

HYNDLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 7 October 2015

Present

Collett Carol (Road Safety, Glasgow City Council) CC, George Dyer-Wilson, Chris Pickrell CP, Andrew Duff (4Rs, Glasgow City Council) AD, John Lewis (Chair) JL, Louise Love LL, Helen Brown (Headteacher) HB, Stephanie Foggarty SF, Garry Byrne (Depute) GB, Fiona Ansell FA, Daria Jarrett DJ, Alan Bonnyman AB, Steve Gallagher SG, Alison Mussett AM

Apologies

Linda McCormick, Lorne Bourhill, Linda Reed (Depute Head), Kirsten Chambers (Principal Teacher)

1. Minutes of the last meeting

ACTION

- Stand-in Chair unavailable, so carried over to next meeting.

2. School traffic problems

GB invited CC along and outlined the issues already raised by children in the Pupil Council (including an annual pupil traffic survey, school travel plan, school working with Gillian Bain on road safety for children, pupils will enter a competition to win a new traffic banner for outside the school). CC agreed that having observed traffic today that she could see that there were issues.

HB pointed out that there were containers on the street as part of the 4R building work and queried whether the building works would enable a temporary / pilot one-way system to be introduced to (a) see how it works and (b) run for a term or the duration of the building works.

JL outlined the work already done by the Parent Council (including Parent traffic survey) and that a further survey would be carried out with residents of the affected areas (Fortrose St., Peel St., Burghhall St., Gardner St. and White St. The survey responses – representing 41% of families/carers at the school – suggested that there had been a large number of near misses, and it was only a matter of time before an accident would happen and a child would be injured. It was also pointed out that these are not likely to be reported to the police, and non-injury collisions are also not likely to be reported. Therefore, Police Scotland data is not likely to be adequately reflective of the problem.

FA also reported that there were issues with double parking on roads behind the school and that local residents often had to complain about this issue.

CC reported that Road Traffic GCC had come out and surveyed in the afternoon and found that there were 50+ pedestrians crossing the road and 50+ cars. However, it was felt that by only monitoring directly outside the front of the

school, they would not have surveyed the full extent of the issue throughout the length of Fortrose St. and certainly not at the rear of the school.

ACTION

- CC agreed that she would organize for the school to receive new banners making parents aware that they shouldn't stop on the zigzags. CC said she would organize for the zigzags to be re-painted. She also indicated that the Parent Council should communicate with as many residents as possible in terms of the resident survey. Also, regardless of the strength of the responses, this would not necessarily lead to changes. JL pointed out that the health and safety of pupils, parents/carers and staff was paramount and that GCC should be using leading rather than lagging indicators to assess risk.
- SF suggested that the pictures created by the children should be linked in an animoto animation which could be put on the school website. GB to organize.
- CC suggested a pupil-led awareness campaign. GB to organize.
- JL and another parent, Douglas Bain, to continue to work towards organizing a survey of local residents and, with GB, submit a report to GCC incorporating the surveys and Pupil Council letters, copying elected representatives.
- CP said he'd canvas the views of the Burgh Hall residents association.

3. School Building Work – Andrew Duff

JL and HB asked about the level of repairs to the roof – would it be a replacement or repairs. AD assured the meeting that only minor repairs had been reported but said he would look into this and confirm this was actually the case.

AD confirmed that there will be a full assessment of the roof once the scaffolding is up. JL asked where the budget for the additional scaffolding and the roof repairs would come from and, when informed by AD that they would come from the existing budget, sought clarification as to what work in the original plan would not take place as a result. AD stated that contingency funds were incorporated within the overall budget (which he declined to share as not GCC policy) and that both the additional scaffolding and what he believed to be minimal roof repairs should be covered within the contingency funds.

AD stated that the outer 'skin' of the building (roof and walls) would be repaired before the internal work begins.

New window will be put in next week and await Historic Scotland's visit for approval before the rest of the windows are made.

