KEEPER

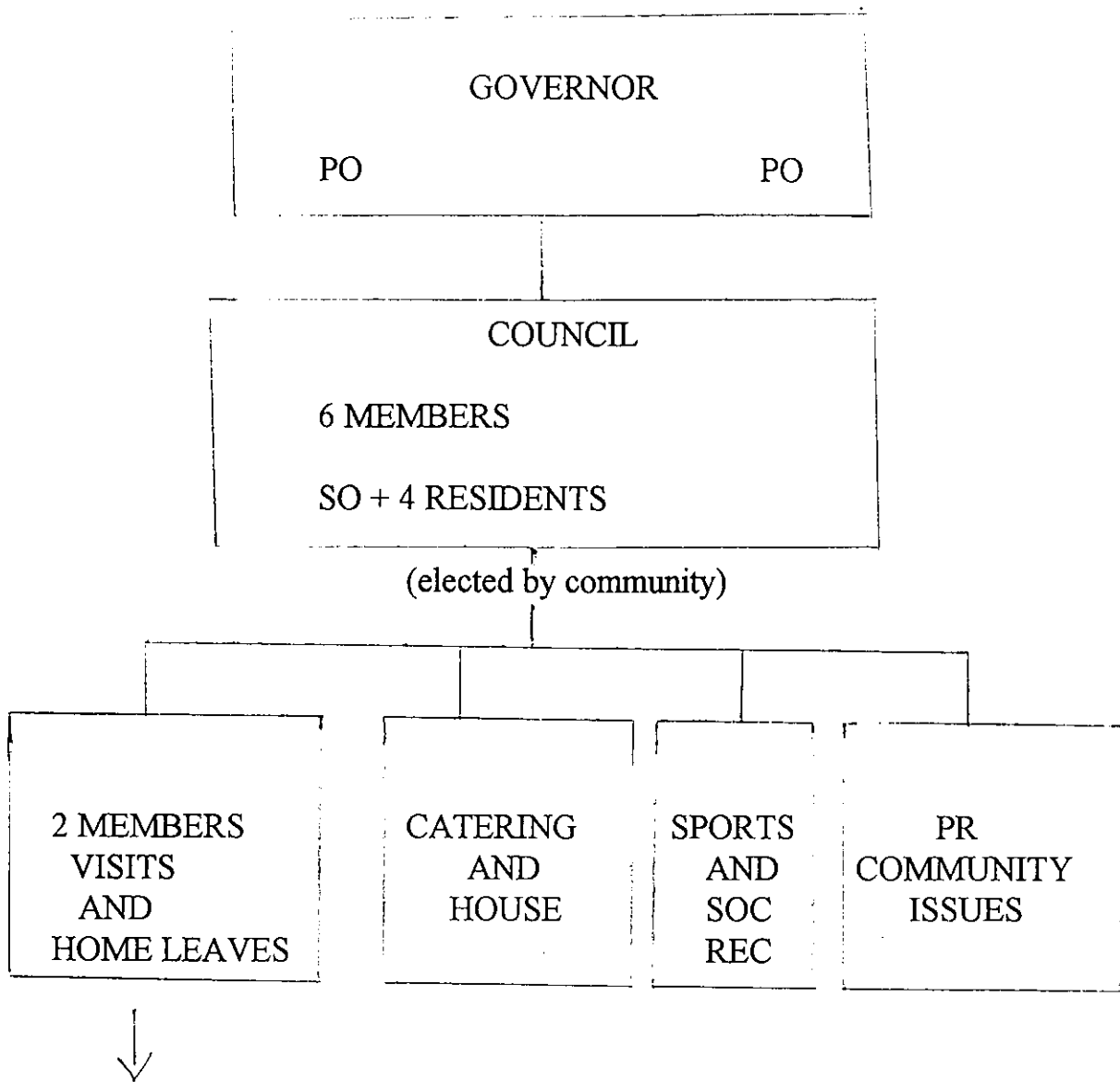
It was decided at the inaugural meeting that an election should take place for a co-ordinator / record keeper, whose post will include the duties of keeping the flow of information between the various sub-committees and the council. And also be responsible to the council for the preparation of proposals from all the committees to the Governor. And of course the keeping of records, and decisions made for future reference. The post will be on the same terms as the posts on the council and sub-committees.

