

Kelvindale Primary Parent Council



Minutes of Meeting

Date:	Wednesday 29 November 2017 - 1900
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<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.0	Present / Apologies / Welcome	
	1.1 Apologies received from Tom Willacy and Craig McNally.	
	1.2 Present: (from the Parent Council) Alisdair Matheson, Jacqueline Burns, Gillian Roulston, Barbara Matheson, Abu Aziz and Helen Ntabeni.	
2.0	Items of Business	
	<p>2.1 – Traffic Management</p> <p>There were a reported 4 near miss traffic accidents, reports of cars mounting the pavements when children were leaving the school, dangerous parking and one case of Road Rage that had a local resident call the school to complain when 32 cars drove out of the street without abiding by the Highway Code and waiting until it was safe for them to overtake parked cars. Also one pedestrian was almost hit (again).</p> <p>The Parent Council noted with disappointment that parents were still disrespecting common courtesy and failing to drive and park appropriately.</p> <p>The police on previous occasions have tried to use a conciliatory approach, but the Parent Council felt that the time had come where drivers were held accountable for their actions.</p> <p>The police would be contacted and they would be asked to observe parking habits to see if fines needed to be issued. The Parent Council would write to the police urging action if those committing offences and endangering pupils and adults were not prosecuted.</p> <p>The Traffic Dept would be contacted to see if the ZigZags could be extended.</p> <p>The pupils may be involved in awareness raising measure and the pupil council would be asked to play a role.</p> <p>Signage may be created for the street where the main problems occur. A meeting would be scheduled with the police.</p>	

	<p>2.2 – Mentoring Opportunities</p> <p>AA offered the school the opportunity to take up mentoring opportunities via Mosaic. This would include One to One and Group mentoring. The school could be visited by professionals to speak to the children.</p> <p>The idea was mooted of events similar to the Career Fair, but making them Industry Focused. BM was very excited by the prospect of building pupil interaction in this manner</p>	
	<p>2.3 – Chalet/Janitor’s Flat</p> <p>Andrew Duff was reportedly waiting for costings for the Financial Accounts and planned for work to start on the Chalet Refurbishment in January. The school had no idea how long the Works will last.</p> <p>BM reported that the Janitor’s flat was now vacated. Whilst the school would love to have use of the space, the protocol was that it be offered to a community service first. It was proposed that the Council be contacted as a matter of urgency to ask if either the school can be given the space or a parents’ group can be given it. Thereafter the parents’ group can facilitate the school’s use of the space.</p>	
	<p>2.4 – Pitches</p> <p>There is still no solution to the pitch being effectively out of bounds due to regular flooding. All that is in place for a permanent solution is apparently an outline agreement between the Council and developers to connect the pitch drainage to the main drainage pipe when the flats are being built. There is no prospect of the drainage being resolved sooner. However, the Council had recently sent a man who spent a day manually removing the build-up of mud and organic material which had been lying on the surface. This had made a difference but will need repeated on a regular basis.</p> <p>There was some concern about the damage done to the surface of the pitch by continual flooding.</p>	
	<p>2.5 – Cordia/Catering</p> <p>The letter received from Cordia was read out to the meeting. The contents were quite unsatisfactory and, in particular, BM had been asked a series of closed questions by an inspector, then those answers presented as being her opinion of substantially different matters. The report had taken out of context what was said including BM saying a hot option should always be available to every child, there should be larger portion sizes for older pupils, brown bread sandwiches should be available and there should be a larger volume of popular choices including Macaroni and Lentil Soup. BM had also pointed out that there were often occasions when food ran out and sandwiches had to be made.</p> <p>The Parent Council noted that uptake of free school meals for P1 – 3s was excellent.</p>	

	<p>Cordia claimed that all their lunches complied with a food audit, but there was no indication of what this meant (ie what nutritional requirements were to meet the audit).</p> <p>It was decided to invite Cordia to meet with the Parent Council.</p> <p>BM advised that Cordia were going to send the Supervisor to the new Broomhill Primary School, so Kelvindale would not have any management staff. The kitchen would not be used to cook anything, all food would be sent over.</p> <p>The Parent Council stressed that they did not think the sandwiches and filled rolls on the menu when other choices regularly ran out were satisfactory. Similarly, items such as hotdogs were rejected as inappropriate for a school menu.</p> <p>AM would draft a response.</p>	
3.0	<p>Financial Report</p> <p>Jacqueline Burns confirmed that the new bank balance, after contributing to the cost of the new Stage Curtains, is £542.91. The only other cost to report was the additional insurance premium for the PTA (a sub-committee of the Parent Council) which assists them to run their events.</p>	JB
4.0	<p>PTA report</p> <p>The PTA's Newsletter outlining their recent activities was presented. The Parent Council stressed how great their events had been and how thankful the school was of their hard work.</p>	AM/PTA member
5.0	<p>Head Teacher's Business Update</p> <p><u>1. Glasgow's Digital Literacy Strategy</u></p> <p>Main points on this Agenda item from the HT Meeting on 8/11/17. This is a 2 year programme and will be tackled in phases. We are not in the first phase.</p> <p>This will be the biggest Apple project in Western Europe. Glasgow is going for Apple because they are the best on the market.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updating internet infrastructure-up to 10 times faster in the Primary Sector 2. Apple TV for all classrooms to replace projectors and smartboards 3. One I-pad per 5 pupils in P1-P5 4. Individual laptop for all P6-S6 pupils 5. An I pad per teacher 6. BM asked if there was any point in buying ipads at the moment and was told that when the new devices are in schools, they will buy back our old ones or upgrade them 7. Kelvindale are looking to purchase I-pads as we need to get started now 8. We have been discussing with the PTA for some considerable time about updating ICT equipment for Kelvindale. The PTA are reluctant to buy i-pads as they feel they are too expensive and 	BM

