



## MINUTES – Parent Council Meeting Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### 1. Welcome (5 mins):

#### a. Welcome & Apologies (Sandra & Jo)

*Karolina, Ashley, Morag, Sarah, Shabnam (more than 15 did not attend or submit apologies)*

#### b. PC members update (Sandra)

*Fern will be stepping back from leading fundraising but will remain as a PC member. This role is open to any PC member who wishes to take it on.*

*Mandy White will also be taking a step back from the PC in the next couple of months. Mandy has taken on additional volunteer work, with a different group, and is very busy at her day job. Therefore, she will no longer be able to attend PC meetings. However, we very much hope to continue making use of her amazing contributions and we will miss her jokes at meetings hugely!*

### 2. Discussion Papers (30 mins):

#### a. Update: Roads & Safe Routes to School (Bryan, Sandra, Gordon)

- What has been achieved? What is still pending? What is still unsafe?

*Bryan has advised that the flashing lights are being looked into. There is a concern that some of the issues are being looked at job specific rather than assessing the overall area as a concern – crossroad up from Tony Macaroni for example.*

*Bin lorries – the teams have been advised not to enter the area during the specific times but this has been ignored on occasion. This is an ongoing issue and will be monitored.*

*Ashley has also raised the concern of the timing on the pedestrian lights on Queensferry Roa (near dentist), this has been highlighted as a sensor issue.*

#### b. Funding Request & Vote: Sustainability Pupil Voice Group / Gardening Club (Ellen McCrimmon & Sandra)

- Please see attached video link: [Sustainability Pupil Voice Outdoor Learning Resources Plea | ClickView](#)

*£1161 has been requested. It was put to those attending the meeting for vote and it was approved and agreed to fund £1500.*

#### c. Funding Request: & Vote New PC urns (Laura P)

*A request for new urns was put to the vote and approved. Amazon has urns for £80 and Emma McLoughlin has offered the football team urn at the end of the year.*

d. Funding Request & Vote: Writing competition prize / Librarians Pupil Voice Group (Sandra)

*"We would be so grateful if the Parent Council would fund three £10 book tokens for our 'Make a Book Competition' [...] We have members of our Literacy/Librarians Pupil Voice Group launching the competition during Assembly this afternoon. I look forward to hearing from you.*

*Thank you,  
Lucia Mackie"*

*Asked for funds for 3x£10 book tokens. It was put to the PC that a token per year group would be appropriate and the £70 (7x£10 tokens) was approved. Sandra and Al to take this forward with Ms Mackie.*

e. Plans for picnic table painting / Gardening (Sandra)

*External 'handy man' to come in and paint tables/benches and stage over easter holidays. Paint sourced and it can be stored securely in the wee hut by the stage with PC padlock. Then the gardening group can be let loose.*

f. Parent/Carer Feedback Survey on PC (Sandra)

- Please see attached proposed questions document.

*Only one survey done in the last 5 years and that was internal. Suggestions have been made on alterations to the first draft of survey, from scoring, opening up the closed questions, to how the surveys are then collected and information collated. Aim is to have it out by parents evening. Farah has volunteered to collate as needed as she loves excel! Suggestion of availability of survey in other languages. Mrs McCrimmon has highlighted that there is a form style that is available.*

g. SportY Day suggestion (Bryan & Gordon)

*The initial suggestion was to encourage football having a positive part to play in encouraging respect. It was mentioned that any and all sport is open to becoming a could process for opening role models/positivity. Potentially able to get some 'stars' to come along and show the kids what can be achieved. With that in mind, the aim to show the girls of the school that sport is open to them as much as it is to boys with a hope to get some female professional stars in.*

*(it was highlighted by Gordon that it's not the banning of football colours/strips but the discouragement of coming to school in weekend/party wear).*

*It is aimed that parents aren't to buy new outfits, its about encouraging what the kids enjoy outside of school (sensible optiond as swimming might not be the best option!). Maybe link it with Drumbrae leisure centre and potentially a better name. Gordon will take this up*

*with the staff and PC will provide volunteer support and funding if and when needed.*

3. Regular Updates (30 mins):

a. Treasurer Report [see attached Treasurer report] (AI)

*Last report released November 2024 (January meeting was the workshop training and no official pc meeting took place by majority agreement).*

*A fantastic amount has been raised through all the recent events and this has allowed many activities to be supported with PC funding.*

*It was noted that Sandra contacted school management to offer PC funding support for school trips but no reply. Gordon to take this up with Ms Labatte to see what trips can be supported.*

- Request for new bank account signatories.

