

Clermiston Parent Council AGM Minutes – 5th September 2022

Attendees: Sandra Dargie, Anne Scott, Karen Souza, Gordon McIntyre, Geraldine Forsyth, Mandy White, Emma McLoughlin, Stuart Lithgow, Suzanne Gilhooley, Fern Findlay-Greene, Kirsty Gallen, Morag Morrison, Mary Bisset, Roshni Main, Jon Lofthouse, Matthew MacLachlan, Thomas Richard, Eric Jackson, Cllr Euan Hyslop, Cllr Ed Thornley

Apologies: Rachel Liddell, Rachel Cooney, Laura Smith

1. Welcome and updates

Sandra welcomed everyone to the meeting. Previous minutes were accepted.

- Sandra thanked Rachael, Jon and Mandy for organising the first day of term welcome committee which was a super start to the term.

2. Discussion Papers

- a. **Fence** - Sandra thanked Euan Hyslop and others (you know who you are) for getting our improved school fence over the line.
- b. **Football** – has “kicked off” successfully this term. Emma noted some issues with PVGs which seems to be a slow process, but we’ll work through that. Some teams already running with others being organized through Parent Pay. The group approved funding a first aid kit (required at each match) if no available one located (***Stuart to check***). Mattie noted a positive experience working with Sandra and Emma and the great impact on being able to provide extra curricular sport. Keen to replicate with other sports and will look into netball next. Sandra reminded that we won’t fully fund football from Parent Council funds after October but may still be required to subsidise – if we can retain current numbers, it will self-fund. Great support from parent volunteers and keen to keep this going. Football gear needs stored on site and recommended that Josh speaks to Gordon directly on finding a suitable place.
- c. **School trip subsidy** – Proposal to fund 2 trips per class pa was unanimously agreed (not including Lyceum transport which would be fund raised for separately). Parent Council keen to see the plan / outcomes to be able to share this with the parent body.
- d. **Clothing rail /Lost Property** – Great effort to set up clothing rail at end of term slightly hampered by holiday clear out so volunteers required to keep this tidy ongoing and also to set up a separate area to manage lost property. Please let Mandy White know if you can help. Gordon noted a great experience for pupils selecting from the rail as the uniform is all nearly new, clean and nicely presented. Suzanne also happy to help.
- e. **M&S Uniform** – Noted that M&S do logo uniform that undercuts BE on price. School has to manage the set-up of this, but it would provide an alternative. Anne to follow up with BE re their offering and service.
- f. **IT support** – Jon offered to support school with any IT needs if required. Gordon noted some data privacy issued and praised Dana Henderson for her

leadership in this for the school but welcomed the additional help and always good to have experience to call on for support and to discuss ideas which is appreciated and noted. Jon to look into possibility of a Parent Council Teams channel. **Action: Jon**

- g. **Outdoor bins and litter** – Gordon meeting with Facilities Management this week and this item is on the list. Relief janitor doing a good job in terms of staying on top of the issue as best he can, and children do routinely carry out litter picks but solutions including recycling still need to be found and implemented. Gordon to report back. **Action: Gordon**
- h. **Bollard teams** – Keen to get this back up and running this term and Stuart has discussed with the JRSO staff rep and is leading this but would be helpful to spread the load, especially in the afternoon where teachers are less available. If you can help, please let the parent council or Stuart know.
- i. **Lollipop update** – Advert to go out again shortly after the previous applicant withdrew.
- j. **Increasing inclusivity in comms** – Group discussed the ability to facilitate better year group comms, ensuring everyone who wants to be on groups has the chance to be. Email to go out on Parent Pay.
- k. **P1 Welcome Letter and Bags** – Letters to go out in bags and will include easy fundraising flyers
- l. **Gardening** – Mandy gave an update noting Miss Akhtar had applied for more hedge saplings which will go in now the fence has been upgraded – need a date to do this before end of November. Parent Council agreed to fund netting and stakes to support this. Mary proposed allowing parents into the school at agreed time to maintain the planters which would allow more people to participate. Gordon and Geraldine to assess risks and rules and advise. **Action: GM/GF**

3. **Regular updates**

- a. **Treasurer report:** Fern presented the report and noted a balance of c£8k where football fees and P1 bags were still to be funded. The group agreed to fund Steve the Drummer for the P7 trip to Lagganlia.
- b. **HT Report:** Gordon, Geraldine and Suzanne updated on the following:
 - i. **Outdoor stage** has been approved at Council and now awaiting final price proposal and scheduling. Once this plan is known we can look at adding things like prop sheds, etc.
 - ii. **Wear and tear on the decking** is being investigated by the relief Janitor and will be dealt with as normal in school.
 - iii. **Bike shed break in** meant the loss of 2 bikes and some tools. Follow up to reporting being managed and whilst the shed has been made safe, looking at more security. Bikes donated by the community, including Eric Jackson have been very gratefully received.
 - iv. Suzanne keen to have a parent council flyer for **new nursery parents** – Mandy to liaise re nursery.

- v. **P7s** are off to Lagganlia – hooray
- vi. Large focus on **attendance** this year – out of time to review the school PIP but house captains will be involved in supporting this key initiative.

c. **Councillor update:** Euan noted **roadworks** now due for October week and advised increasing visits to tackle illegal parking around school, which creates safety issues. Keen to support bins/litter requirements and will help once the area is clearer. Ed asking for information with regards to **safe routes to school**, particularly along Parkgrove Drive where he has had issues raised. Anne to provide details.

4. **Fundraising plans:**

Kirsty kicking things off again this year and there will be a fundraising **in person** meeting on **Monday 12th September at the Library Hub from 7pm to 8pm** – all welcome! Noted a successful summer term with our fayre and marathon runners raising great sums of money for projects to be spent in school. Autumn term will see a Halloween Disco, Christmas Fayre and who knows what else...!

5. **AOB**

The next meeting is on Monday 10th October at 6.30pm on MS Teams.