

**Minutes of Wallace Hall
2-18 Parent Council Meeting
Monday 4th October 2021
7pm via Teams**

Present: Louise Cochran (Chair), Katrina Galligan (Secretary), Barry Graham, Euan Mack, Ann Andreasen, Lynne Maxwell, Anna Meredith, Jillian Maxwell, Sharon Young, Claire Ingram, Mark Ingram, Lynn Smith, Maria Navarro de Sepulveda, Katharine Ellicott, Laura Keenan, Edward Smith & Olivia Andreasen

Item		Action
1	<p>Apologies: Charlene Henderson, Kerry Fry, Laura Weir, Caroline O'Hara, Melanie Halliday Jane Valentine & Cathy Mackenzie</p> <p>Welcome – LC welcomed Edward and Olivia Head Boy and Head Girl to meeting</p>	
2	<p>Approval of the Minutes from last meeting Monday 6th Sept – Minutes approved and agreed as correct. Approved by SY & seconded AA</p>	
3	<p>A) JM got PowerPoints for the fundraising workshop she attended to work on her own time. Most of the content is what WH is already doing, but some other interesting info.</p> <p>B) LM Anti-bullying training had some good resources which shared with AM, really good and informative. Anything worth using LM will send to KG for website, Vanessa Morris emailed some YouTube links that would be useful for the tying in with Bullying work they are both working on.</p>	
4	<p>a) Vanessa Morris has emailed our membership documents are now available online on the Connect.Scot website which has a lot of other useful resources. D&G Council have paid for insurance and our full membership. LC has printed all the certificates and insurance documents. All events are covered by public liability. Changes to PVG - these are now done my Volunteer Scotland; D&G Council can still help with this.</p> <p>b) Dumfries & Galloway parent Council forum 17th Nov 7pm, 24th Feb 7pm, 25th May 7pm all via Zoom. WHPC does not have a representative at present. Looking for someone to volunteer to do this. No one volunteered.</p> <p>Cathy Mackenzie has now left but sent a lovely email. "Been a pleasure to work with Parent Council and all the best for the future"</p>	

	All agreed to send her a Thank you card. LC to organise.	
5	<p>a) No further Info Draft Policy will be ready by next meeting Been shared with Wee Blether group Then PC then Parent Forum Communication group has had the first meeting Vanessa Morris has given great info Sharing a survey with Parent Forum</p> <p>B) JM has Christmas card designs. Requested money for Halloween sweets. Not doing class crafts going to do something different for Christmas this year.</p> <p>C) No report. CC stood down at previous meeting.</p>	
6	<p>Olivia Andreasen is Head Girl 2021/22 session Edward Smith is Head Boy 2021/22 Session Had meetings with BG and with senior pupil voice. Focus on Learning and Teacher and ways teachers can help support students and keep them engaged. Wall displays etc being a distraction. Positive and negatives of online learning. Junior pupil voice meeting had similar issues. Jrs use a different system. OA is planning on focussing on preparing younger years for their future and having a future fayre so the older ones can help the younger ones and share their experiences, ES focus on mental health aspect with senior phase pupils and exams. Focus on ways parents and teachers can help provide places, spaces and extra information to help them keep relaxed and motivated as well as health and wellbeing classes. Deputies and prefects focus on S1 transition and extracurricular activities and phone usage in school. Contacted Community Council to work together with PC and Pupils.</p>	
7	<p>PC has taken on Road Safety School Travel Plan Sub-Committee. LC attended site visit meeting about issues. Tony Topping, Head of Roads Department attended the meeting, along with other colleagues. Mr William Lenza, Chair of Thornhill Community Council also in attendance. Meeting was already arranged prior to PC taking over Sub-Committee. Had a list of issues and what was needed. Replacement of Speed bumps – agreed Double yellow lines repainted – agreed Single lines repainted – agreed No waiting sign replaced – agreed Trees cut back – agreed</p> <p>20mph signs painted on road at East Morton St – waiting to hear.</p> <p>Additional School Patrol – To contact Education to request addition officer. Documents online regarding criteria, but LC cannot find them to check, so will go back to Tony Topping to get info.</p> <p>Flashing 20mph lights – No funding available from Council for lights. However, we could approach Community Council for funding from windfarm money/other funds they have available. LC contacted Community Ward Officer, Fiona Daubney, to see if there were funds and advice on putting in funding request for lights. Fiona Daubney offered to help with filling in any application forms. Other option is we could raise funds ourselves and council will purchase on our behalf and install.</p> <p>LC attending Community Council Oct meeting to put in a request for funding.</p>	LC