STAFF AND PRISONERS 2ND MEETING WEDNESDAY



If resolved minutes
given ie not referred
to council

STAFF AND PRISONERS 2ND MEETING WEDNESDAY



If resolved minutes
given ie not referred
to council

STAFF 1ST GROUP A.M. WEDNESDAY

WHAT IS IN IT FOR THEM

1. More say in how they live their life.
2. Opportunity that show that they can be trusted.
3. Why do we have so many petty rules? Letters etc. Nos checks?
4. Normalisation?
5. Fairer system of work allocation.
6. Clearer understanding of system.
7. Better communication (reasons?).
8. Opportunity to have say in budget.
Save money, make Penninghame more viable.
9. Make better use of estate (sheep).
10. Chance to prove we can be the first community prison in Scotland.

Authorities? Public? Tax Payer? Victim?

GROUP 3 A.M. WEDNESDAY 1ST MEETING

1. SPORTS AND RECREATION

Benefits to staff - relieves staff of responsibilities and TOIL of thinking up new ideas and places to go. If we do this through our own committee it will be our own choices of venues etc resulting in happier prisoners and therefore a happier and more relaxed atmosphere overall which benefits both staff and prisoners alike. All we would need is a member of staff to drive us to venues suggested by committee.

2. Committee of prisoners to meet with town committee with a view to improve relationships benefits everyone (staff by hopefully stopping or alleviating bad press and feelings against us that staff who mostly live locally get on our behalf).

3. Ground work allocation benefits to staff relieves need for security staff to work in grounds also grounds staff could be doing other things instead of chasing us up.

4. Organisation and supervision of visits obviously relieves any staff of the stress and time etc involved in the above and create better relations.

GROUP 1 WEDNESDAY A.M. 2ND MEETING

RESPONSE

- 1) More activities.
- 2) More control of our prison lives.
- 3) More constructive work programmes.
- 4) More contact with our families, ie home-leaves.
- 5) Satisfaction of implementing change, not necessarily for us.
- 6) Prisoners having a say on how the budget is spent.
- 7) More placements, local advertisement.

TABLE 5.2 ALL SCOTTISH STAFF PERCEPTION RATINGS

	'94	'91		'94	'91
CAPABILITY OF SENIOR STAFF			STAFF TRAINING		
Senior staff in the prison know what goes on	46	52	Training	60	71
Senior staff would listen to any suggestion about the running of the prison	42	44	STAFF TRAINING RATING		
CAPABILITY OF SENIOR STAFF RATING			CLEANLINESS		
	44	48	The halls	73	68
COOPERATION			The toilets	60	61
Relationships are good in the SPS	47	67	The showers	63	63
Co-operation is high among the various divisions in the prison	59	61	The dining ares	79	64
Rivalry is not a common feature of staff relations in this prison	55	82	CLEANLINESS RATING		
COOPERATION RATING				69	64
	54	70	FOOD		
PERFORMANCE			The choice of menu	95	79
Staff in the SPS take a strong pride in the quality of their work	88	79	The quality of food	91	76
The SPS places a great deal of emphasis on staff development and training	54	72	FOOD RATING		
As an organisation, the SPS is often taken by surprise by events	86	88		93	78
The SPS is committed to improving its performance	89	82	MUSTER ROOM		
The work done by the SPS is valued by the public	52	50	Relaxation	38	30
As an organisation, the SPS is good at committing its new ideas to staff	33	43	Privacy	25	24
PERFORMANCE RATING			Eating (the canteen)	35	34
	67	69	Showering	31	35
MANAGEMENT			Washing	48	44
Management in the SPS have a high confidence in the capabilities of the staff	57	70	Physical recreation	73	54
The style of management in the SPS is to reward/punish good/bad performance	35	37	Cooking food	55	47
SPS management are always ready to make changes to the system when the situation demands	51	51	MUSTER ROOM RATING		
The SPS places a high value on staff participation in the running of the system	60	68		44	38
There is no criticism by staff of the way the SPS is run	14	18	ATMOSPHERE		
Conflict between staff and management is low in the SPS	37	52	In the prison generally	88	92
Staff can be trusted to do a good job without excessive supervision	92	92	In the halls	80	90
Management in this prison places a high value on staff participation	79	81	In the workparties/workshops	82	92
MANAGEMENT RATING			ATMOSPHERE RATING		
	53	59		83	91
PRISON FABRIC			RELATIONSHIP WITH STAFF		
The overall state of repair of the prison	71	60	Governor grades in the prison	89	75
The level of heating in the prison generally	83	87	Officers of the same sex	99	95
The level of noise in the prison generally	89	87	STAFF RATING		
The level of ventilation in the prison	72	67		94	85
The level of attention paid to Health and Safety	67	64	RELATIONSHIP WITH PRISONERS		
PRISON FABRIC RATING			PRISONER RATING		
	76	73	Prisoners in the prison generally		
				99	92
			RELATIONSHIP WITH SPECIALISTS		
			Social work staff	91	72
			Psychologists	90	73
			Nursing officers	98	89
			Doctors	94	88
			Chaplains	97	93
			SPECIALIST RATING		
				91	88
			MORALE RATING		
				38	74

