

Parent Council, Fossoway Primary School

Minutes of Meeting 15/05/2019

Present: Christina Smith (CS, Chair), Mrs. Allan (FA, Head Teacher), Mrs Brown (LB), Laura Sweet (LS), Sadie Watson (SW), Sheena Mitchell (SM), Susan Russell Darby (SRD), Jim Pritchard (JP), Rachel Charity (RC), Katherine Wallace (KW, Minutes)

Apologies: Adelaide Carlow (AC), Zoe Walthall (ZH), Natalie Harrower (NH), Julie Savin (JS),

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting 20 03 19** – approved as true record (proposed LS, seconded CS)

2. Matters Arising

- **Community Council Link.** Blairingone Primary School – closure if planned although there is an appeal/ review in process.
- **Playground Noticeboard.** £122 x 2 boards approved for wall outside P4/5.
- **Safe Start Services Update.** Meeting planned for next week so will be news after that.

Action: SRD to order Playground Notice Boards with PC funds.

3. **Current Bank Balance.** £2,458.92 including £800 that PC are holding for Safe Start Project. See attached Financial Statement.

4. Cost of the School Day.

Discussion re the value versus work required – a lot of information to collate, especially if includes parental spending not made through the school eg. School uniform & transport to school for those not on the school bus. P7 can be especially expensive when the transition events are taken into account. Travel for trips is also expensive as we are a rural school, although the school does apply for funds to subsidise this as much as possible. Staff and the office do try to keep expenditure down where possible. Discussion re how much fund raising adds, eg. Raffles – and what impact this does/ does not have as this expenditure is voluntary/ different to for example a school trip. Idea raised of a spreadsheet where each time the school/ PTA ask for money through the Fossoway App or letter the item, how much and which classes asked is updated... This needs to be balanced with how busy the office is already.

Action: FA explore the feasibility of a spreadsheet managed by the office to track requests for parental expenditure across the year.

5. School Improvement Plan.

See attached Update Document circulated by FA with Updates for this meeting in red.

Learning through Play P1-3. Feedback opportunity planned for parents this term, and School Survey will soon be out. Discussion that whilst most parents appear to feel positive, one parent raised concern about the approach with a PC Member. FA re-iterated that Parents are welcome to talk to her directly and there will be opportunity for Parent Feedback through the School Survey this term. Important to underline that feedback is listened to and will be continued to be listened to by the School. The School Improvement Plan update (attached) also includes evaluation which will be of interest to parents.

Learning Journeys. Revised format considered positive, children enjoying choosing what work to put in and teachers feel it is more reflective of the children's work than an 'extra' piece of work. Discussion that the 'wider achievements' section for families could perhaps be re-instated, and that perhaps a statement could be added that 'As always parents are encouraged to speak to the School if they have concerns/ feel it would be helpful for their child's learning'.

6. HT Input

See attached Head Teacher Input.

Bullying Policy. The current version is now on the website and revised version following Parental Feedback, consultation with children and staff is nearly ready to be published once the new PKC policy is revised to ensure it is aligned. There is currently a PKC short term working group.

Attendance. FA highlighted that the focus moving forward is improving on the number of children arriving late to school.

Challenge Questions! FA facilitated brainstorming/ discussion with PC on challenge questions from How Good Is Our School toolkit, with thoughts and ideas to feed into future planning.

Questions included:

- What opportunities do our learners and staff have to work with others to contribute effectively to our community as active citizens?
- How well do we enable parents/families and the local community to contribute to the life of the school and school improvement?
- Is our Parent Council representative of all parents and their social, economic and cultural backgrounds? If not what are we doing to address this?

It was felt that this was a very positive part of the meeting

Action: SW & FA to meet re feedback on Parental Communication Policy after this meeting.

Action: CS: Future PC agenda to include a challenge question for discussion

7. AOCB

Thank you. PC thanked RC for her contribution to the PC, RC is leaving as her youngest is now moving to High School.

PC Next Year. Discussion that we would be keen to broaden membership of the PC next year, and if any parents would like to be postholders current members would be delighted to stand aside. Perhaps 'buddying' could be suggested for new potential members that are unsure. Leaflet did generate new membership this year, so will repeat.

Action: KW send FA leaflet used last year for PC membership prior to AGM.

Action: All: speak to parents who may be interested & encourage them to come along to AGM

Date of next meetings:

11th September 2019: AGM

6th November 2019

5th February 2020

13th May 2020

Please Note...

Parent Council Agendas and Minutes are circulated to parents by email from the School Office, and a copy is on the pinboard in the School Reception. All parents are welcome to attend Parent Council Meetings as observers, and we welcome parents coming forward if they are interested in joining the Parent Council. To contact the Parent Council directly you can speak to any member in person, or email fossowayparentcouncil1@gmail.com correspondence is then raised at Meetings.