

Minutes of Papdale Primary School Parents Council Meeting

1st December 2014

Present: Lynette Shearer, Margaret Keenan, Anne Scott, Angela Crawford, Diane Clark, Dave Clapham, Leah Rendall, Karyn Tait, Kevin Balfour, Jane Bruce.

Apologies: Kelly Ireland, Claire Louttit, Rachel Thomson, Julia Shirreffs

Minutes from previous meeting were proposed and seconded.

Matters arising

Mrs Bruce noted that some of the rubber matting on the outside play area is still to be replaced/repaired.

No further progress was reported on funding iPads from the leftover outdoor play project money. This will go ahead though.

Head Teachers report

Mrs Bruce gave the Head Teachers report highlighting current staffing issues, the recent sick bug, the popularity of the new scrap store, the success of the recent Children in Need activities, and the School Improvement Plan. It was noted that the Christmas leaflets with significant dates had also been sent out to parents (Copy of the report attached).

Car Parking Issues

A meeting had taken place attended by Lynette Shearer, Leah Rendall, Claire Louttit, Kevin Balfour, a representative from Northern Constabulary, Councillors Andrew Drever and Gwenda Shearer, and Kenny Roy from OIC Transport and Planning department. The meeting included observations of the parking at the end of the school day. On the particular day the parking was not too bad so didn't show the councillors and Kenny Roy the full extent of the problem.

It was agreed that as parents we are all responsible for the parking problems around the school and therefore it was decided that the first option to address this issue was to send a letter home to parents highlighting the problems and asking for considerate parking. A draft was circulated ahead of the meeting and approved and this letter will go out with the Christmas newsletter. In relation to the parking issue it was noted that the School Crossing Patrol Officers can only stop traffic and not stop them from parking. It was suggested that pupils could be involved in this campaign by producing safe parking posters.

The need for a crossing patrol at Berstane Road has been highlighted again. Staff from the College have raised this concern. Kevin Balfour will speak with Graham Horne about this issue again.

AOCB

An internet safety event being held on 22nd January, 7-9pm at KGS was highlighted. All parents are welcome to attend this.

A lovely letter had come from the Pupils Council thanking the Parents Council for the work on the Outdoor Play areas. Also an enquiry has come from Kate Townsend of Eday School about the Ring of Papdale.

It was noted that £749.50 had been raised on the Christmas Shopping Party Night.

The information for new Parents Council Members had been given to Claire Louttit to pass on to new members.

A new website has been developed for Papdale Primary School and this is almost complete. There is a new email address for the parents' council – papdalepc@gmail.com. A new logo is required too. There will be a competition for the pupils to design this.

Lagganlia parents had organised a successful Halloween disco. This may be a good opportunity in future for Lagganlia fundraising and reducing the commitment for the Parent Council. A movie themes disco may take place in springtime organised by the Parents Council.

Date of next meeting in 9th February 2015.

Positive Coaching Scotland

Catherine Johnson attended the meeting to give a presentation on Positive Coaching Scotland. This was designed to give information on PCS to the parents' council as we are responsible for netball and football.

Catherine described the highly successfully programme which originates in America and is endorsed and being pushed by Sport Scotland. The ethos and focus of this programme is about redefining winners, encouraging children to be the best they can be, and not always focusing on the scoreboard. The programme highlights honouring your sport and team, and filling the emotional tank for children taking part.

Catherine was keen that this approach can be adopted more widely in Orkney. Some of the issues around signing up to the approach as one school and more widely across Orkney and when depending on volunteers were discussed. The programme is very positive and members agreed it would be great to see this supported and endorsed more widely.

Catherine is available if further information, training and support are required.