AD confirmed that there was no asbestos found in the building, and that the gym and the extension would be included in the overall plan.

HB reported that there was a large amount of debris in the attic space. AD responded that he saw this as outside the 4Rs refurbishment project and would be left. JL highlighted that rubble left in the attic was a potential health and safety concern and that as GCC is now aware of it, surely they are obliged to remove it. AD mentioned that any rubble would likely have been left there by the builders who made the repairs to the roof last year, so it would have been expected that they would have removed it. Several members of the Parent Council made the point that given that the same – in-house/arms-length – contractors are making the repairs on this occasion, shouldn't GCC make a pointed effort to relate this to the site manager. AD was specifically asked if he could relay this request.

HB reiterated the need for all the roof to be fully secured and stated that currently there are 2 rooms on the top level which are uninhabitable, which should have been rendered habitable after the repairs last year. JL pointed out that the concern of parents was that having spent a lot of money last year making repairs to the roof and yet the problems still not being resolved, that there was a general skepticism about how effective further minor repairs would be.

HB asked AD if there was to be any refurbishment to the After School Building and was told it was not included as it was not part of the 4R's Project and not part of learning/teaching at the school. AD also stated that the After School Club should undertake the repairs themselves. It was pointed out to AD that given that Glasgow City Council owns the building it is their responsibility, particularly as they continue to refuse to provide the After School Club with a long-term lease.

HB had taken advice about the colour scheme and would be presenting this to pupils and parents.

AD confirmed that while furniture wasn't included in 4R refurbishment, any broken coat hooks and door handles, etc., were included.

AD stated that despite the slippages in the work timescales it was still expected that the work will finish next summer (by Aug 2016).

ACTION

- HB to report back on the extent of roof repairs.
- (Unconfirmed) AD to ask contractors to remove the rubble from the roof space.

4. School website

LL asked about the school website and requested that more information be put up about homework and the plans for each year group; whilst the new Twitter account was good, most parents would rely on the website for information.

HB reported that podcasts would be made by the pupils which would be uploaded onto the website.

HB reported that the school needed some help with the website and SF volunteered to help the school with the website and digital engagement within the school.

ACTION

- HB/GB to work to update the information (including putting up the handbook now it's been updated).
- SF to work with GB on the website.

5. Fundraising

AM reported that there wouldn't be a Quiz Night this term as a suitable evening couldn't be arranged. The Partick Bowling Club is a possible venue for the future if the Cricket Club is unable to reduce the cost of hire. The Ceilidh is confirmed for 20 Nov.

It was agreed to look at having the Quiz Night at the end of January or into February.

AB reported that he'd asked Mrs Reed to provide children's art for a calendar for sale to raise funds.

ACTION

- AB to talk to the cricket club about possible reduced hire cost for future Quiz nights.
- AM/AB Look into booking Quiz Night on last Friday in January or first available date in February (avoiding the school holidays), once clarification on Cricket Club hire costs are confirmed. Partick Bowling Club if not.
- HB/GB to follow this up on children's art for a calendar with Mrs Reed and arrange with AB.

6. New signatories

It was agreed that the signatories should be Alison Mussett, Linda McCormick, Louise Love and Alan Bonnyman. Alan Bonnyman will become the new Treasurer.

AOB

7. Lost Property

SF asked about the Lost Property. HB confirmed that if items are labeled then they are returned to the pupils.

8. Fortrose St. residents' complaints

HB reported that there had been a couple of complaints from residents in Fortrose St about the behaviour of a few parents and children from the school,

with some children pulling up plants/flowers and, when spoken to by residents, given some 'grief' by the parents.

ACTION

- HB to refer to this in a forthcoming newsletter from the school and to give to JL for the Parent Council newsletter also.

9. Kid Car-Share

This was discussed previously and it was agreed that this was not a scheme that either the school or the Parent Council felt comfortable agreeing to, due to a number of potential concerns.

ACTION

- JL to contact the founder of Kid Car-Share and inform her of the decision.