*Due to Robbie Scott leaving for S1, Anne will need to step down and a new signatory will be needed. Jo (PC secretary) has volunteered.*

- Independent examiner of accounts.

*An individual is needed to examine the accounts but they cannot be connected to the PC. Rachel Liddle has volunteered for next year as her daughter, Thea, will be in S1. Hayley has volunteered her husband (Kevin Keenan) for this year.*

*The Bank of Scotland has announced that the existing PC account will be changing to a more suitable account but it will incur a £4.25 cost. It has been agreed to see how this works and take it from there.*

*It has also been noted (Fern advised) that the Corstorphine branch is closing towards the end of the year. Standard branches limit the number of coin bags and as a school charity this will be limiting. Card readers are currently being looked out to try and reduce coinage but also the possibility of using the Post Office to pay in coins. This is ongoing.*

b. Headteacher Report [HT is additionally asked to comment on the following as far as possible]:

- Active Schools Clubs – will they be re-starting, particularly table tennis?  
*There has been a system changeover and this has caused limitations in what can be offered. At the moment there is no Active schools coordinator in place. This has been the case for 2 years.*

*Book and blether – this had a positive response from all. It was encouraging to see many parents and carers engaging with the event and the relaxed environment for teachers and parents/carers.*

*It has been suggested a 'numbers' theme would be an option – numbers and natter or maths and mingle...*

*The Drumbrae library gave positive feedback too as it allowed them to show parents/carers what the library can offer in way of events and clubs.*

*Gordon spoke about a learning walkabout where the teachers get to walk round and engage with the other classes in a more informal way.*

*The decking by the main door has been replaced and is now open for use.*

#### 4. Fundraising (30 mins):

- a. Update: Autumn Disco, Christmas Fair, Crazy Hair Day, Tea Towels (p1), EH Direct Grant, Tesco Tokens, Asda Rewards (Fern)

*Fern has advised that the Tesco tokens can take 12-18 months! EH directory has published charity vote which our nursery is listed. Email votes to the relevant contact in EH directory.*

*Nursery request for funding (£1800) through different external means hasn't been particularly successful. (no further forward from August last year) Will see how EH directory voting goes and then consider PC support for funding. ASDA contacted Fern and advised that Clermiston had got £134 (to be verified with Al) through the ASDA rewards scheme.*

*Tea Towels (P1) – online shop closed and the tea towels should be available after Easter. Approximately £500 in sales and this would generate around £100 to the PC funds (between 20%-25% depending on what has been purchased). Christmas Cards – registered for early bird offer.*

- b. Fundraising plans for Spring/Summer: Summer Disco (Angie & Al), Sports Day Refreshments (Laura)

*Angie and Al planning Summer disco. DJ Lithgow has cleared his diary to be in attendance. LET to be requested for hall use – this comes out of school allocation of time. This is to be raised to school manager (19/3). Suggested to keep ticket cost very low or free due to PC fund balance. Volunteers from previous discos will be contacted and then pushed out if more are needed. Same year groups as previously – P1-P3 and P4-P7.*

*Sports day refreshments – Laura is looking to sell tea/coffee/cakes. Just needs planning for location and timings.*

- c. Rag Bin Discussion (Fern)

*It has been suggested we remove the RagBin as it isn't producing the return it has in the past. Less money per kg, container being used as 'bin' and quite often not being emptied due to soggy bottom!*

*It is thought maybe not being in the school grounds but the car park might improve its purpose.*

*Mandy has advised that communication with the RagBin can go unanswered. Marion to look into other companies/options.*

5. A.O.B (5 mins):

*Whatsapp message across year groups to be sent to encourage volunteers for Willow trimming (Ms McCrimmon) for 20/3.*