



Airyhall School Parent Council



Annual General Meeting – 7 September 2021 Minutes

Chair: Mike and Ruth Crawford

Secretary: Eric Gilligan

Treasurer: Stuart Young

<i>Parent Council (PC) Members Present</i>	Mike Crawford (MC), Victoria Oumarou (VO), Stuart Young (SY), Emma Davidson (ED), Eric Gilligan (EG), Katie McCafferty (KM), Gillian Cormack (GC), Jacqui McKenzie (JM), Catherine Blackwood (CB), Jacqueline Allan (JA) (all attending via Teams)
<i>Staff Members Present</i>	Donna Polson, HT (DP); Emma Currie, DHT (EC); Leigh Houston, DHT (LH).
<i>Aberdeen City Councillors Present</i>	N/A
<i>Apologies</i>	Ruth Crawford
<i>Minute-taker</i>	Eric Gilligan (EG) (Secretary)

1	Welcome	<p>The Annual General Meeting was opened by MC at 6:35pm, who welcomed everybody to the meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting on 15/7/21 were approved.</p>	MC
2	Chairpersons' report for the year	<p>MC reported that in the previous school year 7 meetings of the PC had taken place.</p> <p>A separate meeting had been held in relation to the Treetops development and a response to the consultation had been provided to the developer and an answer received. The formal planning consultation was awaited.</p>	MC
3	Treasurer's Report	<p>SY intimated that the PC funds stood at £1079.68. The accounts for the 20/21 year had been submitted to Aberdeen Council and confirmation that this year's grant funding would be provided in due course was expected.</p>	SY
4	Head Teacher's report and discussion	<p>DP gave a report. As at the start of the school year some staff training had been undertaken in relation to safeguarding and the teachers were getting to know their new classes.</p> <p>The School improvement plan had been prepared and was sitting with the Authority.</p> <p>Mrs Burnett was leaving to take up a promoted post.</p>	DP

		<p>Ms Rothney who worked one day a week had handed in her notice and would be replaced. Some other developments were happening with the Nursery staff which were being managed.</p> <p>It was proposed to continue with virtual parents' evenings. Interim school reports would be issued in November.</p> <p>Work was being done to continue to embed meta skills working with Skills Development Scotland.</p> <p>Interdisciplinary learning was being pursued with a 2-year cycle. This includes more science work which was very popular with the children as well as outdoor learning.</p> <p>Teaching was currently still involving 2 metre distancing or use of face masks.</p> <p>Digital skills were also being focussed on as well as maintaining the focus on health and wellbeing. LH was leading on this.</p> <p>Survey results among P6/7 indicated body image concerns as well as perceived pressure to do well.</p> <p>There was also targeted support for individuals with the "LIAM" and "ELSA" programmes as well as via dyslexia outreach.</p> <p>It was planned to make more use of Seesaw to profile individual achievements.</p> <p>PE was now being delivered by individual class teachers as there was no dedicated PE teacher. LH stated that there would be specialist sport support coming in such as a person to teach rugby.</p>	
5	<p>Pupil Groups Update</p>	<p>LH gave a report on the Pupil Groups</p> <p>P2 – 7 were given the opportunity to write applications for the pupil groups. These will be chosen over the next couple of weeks. Primary 1 will join after October.</p> <p>Pupil Council</p> <p>Pupil Council are going to be working on the Airyhall Charter to replace the school rules or keep them, whatever they decide. The school has also started giving pupils opportunities to add suggestions to the suggestion box during Achievers Assemblies. The Pupil Council will have a notice board with 'You Said, We Did' notes on them so learners can see how they are making a difference and 'having their say' in school.</p>	LH

