

## **Minutes of the ROMPS Parent Council meeting held via zoom on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 19:30**

### **Present**

Kathryn Gartshore (Chair), Gareth Brown, Chris Kennedy, Jennifer Fisher, Fiona Rogerson, Mrs Thomson (Head Teacher), Catriona Murdoch, Kirsty Gray, Miss Crookes, Gemma Good, Susan Girvan, Lis McNally, Claire Orr, Fiona Barr, Mrs Allan, Claire Froud, Laura Black, Bronwen Aidoo (minutes).

### **Apologies**

Annie Smith, Ina Marshall, Joan MacMillan, Vicky Day, Erica Baillie.

### **Welcome**

Kathryn welcomed all for the new session and hope all enjoyed the summer and everyone has settled back into the school routine. It was lovely to have Kirsty join us at the meeting.

### **Agreements of minutes of AGM**

AGM minutes were circulated by email and proposed and seconded by email so that they could be submitted to the council along with details of office bears, constitution and names of Council members for 2021-2022 session.

Proposed Annie Smith

Seconded Ina Marshall.

### **School Business**

Mrs Thomson gave an update regarding return to school and advised that all mitigations are in place as prior to summer holidays but there are now zone bubbles rather than class bubbles. This is largely to ensure social distancing for adults. Further updates are expected at the end of September. Mrs Thomson welcomed the new staff and explained that the additional staff for the covid recovery are being used throughout the school to focus on improving attainment. New huts within the playground are to be finished and will be used to facilitate outdoor learning and forest school sessions have started up. Captains and Vice captains for houses have been selected. There is a new group meeting virtually encouraging parents to give input regarding 5 % of the Pupil Equity Funding and any suggestions on use of this money can be sent to Mrs Dunlop.

### **School improvement Plan**

Mrs Thomson shared the school improvement plan. This will be shared with parents shortly and has three priorities:

- 1 Continuity of learning
- 2 Promote the positive health and wellbeing of children and young people parents/carers and staff.
- 3 Planning for Equity.

## **Parent Council Business**

### **Finance update**

Bank Balance is currently £ 816. 23. The financial report is being audited by Fiona Lawn and will be confirmed at the next meeting.

Kathryn advised the parent council has received insurance certificate for any events held by parent council.

### **Matters arising from AGM**

The quorum number for a meeting had been raised at the AGM. Bronwen has looked into the advice for parent council and the advice is that it is a decision for the parent forum to make and put into the constitution. The meeting discussed the issue and decided to consider amending the constitution at the next AGM to specify

- a. A quorum of 5 people for a usual meeting. If less the 5 people are present the meeting can be held and minuted but no decisions that are binding can be made.
- b. A quorum of 10 people would be required for an AGM

Kathryn confirmed with Mrs Thomson no P1 event was held should an event take place later in the year the parent council will be advised.

### **Planning the year**

The current guidance is that all meetings should be virtual. Current restrictions regarding parents accessing school remain. Following discussion, it was agreed to continue with Zoom meetings. Parents are not allowed to use the children's Microsoft teams to access meetings. Zoom remains free and accessible without having to sign up for an account.

Meetings dates are scheduled as follows.

7 September 2021	6 October 2021	11 November 2021	11 January 2022
16 February 2022	17 March 2022	AGM 17 May 2022	

### **Fundraising**

Fundraising will be required to meet the usual contributions the parent council makes to the life of the school such as reducing the cost of pantomime tickets, providing P7 and P1 gifts and contributions to classes and yearbooks. The meeting acknowledged the difficulty of planning for fundraising under the circumstances at present. Suggestions were received by email and these were listed for the meeting to consider.

Car treasure hunt with prize at end.

General call for donations.

Lucky number/ lotto/ bonus ball draw. Gemma advised that a licence would be needed for this and the outlay would be approximately £20 and then would need administered by someone.

Event to complete 2021 laps of the loch, with or without sponsorship.

Small change collection with classes creating a themed picture; Halloween, Christmas, Spring and Summer themes suggested

Christmas gift sale as we still have some stock from 2019. This may be possible outdoors if parent access to playground is a possibility.

Alternate event to Climb Tinto or local landmark; even just miles completed over the weekend.

Selling Borders biscuits. Kathryn will look into this, and the meeting felt it was important to do this early if possible.

Tesco bags for help. This will be considered but is usually for a specific item or project rather than general ongoing items.

The meeting discussed all of the above and decided to plan to go ahead with a Halloween themed coin picture collection and planning a sponsored distance event. Kathryn will send out invite for people to form a sub-committee to plan this so that it can be completed before Christmas.

The meeting discussed the option of including a donations appeal in the newsletter. Some members agreed that there was nothing to lose by doing this as long as all donations were clearly marked with a reference so that the treasurer can account for the money. Some members of the meeting did not feel it was appropriate to ask for donations directly from parents.

### **Financial Commitments**

The meeting decided to consider the contributions we can make in detail at the next meeting as we may need to be more selective given the current state of finances and the uncertainty of fundraising opportunities we have available.

### **Parental Engagement**

This remains a focus. Everyone attending was encouraged to bring another parent to the next meeting if possible. A Newsletter will be put up to introduce the parent council to the Parent Forum and Bronwen will draft this. It will be circulated to parent council members prior to wider circulation.

### **Active agenda**

Lis McNally advised that many of the current Lanimer committee children are in P6/7 and they are looking for any parents that would be interested to support ROMPS Lanimer entry for 2022 by joining the Lanimer committee.

Meeting closed at 21.01.