

HYNDLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MINUTES

27 May 2015

Present - John Lewis (Chair), Helen Brown (Headteacher) HB, Alison Mussett (AM), Catherine MacQuarrie (CMq) (Depute Head), Alan Bonnyman (AB), Daria Jarrett (DJ), Steve Gallagher (SG), Louise Love (LL), Gillian Ulanovsky (GU), Lorne Bourhill (LB), Pat Lawlor (PL), Garry Bryne (GB), Helen Rolph (HR), Hannah McFadyen (HM), Linda McCormick

Apologies - Fiona Ansell

1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved

2. Matters arising

a) Traffic Survey – carried over

GB reported that he'd had a letter from an SNP councillor to say that the suggestion of making Fortrose St one way was on the agenda for a meeting at the end of May.

ACTION – carry over to next meeting

b) Calendars

AB circulated sample ideas and it was suggested that a small one be trialed this year.

ACTION – AB to pass onto GB

3. Head Teachers Report

a) Depute & Principle Teachers

35 applications for 2 Dep Head posts and 40 applications for PT. Interviews in June.

b) Admin

Down to 2 people due to centralization and illness. This has proved very difficult.

c) Absence Reporting

Centralised absence reporting is coming in, letters will be sent out in school bags.

4. Treasurers Report

a) Outdoor Classroom

HB to try and resolve the procurement problem so that the outdoor classroom can be installed before the end of term.

b) Emirates trips

Mark O'Mara went along to take the training, the mums on the run funding paid for the venue hire. The rest of the classes will take part in a similar trip next term.

Parent Council - Agreed spend May/June 2015:

	£	
Outdoor Classroom	7,343	
Emirates Class trips	1,200	Approx. £600 c/f to next term
P7 Dictionaries	198	
P7 disco contribution	150	
Homework folders	201	
BHF Skipping Ropes	99	
Garden Equipment	299	(£158 spent at spring clean)
	<u>9,490</u>	

5. Fundraising Report

The Family Ceilidh had made a slight loss, AM explaining this was because the raffle had been changed. The raffle will be improved for the next Ceilidh in Nov by increasing the number of prizes, and increasing the ticket to prize ratio.

PL secured a 2 night stay at One Devonshire Gardens for the Quiz Night.

6. Spring Clean

HR explained plans for the Spring Clean. DJ offered to take photos for newsletter.

7. P7 Leavers Disco

GU reported that she was doing a cake and coffee sale at Sports Day to raise additional money for the disco.

HM said she was collecting photos of the P7s for the yearbook and would make up a powerpoint for the disco.

8. Car Sharing App

ACTION – JL to circulate and find out if anyone was available to meet up with Louise Welsh to discuss. The meeting voiced the opinion that there were disclosure and safety issues with the scheme.

9. Coding Club

A parent Louise Meek suggested starting a coding club. HM said she was keen to take this on, and would ask if any other parents would be able to help. ACTION – in school newsletter next term

10. Glasgow Parent Forum – report from AB

Items discussed focused on budget cuts to various services and the failure of GCC to communicate with the forum, parent councils or the parent body in general i.e. the usual. The main points were-

1. Cuts to breakfast club provision. The council intent to cut £400K from the £2M annual provision for breakfast clubs across the city. The options considered were "clustering" services, reducing provision or increasing price. After a consultation (which most present seemed unaware of) the "clustering" approach seemed to be very unpopular and is unlikely to be adopted.

2. Changes to guidelines for school property lets. We are now of course familiar with this! Interesting that the GCC spokesperson denied any changes to letting policy in the Evening Times article after a document detailing them was passed round at this meeting. I suspect it is more a matter of codifying what were quite loose guidelines than anything else, however it was noted that the only free lets parent councils are entitled to are for meetings of the parent council; that insurance for lets include a "hold harmless" clause making the person taking the let solely responsible for damage or injury on the property during the let; and that school entertainment licenses no longer cover activities during a let. This last means that any activities involving "entertainment" e.g. music will now require a separate entertainment license for the organiser.

3. The new pupil absence reporting system. This should be rolled out to Hyndland in June. The new centralised office will be open from 8 am each morning and guarantees were made that call centre staffing would be in place to match demand. The system ties in with the school's and information will be shared directly with the school office. There is provision within the system for head teachers to flag pupils for whatever reason - such cases will immediately be handed on to the school rather than the call centre. Some PC reps from schools used for the trial reported 15 minute calls to report an absence - others felt the system worked well. It was emphasised by GCC Dept of Education representative that this decision has been made and will be happening.

4. Admin staff centralisation/redeployment. Guarantees were made by Dept. of Education for complete continuity of administrative services. So that's alright then.

5. Free school transport provision. GCC has altered the distance at which free transport to school is provided to the legal maximum in Scotland - from 1.2 to 2 miles for Primary Schools (2 to 3 miles for Secondary). In an awkward moment the Dept. of Education rep ensured the meeting that no final decisions had been made on this only to be passed several letters to parents from GCC saying their free bus provision had already been scrapped.

Other than near constant protests that none of these measures had been communicated to parent councils from GCC, thus making the role of parent councils as intermediaries between the Council and parents redundant, that

was about it. The main line from GCC was that budget for front line services e.g. teachers were ring fenced and that was the reason for the quite stringent cost cutting measures across other services.

11. Hayburn Park Crowdfunding Fundraiser

ACTION – information to be added into next newsletter

12. Thanks

The Parent Council thanked Pat Lawlor and Gillian Ulanovsky for all their help over the years they have been involved with the school.

The Parent Council also thanked Catherine McQuarrie for her support and hard work during her years at Hyndland Primary School.