

Parent Council Minutes: Monday 16th January 2023

Present: Sandra Dargie, Gordon McIntyre, Karen Souza, Fern Findlay Greene, Kirsty Gallen, Stuart Lithgow, Anne Scott, Mandy White, Alison Lynas, Angie Millar, Cllr Euan Hyslop, Geraldine Forsyth, John Lofthouse, Shabnam Hussain, Laura Smith, Marian Cruikshank, Morag Morrison, Rachael Lynch, Suzanne Gilhooley, Emma McLoughlin, Bryan Mackie, Roshni Main

Apologies: Rachel Liddell, Charlie Goldsmith

1. Previous Minutes and Happy New Year

- a. Sandra welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2023 and previous minutes were approved.

2. Discussion Papers

- a. **Parking Bollards / Wee People** - Now have 8 parent helpers supporting the teachers and JRSOs on a Monday and Wednesday, and school run this on Fridays.
- b. **Councillor Update** – Euan Hyslop has done a walkabout with school community and he and Bryan looked at the junction of Parkgrove Terrance and Parkgrove Road, which has resulted in a better solution proposed to support cyclists to school (implementation of a bollard). Euan given reassurance from council officers that this change can be accommodated, and it won't impact timescales to the rest of the work, which has gone out to tender with "hopes" that this can be done at Easter. Euan also updated on the action taken since the bike shed break ins last year– where a review of safety motion raised by Euan will go to Transport & Environment Committee in February or March. Bryan Mackie provided an update on using his experience in this area to support the work of the parent council to make active travel to school much safer and easier for children and carers.
- c. **2022 nursery plan** – fund and resource requests from 2022 now complete and Suzanne passed on thanks to Mandy for completing all the requests including fairy doors which are now in place!

3. Regular Updates

a. Treasurer Report

- i. Fern provided a current update and background to expenses for the Christmas Fayre too for full transparency. We don't believe there is anything outstanding to come out, so reporting is up to date. Report taken as read.
- ii. **Funding strategy** – The Parent Council noted the current proposed funding items and agreed with the list – and all were keen that any balance thereafter is spent in the school year. Happy to support funding for additional trips such as inter school sports, etc. Group discussed and keen we work hard to ensure this is a fairly allocated as possible. Also keen to ensure good transparency over all decisions made and how money is spent and supports discussion which may help get good deals on all spend. Agreed draft to be sent for approval to all PC members.

ACTION – Sandra/Fern

- iii. **Summer spending** – decent budget available for spring and summer terms. Ideas proposed include outings, extending iPad to P5s, sheds to support stage activities (stage platform now up but in need of decoration), and a welcome pack for new students where contents may vary from year group to year group. Hall décor may also need replaced ahead of P7 dance, for example might be helpful as a one off donation. School library might benefit from some additional spend – Suzanne to do stock check first. (Request for some support in cataloguing new books too – Suzanne to follow up.) Whole school trip was a popular choice but logistics to be worked out for this term, which is very busy. Outdoor space also being reviewed/considered – improving space outside p1/2 and storage is also worth consideration. List to be collated and sent to Gordon, Geraldine and Suzanne. Gordon to also raise with Pupil Voice Groups and get feedback.

ACTION - Gordon

Discussed the need to review and upgrade some of the areas that are muddy, slabs broken, etc, which needs a more holistic review and repair – particularly to deal with the constant flooding at the front of the school. Regular drain maintenance is required to deal with this.

- iv. **Charity registration** – thinking about looking at this. Kirsty had done a lot previously. Need group of people to be trustees (need 3) and to clarify where we register the charity. Fern to collate information and bring this to the next meeting.

b. Headteacher Report

- i. **Swimming caps** – no policy regarding this is in place at school but the Drumbrae pool does have a policy, and they require children to wear a cap.
- ii. **Class Photo's** – mixed feedback on quality of photographs. Nursery in particular unhappy with them but some other classes were too. The experience for the children was positive with the photographer – Gordon agreed to look at different options next time and see how that works / or not and to follow up from there.
- iii. **School Janitor** – Agency janitor currently in place and doing a good job for the school. Good feedback received from the parent council. Waiting update from Facilities Management about ongoing cover plans.
- iv. **Lunch options** – some children not getting the options they have chosen – Gordon to follow up.

4. Fundraising

- a. **Successful autumn/winter term** of fundraising which has put us in a great position. Easy fundraising, rag bag, crazy hair days, stikins – easy for the team. Christmas Fayre was very successful – a lovely day, nice flow and raised a great amount. Lots of work so proposing once a year feels the right amount. Keen to look at other opportunities – committee still to meet but ideas including “spring fling” given we

missed out on Halloween Disco. Mindful not to clash with the whole school show. Would like to get others involved to help out and for fresh ideas. We hope EMF relay races will also be a good fundraiser for us again in May.

- b. **Christmas cards** – raises a lot of money for the school and will need someone to lead on this in 2023 as Charlie moves on from the school (and a huge thanks for all her work).

Next meeting is on Monday 6th March at 6.30pm on MS Teams.