

RDM Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday 16th May 2019

Meet Location: RDM School

Attendees: Claire MacFarlane, Viktoriia Paton, Michelle Jamieson, Victoria Ritchie, Carol Lindsay, Vicky Sichi, Lisa Marshall, Dawn Turner, Fiona Coyle, Lynne Lambert

Apologies: Shona Campopiano, Louise Walsh, Kay Bissett, Gaynor Hood, Sam Wells, Lynzi Stewart, Margo Latham, Wendy Reid, Lewis Simpson

Matters from last meeting

Open day – LL apologised that an open afternoon had not been included in the calendar for some time, but confirmed an open day was planned for this term.

No other outstanding matters.

Treasurer's report

VP confirmed £112.40 was made from the sale of school uniform on parents evening.

CM asked what should be done with non branded uniform which could not be sold. An honesty box was considered. Attendees should consider for discussion at next meeting.

It was confirmed that £514.65 was taken on Easter Fun Day, with £78 paid out in expenses. CM thanked the organising committee and businesses for their help and support in organising the event.

An evening fundraising event was held at Charlie Taylors where £183 was raised.

It was confirmed that parent council have taken a stall at Humpty Dumpty's duck race on Sunday 26th May, which has cost £15.

Current account status: £5017.24 in the bank account, and a float of £123. Total £5140.

Fundraising

CM advised that a rag bag box is a permanent fixture in the school now, where parents can put unwanted clothes. RDM can then pass on the unwanted items, with cash being raised.

CM confirmed that the spring disco will take place on the 14th of June. There will be 2 discos; P1 – P3 at 5:45-7:00pm and P4 – P7 between 7.15pm and 8.30pm.

The parent council and school are not involved in the P7 disco, however the parent council are happy to share details of the disco on the Facebook page if required.

CM suggested a bag pack be arranged within this calendar year – CM to arrange.

KB confirmed that the preparation of a recipe book is under way. Text is being prepared and prices are being sought from printers.

Halloween discos will be happening in October/November – dates to be confirmed.

LL has suggested that parent council fund a new shed for the nursery to store bikes and equipment, and a second new shed for primary one's to store loose parts. It was also suggested that parent council continue to fund and support outdoor learning.

VR suggested free compost be collected from Friarton Recycling Centre. It was also suggested that free items may be available from B&Q.

Polytunnel

Polytunnel has been damaged and repaired several times. LL was asked to confirm what plans the school had put in place to prevent future damage. LL advised that the importance of the polytunnel has been raised at assembly. The next step would be to prepare a poster to raise awareness and raise the issue on social media – Action LL.

Scone Community Council have been supportive and confirmed they will share social media posts from the school. VR suggested that Scone Thistle also be asked to share – Action LL.

Discussion regarding the closing of school gates after school hours to prevent people walking their dogs regardless of the no dog signs at the gates. Also the presence of cars being parked in the school grounds which a number of parents have noted they are not happy with. Mrs Lambert informs us the gates cannot be locked as the school is a public right of way. Also the gates would need to be locked by someone who would come under the contract of Tayside Contracts . It is noted it is mainly Scone Thistle people who are driving in and out of the school grounds or parking there when there is sufficient parking around the school. Parent Council are hoping to have a meeting with Scone Thistle representative to discuss this.

Lost Property

Thanks to Ally for all her hard work in sorting and returning lost property. She will message parent council weekly to update on lost property – parent council will share relevant information – Action parent council.

School updates

LL advised that she is currently preparing for the next academic year, including staffing and classes, and rounding up work for this year. Staff are currently preparing end of term reports. LL is also visiting children who are in nursery (external to RDM) and moving into P1 in August.

LL confirmed that next year there will be 16 classes, including 2 composite classes. Classes are prepared according to date of birth although exceptions will be made if needed, i.e. sibling requirements and to balance out gender ratios. It was confirmed that all teachers are included in the process of class preparation.

LL confirmed there will be 1 new probationer next year. Mrs Wright and Mrs Pattinson will be on maternity leave and their jobs will be held open.

It has been confirmed that there will be 60+ P1's in August and there will be a third, full time depute head teacher. A new Principal Teacher will be appointed for the base also.

13th June has been confirmed as moving up day.

LL advised that 4 spaces will be reserved in each year group for allocation to children who may move to the school catchment over the summer holidays.

Summary of school class sizes:

P1 -25

P2 – 30

P3 – 30

P4 to P7 - 33

Several recommendations for improvement were made to the school during last years inspection. The local authority have now undertaken a follow up visit and LL confirmed all recommendations had been carried out.

P6 and P7 are working hard on their show which will be performed at Perth College. Parent Council have been asked to contribute to the cost of using the college facilities.

LL advised that some classes will be getting school trips over the next few weeks, but not all.

Pupil equity funding – the school has been given £30k. It is proposed to spend this on learning materials to extend learning practices utilised in P1 this year, into P2. The school has found the changes made within the P1 environment has had a positive impact. In addition some funding will go towards resourcing The Hub.

Mrs Wilson will continue outdoor learning.

The new room made into the Hub will be getting fitted with resources in the new term.

This year's reflections on our school is how we maintained a nice calm atmosphere for both the staff and the children this was noted by CM chair that this has not gone unnoticed and parents also feel this. Mrs.L was pleased with this and said she and her team work very hard and the key is good communication. Also the wider achievement sessions were a great success and plan to do it again next year. It was good that the children were mixing and learning different skills.

Mrs .L mentioned she has been visiting the new P1 children both at our school nursery and any local ones where the children attend.

Lewis Simpson update

Email update from Lewis re parking issues as at 16 May:-

I have asked the Depute Director of the Environment Service to arrange a "parking summit" to consider the particular difficulties Scone now faces having now lost the parking at the former Wheel Inn as well as considering School Exclusion Zones and other traffic reducing measures.

Participants will include this Parent Council and RDM management. Full details of this will be available as soon as possible following the European Elections.

I can advise that work still continues on further entrances to the school with alternative parking arrangements. Plans for a Puffin crossing on Stormont Road and changes to Park entrances are also being considered. I also continue to press for Parking Attendants and Police to attend the school gates from time to time.

I know that I am preaching to the converted with this Parent Council but the message for all parents must still be "If you can't leave your car at home please park safely and walk for the good of

everyone's safety as well as air quality around the school gate. As the Council's Active Travel Ambassador I will be continuing to campaign for comprehensive travel plans for schools which encourage walking, scooting and cycling to schools (especially RDM!) I hope I can count on the Parent Council and the Head Teacher and senior management team for support."

As regards dangerous driving and parking at the school gates please continue to share registration numbers with me on a confidential basis.

Regards

Lewis

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*Cllr Lewis Simpson
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VR – handed out a proposal she has shared with Lewis Simpson and the council to reduce traffic around the school (please see attached sheet).

Question from CL:-

Is school uniform compulsory? i.e. school tie

Mrs.L – replied it is up to the individual, it is important to identify children to the school so house colours is an option if children do not wish to wear shirt and tie. Mrs.L will have a consultation on uniform and get back to us.

Mrs.Sichi informed us of her banner campaign where she intends the children to design a banner to be made for displaying at the zig zag areas of the school. This will be a whole school competition.

CM- this is our last meeting for this school year thank you to the management team, thank you to the parent council and wider parent body, our volunteering parents/ helpers for all that they have helped with from events, raffles, donating etc.

AGM date is 10th September 2019