

HYNDLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING (ONLINE)

MINUTES FOR 24 FEBRUARY 2021

Present: Alan Bonnyman (Chair), Chris Bryce (Treasurer), Dorian Grieve (Secretary & P4 rep), Steven Gallacher, Helen Brown (Head Teacher), Julie Wynn (Deputy Head), Kirsty Chambers (PT), Fiona Batista (PT), Victoria Moir (PT), Katie Brady Patterson (joint P5 & P7 rep), Jaime Guenther (P2 rep), Clare Keatley (joint P5 & P7 rep), Anne-Marie Rigby, India Fullarton

Apologies: Susan Kesson (joint P1 rep), Lindsey Pope (joint P1 rep), Stephen Frame (Deputy Head), Kate Kitson (PT)

1. Welcome & apologies

2. Approval of minutes

DG apologised for the missing chunk of minutes, the SLT briefing. The rest of the minutes for 20 January were approved.

3. Senior Leadership Team report

HB said how glad they were to have the children back. 180 P1-3s are back at school with 40-45 children in the hub. There have been some issues with crowded drop off and pick up times that will require action. AB said that there had been feedback that the car restricted zone was not being respected, HB confirmed that it looked like this had been forgotten and that email would be going out about that too.

The school is hoping to have news soon re parents night and is currently awaiting guidance from the LNCT (Local Negotiating Committee for Teachers). Parents and staff are keen to have face to face meetings if that is possible towards summer.

P4-7 are ready to come back on 15th April. The school have bought the paid version of See Saw for P4-7s to see if that will improve its utility. The paper packs have been a big success with increased uptake each week.

Around 10 families were successful in their bid to Partick Housing Association big ideas fund for money for ITC (Information and Communication Technology) equipment which has in turn released some of the schools equipment for use elsewhere. HB congratulated those children and thanked JW for publicizing the fund and also VM for supporting families' use of IT equipment. There has been a big increase in the number of families suffering financial hardship. Free school meal entitlement has gone up by 10%. The school will be involved in making sure families know what is available to them.

JW reported that unfortunately the P7 Blairvadach trip has been cancelled. However, they have now been pencilled in for 3 nights at the end of May at Doonans which hopefully will be able to go ahead.

P7 transition will be different this year. The P7s will get a programme of transition lessons although this will be over Teams. There is hope that a visit to the Secondary School will be possible if restrictions relax in Term 4. The enhanced transition programme which involves visits to the Secondary and an extended transition and which was due to start shortly is still awaiting an OK from above.

Since October, the school has had a partnership with Dowanvale Church who have provided vouchers and hampers for families at the school who are experiencing significant financial hardship. These have been picked up from the school thus far but the school has discussed the possibility of these being picked up directly from the church going forward which the church has very kindly offered to do.

HB noted that there were quite a number of families who were using this programme and that there might be many more who have yet to be in touch. She urged anyone who needs anything to get in touch and they would do their best to help. School staff have also been continuing to contribute to a hardship fund.

VM reported that 10 families have received SIM cards and that they have enough to replace those, running a further three months, when they run out. The school had identified 4 or 5 children who were still without access to devices and were able to lend out school ipads to them. An application has been put in for several more ipads and wifi hubs though the result of that is not yet known. She thanked the PC for the P7 leavers' hoodies.

FB reported that the list of items for outdoor use which pupils had come up money have now been ordered with the PHA Big Ideas grants and that the Dickie Foundation grant has been used to pay for tarp to act as walls for the outdoor shelters when required. Tesco Parkhead have provided 100 daffodil bulbs. We are now in week 4 of sustainable development challenge. She has further obtained 450 Tunnocks bars to celebrate the school's Scots Poetry event. The remaining tea towel orders have now been completed.

HB thanked all the staff.

4. Financial report

Christmas books and shelter money has been paid out and £3000 has come in from the Rocket fund. There is currently £2095 between the two accounts.

