



Airyhall School Parent Council



Meeting – 07 March 2018 Minutes

Chair: Victoria Oumarou

Secretary: Ada Chrys-Chikere

Treasurer: Stuart Young

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| <i>Parent Council (PC) Members Present</i> | Allan Frances (AF); Stuart Young (SY); Sarah Smith (SS); April Schelbert (AS); Victoria Oumarou (VO); Jane Jensen (JJ); Jacqui McKenzie (JMck). |
| <i>Staff Members Present</i> | Alison Thomson (Head Teacher) (AT); Donna Polson (Depute Head Teacher) (DP); Leigh Houston (Depute Head Teacher) (LH). |
| <i>Apologies</i> | Carol Gillan (CG); Eric Gilligan (EG); Jacqueline Allan (JA); Ada Chrys-Chikere (AC). |

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| | Welcome and apologies | The meeting was opened at 6:35pm by the Chair, who welcomed everybody and thanked them for their presence. | VO |
| | Approval of Previous Minutes | Previous minutes had been approved by all via email and have already been distributed to the wider parent forum. | AC |
| | Accounts | Balance £831.52. SY noted that we will be processing the payment for the agreed Road Safety Banners shortly. LH to confirm all details by the end of the month. | SY, LH |
| | Staffing Update | AT confirmed that there were no staffing issues. | AT |
| 1 | Traffic and Road Safety - Update | Car Park School car park remains closed and positive impacts include a much safer environment and kids nearly all arriving on time. Slopefield Parent Council are very grateful to Robert Gordon’s College who have agreed the use of their playing fields for a safe route for our pupils to access Slopefield. Thanks also to the Slopefield manager for his support and LH for her work on this issue. Official thanks to be sent from Parent Council to RGC and Slopefield manager, AT to forward contact details. | AT, LH, VO |
| 2 | Countesswells Devt - Update | Countesswells School pupil roll growing rapidly towards the limit of 25 pupils which should trigger the move to new premises as recommended and agreed by ACC at the Education Committee's council meeting on 24th March 2016. Parent Council would like to ensure that provisions are in place as agreed last year. Andrew Jones will come to our next Parent Council meeting. VO to email AJ in advance of the meeting. AF to confirm recommendations from previous ACC Education Committee minutes (see Appendix 1 below for highlighted agreed arrangements). | VO, AF |
| 3 | Anti-Bullying Policy - Update | Children and staff have developed a new Anti-Bullying policy based on ‘Respect Me’, focused on Restorative Practice, Child Rights and making good decisions. The policy is on the school website. | AT |
| 4 | Poverty Proofing Policy - Update | Pupils and parents are suffering from the adverse effects of the new funding system. As school does not receive significant funding from Pupil Equity Fund and can now no longer use funds raised through initiatives such as photographs and school uniform, more costs for | VO |

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| | | curricular activities such as trips are being pushed out to parents. Parent Council is concerned about how schools such as ourselves, not receiving substantial amounts of PEF money, can support our Curriculum moving forward? VO to raise issue with Aberdeen City Parent Council Forum. | |
| 5 | Astroturf - Update | Despite the many Health and Wellbeing benefits that lighting our Astroturf would offer our community, current financial situation is blocking progress. AT to investigate lottery funding and private sponsorship options. | AT |
| 6 | NPFS & Apcf - Updates | National and City Parent Forums continue to be active in promoting parental engagement. VO shared updates including the revised dates for Apcf meetings. A new strategy to share information with the wider parent forum was agreed, with the help of the school office. | VO, AT |
| 7 | Consultation new Education (Scotland) bill - Update | Parent Council submitted a response to the Consultation in January and received an acknowledgement. No further news at this time on developments with the proposed Bill. | ongoing |
| 8 | Parental and Community Engagement – Updates | <p>a) Website Communication DP and VO to meet next week.</p> <p>b) PC Roles – updates from Education Scotland AT shared an evaluation tool the school had used. Parent Council completed a Parent Council Health Check tool from Donna Cuthill. Feedback was positive regarding input and teamwork from staff and parents. AT to check on Social Network Policy and Minutes will now be also sent to appropriate ACC address.</p> <p>c) Whole School Parent & Child Audit Survey AT shared a draft survey based on the SHANARRI indicators [safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, included] which school will be piloting for ACC. Parent ideas were included to improve the draft; the survey will be sent out next week.</p> | AT |
| 9 | Pupil Groups - Updates | LH shared news of the great activities the Pupil Groups have been up to. Please see a full list attached in appendix 2 below these minutes, highlights of which: Pupil Council: working on pupil participation policy, a new display at entry of school, writing to School Meals Service to influence the removal of plastic straws; Rights Respecting: reaccreditation visit this week, fundraising, creating resources; Fair Trade: currently celebrating and promoting Fair Trade fortnight with a range of activities including Friday Fairtrade Fashion this week; Eco Group: learning for sustainability, picked to represent ACC in Britain in Bloom competition, heading up ACC's Clean Up Aberdeen campaign in May [* any parent volunteers interested in and free to help with gardening, please contact Mrs Houston]; JRSO: successful Road Safety week, now Bus Stops designs and banners in progress; Business Links: link with Bramble Brae School to learn about organising a Business Breakfast. | LH |
| 10 | Class Reps - Updates | DP and JMCK shared contact templates for Class Reps to send out. We are still looking for a Nursery Rep. | DP, AT, Class reps |