		<p>Rights Respecting Group</p> <p>The Rights Respecting Group have already been chosen as they were first to hold an assembly. Their virtual assembly will go out next week and will introduce the UNCRC Rights of the Child and link this to all the Class Charters that have been created in classes. Miss Ross will be in charge of this group and there will be future assemblies and also a new notice board for them.</p> <p>Our Rights Respecting Accreditation is up for renewal.</p> <p>Eco Group</p> <p>The P6 and P7 Eco Members were chosen first as they needed to do a summary assembly for the school Green Flag accreditation. The green flag accreditation application has been submitted, a video entry to Scotland in Bloom has been made.</p> <p>Fairtrade</p> <p>The Fairtrade Group has not formed yet but Miss Forbes will be taking this over and there was a lot of interest in this group. They will do an assembly and have a noticeboard at some point too.</p> <p>JRSO (Junior Road Safety Officers)</p> <p>The JRSO will be chosen from the P5 year group. They will launch the travel plan in term one or two. The school has plans to give out bells supplied by the Braeside and Community Council for learner bikes in a bid to encourage learners and parents to be considerate of pedestrians.</p>	
6	Report from Aberdeen Parent Council forum meeting	<p>MC provided an update on the latest city-wide Parent Council forum meeting.</p> <p>Teacher vacancies city wide were at very low levels.</p> <p>Active Schools encouraging sport was highlighted, and more opportunities through this would be announced in due course.</p> <p>Flu immunisation was due to proceed in November.</p> <p>The availability of training for PC members was highlighted and further details could be provided on request.</p> <p>The availability of <u>courses for parents</u> was highlighted and there are a number of offers that will be developed and offered to parents by Aberdeen City Council (post meeting note - details of courses below these have been shared separately to the Parent Forum through the newsletter and PC mailing list).</p>	MC

		<p>The Stronger Families Series is a new parent project to support parenting, through building knowledge and confidence. The online seminars will be short and practical, giving helpful and current advice and tips to parents and carers from 3-18 years old. Topics can be proposed to edupartnerships@aberdeencity.gov.uk and the service will arrange if possible. The first of this series 'Sleep Scotland' was held on Tuesday 28th September 7.30-8.30pm and this was shared via the school newsletter. More information on any courses set up through this series will be shared via the School Newsletter and to the Parent Council mailing list.</p> <p><u>Parent Wellbeing Toolkit</u> This course is for parents interested in supporting their own wellbeing and helping support their child to stay calm and relaxed. The course is 1 hour x 9 weeks. For more information see https://www.parentnetworkscotland.com/wellbeing-toolkit2021 and to register your interest contact edupartnerships@aberdeencity.gov.uk or register directly at https://app.upshot.org.uk/signup/c3addcd5/embed/</p> <p><u>Parent Learning Hub</u> - the Parent Learning Hub at https://sites.google.com/ab-ed.org/parent-learning-hub/home?authuser=0 was highlighted as a free source of information and resources for parents.</p> <p>A discussion was held about the possible use of Parent Council Funds to arrange additional courses to help parents. MC requested assistance in identifying options so that the Parent Forum could be polled for interest and ideas & committed to follow up on this (ACTION - MC)</p> <p>Craig McDermott has been appointed as head teacher for ASN (Additional Support Needs) and Outreach Services. This service has been re-organised with it's own head teacher to give greater accountability & ability to meet pupil needs. A number of appointments have been made to strengthen this organisation (e.g. hearing support, vision support), and Craig regularly attends the APCF meetings so queries on provision of ASN and Outreach can be passed through the Parent Forum to be raised with him.</p>	
7	Appointment of PC Office Holders	MC, RC, SY and EG were nominated and duly re-appointed as Joint Chairs, Treasurer and Secretary respectively.	All

8	AOB and Information about Future Meetings	<p>The next Parent Council meeting was scheduled for 16 November 2021.</p> <p>There was discussion about the issuing of letters where a child in a class or a teacher had tested positive for Covid, in answer to a question from JM, DP clarified that school contacts were not deemed close contacts as the concern was not so much about transmission in schools but more community transition. The school was obliged to adhere to current guidance however DP could intervene to notify parents if she felt a vulnerable child could be at risk.</p>	MC
6	Meeting Closed	MC closed the meeting– with thanks to all.	MC