there are cheaper options-e.g. Kindle Fire. They purchased one for us and we have tried it. It is difficult to set up and programme for children. There is no training for staff on Kindles, we have to be signed up to an Amazon account, they have to be programmed individually and do not have the features and flexibility of I-pads. No other Glasgow School uses Kindles. School is now in the position to purchase up to 15 i-pads (depending on budget) as the staff feel it is the only hardware option for the school in the circumstances and they want to make the equipment available to the pupils as soon as possible. Sarah will be asking the PTA to fund extra Internet Access, covers and a docking station for the i-pads at the PTA meeting tonight.

2. Staffing

- School Roll now 481
- Sinaid McCreadie (DHT) is leaving. She has been appointed DHT at St Mary's Primary in Duntocher, West Dunbartonshire and will not be returning from Maternity Leave. She was due to start back at work on 18th December but will start at St Mary's instead.
- Sinaid is sorry to be leaving Kelvindale but she feels strongly that she would like to return to the denominational sector and this School is a more convenient location for her.
- Ms Belcher (who is covering P3a at the moment) will stay in P3a and Miss Maclean will remain as Acting DHT for the time being.
- HR has already put our vacant DHT post into their next workforce planning meeting. It will be advertised in January. PC member to lead and to sit on interview panel
- We are still waiting for a permanent janitor to be appointed.
- Mrs Orrell had a baby girl, Jenny. Frances Wilson is the teacher covering NCCT 0.6 (3 days)
- A SflW is still absent and will be for some time. We do not get a replacement.
- A member of Clerical Staff has also been absent long term. There has been no replacement for her either. We hope she will be back before Christmas.

3. Refurbishment

We are still awaiting a start date on work starting on the chalets. Andy Duff assured me this morning he is awaiting the last bit of costing (fire alarm) then he can push the go button. He said that this close to year end he would say a January start rather than pay on site costs for two weeks of down time.

4. Cost of the School Day

We are trying to bear this in mind when asking parents for money. We have cut the price of a Nativity Ticket to £1 (to cover performance licence, costumes etc)

Winter Fun ticket is still £4-good value-party with a DJ, Panto and P1 Present.

We have cut the number of non-uniform days. The Pupil Council have decided which charities that we will support-Beatson, Children in Need,

Cancer Research, Glasgow City Mission and Children in Need

5. Curriculum Rationale

Staff looked at this on the In-service Day. We will have a draft for the Parent Council for the next meeting.

6. Scottish Standard National Assessments

All Scottish Schools will be taking these assessments. The Scottish Government say that the results are not going to be published.

7. Raising Attainment Update

Reading-Despite staff absence, we have managed to maintain team teaching for all P4-P7 classes for 2 45 minute sessions per week on Reading. Class Observations/Learning Conversations with Pupils are showing that Reciprocal Reading strategies are being used in class.

New Reading Books are now in use. Each classroom has a new bookcase. We have purchased new books for these libraries. Staff chose new books on the In-Service Day for these class libraries. These books have now arrived in school and we will be distributing to classes before Christmas. We have also purchased a Reading Kindle for each Upper School class.

Each teacher has had a meeting with their DHT to discuss progress in Reading, Maths, Writing and Listening and Talking. AHT will meet with DHTs to discuss progress and supports for targeted individuals for PEF Funding evidence.

Reading Recovery-University College London are training Mrs Salt on this approach which works with children in P2. It is labour intensive (daily half hour sessions for individuals for up to 16 weeks) but gets non-readers to become readers within this time.

Teachers are also working with some children before school (supported study budget) to help raise attainment in Reading.

8. Mindfulness

Youth Mindfulness has finished their sessions with P6 and P7 classes and with staff. Feedback so far has been very positive. We will be measuring the impact of this and will report back to you at the next meeting.

9. P1 Play

Through PEF Funding we paid for P1 teachers to start 10 minutes early in Terms 1 and 2 in order to facilitate the "soft start" approach. This has been welcomed by most parents however 2 parents did get in touch to say that they did not like this approach.

Benefits of this approach are:

- P1 children are in school and ready to learn at 9am
- It eases congestion in the Infant playground
- It allows P1 parents time to talk to the teacher
- There are no "tearful partings" in the playground

As well as training for staff from Deirdre Grogan at Strathclyde University on the Play based approach, we have purchased new furniture and materials for P1 to facilitate this approach.

6.0	AOCB GR discussed the toothbrushing programme for P1s. Uptake of parent volunteers was low which often left a class or two unassisted. HN said that she was creating a photographic aid for parents showing the whole process. This could be left with the equipment to help people see the process, and so would allow for more volunteers to help out when needed.	
7.0	Date of Next Meeting To be confirmed	

Chairman - Alisdair Matheson (P3 & 5) Secretary – Tom Willacy (P5) Treasurer - Jacqueline Burns (P3) Parent Members: Craig McNally (P5) Abu Aziz (P4) Helen Ntabeni (P1 & P3)	Co-opted members: Gillian Roulston - Teacher's Representative Advisor: Barbara Matheson – Acting Head Teacher
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