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| | | Wider Parent Forum comments seem positive overall. Communication from reps is helping more parents to have a clearer understanding about issues such as health and safety and car parking. The issue of recruiting a lollipop person was raised again – the recruitment campaign is ongoing. A Pelican Crossing would be very helpful. AT and DP will look into making sure photos on the website are the right way round; limitations of the website design were noted. Thanks to all class reps, new and old. | |
| | AOB | Pupil enjoyment of World Book Dress Up Day was noted. Dates for PC Meetings session 2018-19 to be confirmed for lets. | VO |
| | Dates of Next Meetings | 16/05/2018, 20/06/2018. Both at 18:30. | |
| | Meeting Closed | 8:00pm | |

Appendix 1 – Excerpt – Meeting of Education and Children’s Services Committee, Thursday 24th March, 2016

(c) to put in place arrangements for interim education provision until a primary school and a secondary school were constructed within the Countesswells development. For secondary pupils from Countesswells this would involve the use of Hazlehead Academy until a new secondary school had been constructed. For primary school pupils from Countesswells the arrangements would be as follows:

- pupils living in the new Countesswells primary school zone would be registered at a new school from the outset;
- whilst the number of pupils registered to the new school remained at 25 or below, the new school would operate from a separate classroom within the Airyhall School building;
- when the number of pupils registered to the new school exceeded 25, all of these pupils and any new pupils subsequently moving into the new Countesswells primary school zone would be educated from the Braeside School building, until a new school building at Countesswells has opened; and

<https://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=37227>

Appendix 2 - Pupil Groups Update 07.03.18

Pupil Council

The Pupil Council have been working on the development and publicity of our new Anti-bullying policy.

Also they have been working on the development of our Pupil participation policy - concentrating on responding to the suggestions.

Pupils wrote a letter to the School Meals service to ask that we stop using plastic straws and they have now taken this on board for Aberdeen City.

Rights Respecting

Fundraisers: Habitat for Humanity (Term 1), UNICEF ShoeShare campaign (Term 2), Food Drive (Term 3 - March 2018).

Creating an Adobe Spark video explaining the rights of the Convention and advertising it around the school and community (community centre, library and coop).

Creating packs for the Open Afternoon to provide opportunity for pupils to share their learning of the UNCRC with parents.

Assembly and families to promote mental, social, emotional and physical wellbeing and the support available in school for all of these things.

Assemblies focused on different rights such as the right to an education, the right to shade shelter.

Creating the new playground charter display.

Creating a new suggestion box – suggestions are read out once a month in assembly.

Working with Stephen Shaw to help create the new Aberdeen Play Policy.

Classes have been learning about the rights of the child through different curricular areas and contexts.

Preparing for reaccreditation (March 2018).

Fair-trade

We are currently in the middle of Fairtrade fortnight organised by the Fairtrade Group.

The Fairtrade tuck shop, organised by the Fairtrade group has visited classes this week.

Pupils have been visiting co-op for a fair-trade treasure hunt.

Families activities have been successful in classrooms: Fairtrade bunting, research production of cotton, chocolate and tea

Fairtrade assemblies where Miss Currie shared that the money raised last year bought us some Fairtrade footballs.

The Fairtrade group have organised a Fairtrade football tournament where we put the footballs to the test.

We have been visited by Charlie Barrow who works for the Montgomery Development Education Centre who taught us all about Fairtrade and how this links to the UNCRC.

'Friday Fairtrade Fashion' event in school where children can bring a donation and dress in Fairtrade cotton or Fairtrade colours for the day as a final nod to the success of our Fairtrade Fortnight.

We also shared our Fairtrade activities with parents during the Open Afternoon.

Eco Group

The three topics this year are Litter, Saving Water/Energy and Global Citizenship/Sustainability.

We have been creating activities for our Eco Week, in May.

We have a Families activity on 16th May which will be to introduce the term 'Learning for Sustainability'. Pupils will take part in an audit of the 'LfS' activities that we do at Airyhall. They will also learn what the term 'sustainability' means in child friendly language.

We are representing Aberdeen City Council in the Britain in Bloom competition this year.

We are also heading up the 'Clean up Aberdeen' campaign for the month of May for Aberdeen City Council.

The Eco Group are taking part in an Energy audit of the building with Shirley Forbes and will share their findings in May.

We also shared our Eco activities with parents during the Open Afternoon.

JRSO

Road Safety Week

Bus Stop and Banner designs

Business Links

Representatives will attend a session at Bramble Brae School to find out more about organising their own Business Breakfast.

We hope to hold our own business with local community groups and businesses.