

Minutes from Parent Council Meeting Monday 10th September

Attendees: Gilly Marshall (Chair), Jacqueline Small, Julie MacBeath, Leigh Miller, Hazel Stewart(Support for Learning Teacher), Yvonne Dickson(Vice Chair & Minutes), Ann Morrison, Lisa Watt(Treasurer), Jill Doyle(DHT), Steve Clark, Lynsey Binnie(Class Teacher), Emma Singleton(Class Teacher), Chris Rae(PT), Julie Fox(HT), Lesley Scott, Ingrid Buchanan

Apologies: Elaine Bannerman, Karen Smith, Gwyneth Morrison, Lorraine Maguire

1. Wildlife Garden

We started by going out for a look at the wonderful work done on the Wildlife Garden by Parent Council member Jacqueline Small and her team. All agreed it was looking fabulous – what a transformation. Thank you and well done to all involved.

2. Accounts and Auditing-

A few queries around the year end audit but all ironed out and accounts will be signed off prior to the AGM.

Account balance currently £2634.36.

Jill Doyle now a signatory for cheques.

Ann asked if easier to set up uniform account, Jacqueline Small asked what then benefit was and Lisa explained it might be easier due to amount of ins and outs that occur in the uniform account.

Actions

Lisa will speak to the auditor to see what may be best re the accounts– 1 bank account or 2. Also need to ensure that receipts are given when money is exchanged.

Lisa W to arrange a gift for the auditor Jude.

3. Office Bearers

Looking for people who are interested in taking on office bearer roles. Need to get someone to do Secretary. Let Gilly know if interested.

Actions: Gilly will send email out to see if anyone on dist. list may be interested and send out spec of what role is.

Also need someone to help with website as Yvonne moving on next year – Julie MacBeath has said she will do this.

4. Future Dates of Meetings and Events

Will alternate meetings between Mondays and Thursdays.

Action: Gilly to send out dates of meetings

Blingo Night – sometime before Christmas

Action: Gilly to speak to Karen re whether a pre-Christmas would be possible

Ann suggested some sort of Christmas singing fundraiser

Action: School will think about how this would work.

Christmas Calendars, need to get photos taken for Calendars as soon as possible and need a replacement for Gillian.

Action: Lisa said she will organise and arrange photo shoots shortly after September holiday. Going to have a theme for the Calendars Julie Fox will discuss this with teachers.

Jill Doyle suggested doing themed hampers as a fundraiser. Other schools have made up these up and sold raffle tickets – this is a possibility for Christmas.

Events Confirmed

AGM – Thursday 11th Oct 6.30pm then PC meeting afterwards

Autumn Disco – Tuesday 30th October 6-7pm for P1-P3 and 7.15pm-8.15pm for P4-P7

Scots Ceilidh – 7th February

Chick Drive – 18th March

Quiz Night – Date tbc

Lasswades Got Talent – 14th June (tbc)

5. Parents Programme

Hazel Stewart talked us through a programme for helping parents on the challenges of having children at school and ASN and also a programme for children with ASN. Could advertise this at Meet The Teacher.

6. AGM

Gilly will do chairpersons report and Lisa will do finance report.

Chris will order fairtrade coffee, tea and biscuits. School to organise for P1's to sing.

Action:

Gilly to send out AGM notice. Yvonne will update website, Ann to update Facebook

7. Playback

Updated Actions from last meeting – main points:

Got volunteers to talk at Meet The Teacher nights to promote the Parent Council.

Teachers will produce forward plans for topics so PC reps can see when things are happening and school can see where parents can help and give plenty notice

PC reps will be allocated next meeting and make contact with the relevant staff

P7's will make a post box for Parents suggestions/issues for PC meetings

Julie Fox will order a noticeboard to put PC news on this will also contain details of PC

members so parents know who they are. Could use Midlothian Council funding for PC to buy noticeboard.

8. Uniforms

Going well with Border Embroideries – just one mistake over hoodies but all seems okay.

Going to add zipped hoodies to the orders as some came by mistake but they are very nice.

Jill Doyle said staff would like to order new hoodies too.

Action

Ann Morrison to provide order forms for staff.

Uniform Noticeboard – a parent has suggested having a swap shop for unwanted or wrong size uniforms. We agreed the new PC noticeboards could be used for this with small cards to advertise what's on offer.

Lesley Scott gave feedback on the poor colouration of the Fairtrade polo's and them being too short. School going to arrange for P7's to do a survey on quality.

9. AOB

Suggestion from Facebook page on having a voucher system for school dinners or have a pre-order system where children don't need to bring in cash every day.

Julie Fox suggested you can ask Midlothian Council re getting in Cashless Catering system, Council do allow paying in advance for a quarter etc. but individuals need to ask them for this.

Action: PC to find out if parents would want this.

Midlothian PC News – liaison meetings coming up if anyone is interested in going email Heather Maguire – email address is on letter issued.

HT Update – Colin Beattie been in for a look around and agreed the school looked tired but no further action was proposed.

The new room and moves have all gone well at the start of the session.

New Roofing work started late so agreed to do flat roofs first which was not started until end of the holidays due to weather and other things. Flat roofs will be finished by October holiday then they will start on high roofs next summer. Children are coping well with noise disruption though the situation is not ideal.

Parking once again is a problem – have communicated to parents on complaints received from neighbours and asking people to park sensibly.

Next Meeting

Thursday 11th October 7pm after AGM