£1900 which the PC contributed towards a hardship fund still remains with the school and, as the situation for many is not improved, it was agreed this money should remain with the school for that purpose. CB suggested that some of the money could go to the church which is providing hampers to the school community.

Someone wondered if the church is taking donations, clothes or food. JW said that at the moment it is the congregation who are providing things but they are keen to work in partnership with school and she imagined if a drop off of donations were arranged they would be happy.

HB wondered if there could be a school uniform drive. KC said that the one at Hillhead was organised by a parent group and it was mooted that the PC might be able to help with this. It was also suggested that the Annexe might make a good pick up point and JW said she would investigate this possibility.

5. Return to school

With reference to additional support needs, AMR said there has been talk about the government providing extra funding to support pupils returning to school and asked if there was any further information on that. HB said that there has not been any word regarding this for Scottish schools but that they would look to make the best use of any money they did get to support the most vulnerable and those with biggest learning gaps. AMR asked if COVID regulations would restrict extra support re small group work, support staff and use of devices. Devices are not a problem as there is a cleaning protocol which is exercised between users. The advice for close one-to-one work is that contact remains under 15 minutes and visors, masks and gloves be worn by the staff. The school is responding creatively to these challenges, e.g. by finding the best spaces for groups with the least risk for all. AMR noted that in England government recovery money has been made available to allow a national dyslexia association [the British Dyslexia Association] to send specialist tutors to schools. This doesn't seem to be happening in Scotland. KC thought it might be the case that in England money has been directed towards specific areas but that recovery money in Scotland has not been similarly ring-fenced. **AR to email details of the English programme to HB.**

CB advertised the fact that the Department of Public Health in England have 3 hour training programme available to all looking at how to support young people through this period and wondered about sharing this with staff and parents. HB thought this a good idea. **CB to share link and HB to include in school newsletter.**

AB noted that there are a many useful resources coming out and wondered about the best platform for sharing them. HB said that these could be included in the Newsletter and Sway. VM added that she often retweets things of this sort as she comes across them. **DG said he would set up a page for these on the PC website. AB to include links in PC newsletter.**

6. Playground improvements update

Glasgow Wood Recycling are hoping to start work on the shelters next week and it will take 2 to 3 weeks to complete. We still have £1450 earmarked for playground spend. This could be spent on seating, etc., for the shelters, but an awning for the glass door at the P2 playground is also being considered. This would require an architect if one can be found in the parent body. KC noted that although the platform by the stadium seating has been fixed but that the seating itself was still in disrepair. Various possibilities around that were discussed. FB said that she had been in touch with Kerry from Sowing Seeds who had good suggestions re P1 and P2 playgrounds. **The school offered to find out from Paul Teal if he had any specs for the seating area he could pass on to AMR.**

7. Fundraising

The PC is looking at three fundraising projects: a recipe book, a quiz night and a treasure hunt.

CB outlined the plan for the recipe book which would have a timetable running from now until June. The fundraising committee is looking for the support of the school in this and hope to get submissions from pupils and to have recipes representing all nationalities and cultures in the student body. Recipes, and perhaps sponsorship, will also be sought from local restaurants. The plan is to have a typeset recipe book by the end of April and to have an advance sales process set up so as not to print too many books that are not going to be sold.

AB discussed plans for a zoom quiz night and a treasure hunt around the local area. The quiz is planned for some point in the following month.

VM wondered if there could be a competition to produce art work for the recipe book. CB asked if the school could provide a main contact for the recipe book project. VM volunteered.

8. AOB

Noting that current advice is that children should be out and playing together as much as possible, AB recalled that there had been previously been a plan to do a City of Play event on Fortrose Street with various stalls and events and that, regulations permitting, that might be a good event for the summer. HB agreed that this was a good idea and did not think there would be problem obtaining permission to use the playground for such an event.

Next meeting is 24 March