

Parent Council Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held 19 November 2020 via Zoom at 19:30

Present

Kathryn Gartshore(chair) Gareth Brown, Liz Macnally, Gillian Drummond, Annie Smith, Vicky Day, Claire Frod, Erica Baillie, Catriona Murdoch, Vicky Waugh, Ina Marshall, Bronwen Aidoo(scribe), Mrs Thomson, Miss McAllister, Miss Munro, Mrs McCallum, Susan Girvan.

Apologies Fiona Barr, Laura McCann, Laura Black, Jenni Smith, Miss Crookes, Joan MacMillan, Mrs Gardiner, Fiona Rogerson, Jennifer Fisher

1. Welcome

Kathryn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Agreement of October Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting 19th October were proposed by Catriona Murdoch and seconded by Erica Baillie.

Parent Council Business

3.Finances

Bank Balance update Current bank balance is £1475.72

The licence for the last movie night has now come off and the panto has been paid for of 150 pounds.

Borders Biscuit Update

Borders Biscuit sold £383.00 and parent council received £125 in profit. The Borders orders were cut short due to running out of stock and setting an early deadline but the profit has been helpful. The process of paying by bank transfer was smoother and the doorstep deliveries were easy to arrange with the help of the volunteers each week. Gareth reported that the use of references on the statement made it easy to tie in the payments with the forms emailed to the parent council address.

Panto update

The pantomime has been paid for and school have received the link and the accompanying learning material. This will be screened in class and it has been mentioned in the newsletter .

Financial commitments review

The meeting agreed to continue to fund the items agreed at the last meeting. The usual Christmas Gifts to the classes will not take place this year, Mrs Thomson assured the meeting that the teachers will understand this and the meeting felt that we can review gifts to the class if funds are available.

Grants subgroup update

This group consists of Kathryn and Bronwen and Vicky Day at present. Any other interested parties should contact Kathryn to join the meeting. Mrs Gardiner has updated the Easy fundraising initiative website of the parent council details and this will be detailed via school media for parent/carers to use to link to online ordering and raise funds for the school.

4. Constitution

The temporary amendment to the constitution to increase membership from 25 to 35 was sent out via school media and no feedback was received. The drafted alteration was shared on screen and the meeting agreed unanimously to approve it. The meeting will look at the Constitution prior to the AGM and allow for review at the AGM.

The amendment is to article 3. The membership will be a minimum of three parents of children attending the school. The maximum size is 35 (for session 2020-2021) then will revert back to a maximum of 25. The amended constitution will be sent out via school media and be available on the website.

5 Supporting Parents as partners during Covid 19.

Kathryn shared the document detailed above as available on the South Lanarkshire Council Website. The document was discussed. The meeting decided to ensure all email communications from Parent Council do not make the whole mailing list email public. The meeting also agreed to draft a privacy statement for consideration at the meeting. Susan Girvan will contact other parent councils to see if they have ones suitable to use as a skeleton and will consider the one available from Parent Forum Scotland.

6 Parental Engagement/ Virtual Events

A Virtual Quiz was considered by the meeting and it was felt that virtual quizzes had been popular over the year with lockdown and currently may not be sufficient uptake for the quiz. Virtual Bingo was suggested as was a family trail challenge. The meeting noted that the local high street already had a trail to complete using shop windows. A simple craft suggestion was agreed upon and a description, guidelines could be sent out at the beginning of the month and parents and children encouraged to participate and post picture of the craft to the parent council email address. Vicky Day and Kathryn will arrange.

7. Meeting Dates 2021

Tuesday 19th January 2021

Tuesday 16th February 2021

Tuesday 16th March 2021

May AGM date to be confirmed.

All via Zoom for the foreseeable future.

School Business

8. School updates

Mrs Thomson advised that Book week has been completed as detailed in the newsletter and the virtual assembly was giving a sense of belonging across the school. The school is following South Lanarkshire Council guidance of not requesting any money from the children or parents at all this year. The school and staff have planned activities the children can complete in the class bubbles and still feel festive. The Playground in Zone 2 has been completed and the loose materials are now available for play. Progress is being made on the sensory garden. Christmas card and greetings will be encouraged to be online this year to avoid risk of infection with items being brought into school.

9 Curriculum and Guidance

Mrs McCallum discussed and explained the Emotion works programme which is being used across the curriculum and this will be shared with parent via school media to allow parents to understand the language the children are learning and using.

Active Agenda

10 Packed Lunches/litter

A Parent had raised the issue that the children who are having packed lunches are bringing the litter home and not disposing of it in school. Mrs Thomson explained that the packed lunch area was becoming too busy to maintain infection control measures and keep student in bubbles. Students with packed lunch are now eating it in the classroom but the class rubbish bins can not manage the amount of rubbish and it was having an impact on facilities staff. The best suggestion staff could come to was to say whatever is not eaten is kept in the lunch box and goes home. This prevents overloading the bins, and staff workload and allows parent to see what has been eaten or not eaten.

Meeting closed at 20;45.