At a prisoners' meeting on 30th May 1996, the following points were identified for further discussion with prison management:-

- 1) Would it be possible for more use to be made of the mountain bikes during weekday evenings?
- 2) Could the area around the back of the house be upgraded in order to allow the playing of 5-a-side football?
- 3) Can the nature trail be opened for the use of visitors and/or prisoners?
- 4) Would it be possible for better signposting outside the prison to help visitors find Penninghame?
- 5) Would it be possible to arrange overnight camping or fishing trips?
- 6) What happened to the idea of installing a caravan on the premises for the purpose of dealing with domestic crises?
- 7) Would it be possible to provide aerobics classes?
- 8) Several months ago 3 hour visits to Ayr on the weekend bus were started on a trial basis. We feel that this "trial" has proved beneficial and successful, and wonder if the scheme could now be extended to allow 6 prisoners the chance to enjoy this facility.
- 9) It was also felt that a leaflet for the purpose of detailing local attractions and places of interest would be useful for people going on six hour local leaves.
- 10) Could the 12 hour local leaves to Ayr be re-negotiated and restored?
- 11) Would it be possible for visits to Newton Stewart's cinema when it reopens?
- 12) Could the toilets in the ^{cook}~~club~~ house be upgraded for the use of visitors?
- 13) People on full time placements have been included in new rule which requires everyone to be out of bed by 8.00 a.m. Considering that these people are not required until 8.45, and also considering that they don't come back to the prison until about 30 minutes after the sheds have finished work, why can't it be left to each individual to get up and over to the gate at the appropriate time in his own way?

- 14) Could we have more litter bins placed around the prison and grounds?
- 15) Would it be possible for each room to have it's own kettle?
- 16) Would it be possible to change the type of mattress which is issued?
- 17) Could there be more of a variation of weekend ^{meals} ~~work~~?
- 18) During weekend lunches, would it not be possible for an officer to book us in at the kitchen, rather than having to report to the gate?
- 19) Since the office can only provide stamps on a Thursday, would it not be an idea to look into the possibility of installing a stamp machine at the gate?
- 20) The recent closure of the canteen has resulted in a more limited choice availability, i.e. phonecards, sweets, crisps, tobacco and canned drinks are all that's available now. There are no official arrangements for access to the town to obtain other items. Can this be remedied?
- 21) Could a microwave dish be provided for heating foodstuffs in the microwave?
- 22) There is a microwave oven in the dining room which, according to staff, cannot be used for any legitimate purpose as foodstuffs are still banned in the main house. Could this rule be reviewed?
- 23) Last year Mr. Ross announced that the clubhouse was to be refurbished in a manner which would allow the playing of indoor football. Could this work be commenced as soon as possible?