	<p>School Travel Plan – Tony Topping has forwarded on a copy of Dalbeattie Campus school Travel Plan. We now have copy of it to have a look for guidance at as it is a similar school. Extra other documents have been forwarded to help with this. JV has put her name forward to be part of sub-committee. LC will arrange a meeting of Sub-Committee for after the October holidays.</p>	
8	<p>LC hasn't had time to draft letter yet. BG received an email from LF LF says it has to go through committee which will take some time. Asked for feedback which he didn't respond too. Coming into Winter which is when pitch is at its worst, so doing surveys at this time could be an advantage to us in regarding our position in Priority List. LC to find contact details for LF to speak in person, to find out exactly what is going on, as its easier than emails back and forth.</p> <p>MI suggests we should still draft a letter and contact MP & MSP's</p> <p>MI to help LC draft letter and will email each other to rearrange a time to meet up to draft letter.</p> <p>All in agreement to hold off sending letter until next meeting.</p>	<p>LC MI</p>
9	<p>CC Stood down so no report But LC spoke to CC to discuss Treasurer outstanding items. CC to pay KG before end of term. Finish End of Year accounts and arrange getting them audited. Hand cheque book back into school. Change signatory to new treasurer, remove any signatories not needed on account. PC Allowance still needs sorted. JV to take over getting this sorted.</p> <p>Bidding form received. No accurate account details available, roughly about £650 in secondary account. No commitment for per annum. Keen to get Spanish up and running. Will review this at next meeting. All agreed.</p>	
10	<p>Report from BG Head Teacher See Appendix 2</p>	
11	<p>MNS raised an issue with school email she had received was double checking it was from school.</p>	
12	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>8th November 2021 13th December 2021 24th January 2022 14th March 2022 9th May 2022 13th June 2022</p>	

Appendix 1

Head Teacher's Report for the Parent Council –October 2021

ELC News:

- We have been taking full advantage of being able to sing again! We have started creating a stage/ performing area in the garden, where the children have already started putting on shows and singing their favourite songs. This has boosted the confidence and social skills for a lot of the children.
- We have also been continuing our journey of learning how to care for our environment. We have been going to visit the school kitchen, to collect food waste that can be used in our compost bin. The children have been enjoying the mini trip round to the kitchen and saying hello to the lovely ladies who make their lunch!
- Exploring senses is something we try to do daily in the ELC. Over the past week we have had lots of different texture experiences in the tuff trays, ranging from paint, to shaving foam, to papier mache! All these activities provided opportunities to develop fine motor skills and create some beautiful masterpieces in the process!

Primary News:

- WHPS pupils participated in TTRS maths competition. Primary 6 had the top 3 pupils in the school and were the top class in the school. Well done also to P7 and P4 pupils who made the top 3.
- Primary House Captains have been appointed following a 3-stage process; interview with Barry or Anna, speech to the house and pupil vote and staff input.
- The Wallace Hall Round-Up (sway) has restarted, highlighting the learning taking place in the Primary and ELC. P7GJ have produced their first edition and it had 150 views. This helps them develop both their literacy and digital skills. Well done P7GJ!
- Primary 4s are really enjoying the curriculum swimming - great to be going on trips again!

Secondary News:

- Our extra-curricular clubs are now started and we have a fantastic selection of clubs on offer including rugby, volleyball, creative writing, Mandarin and craft.
- School sporting fixtures are now started with our senior boys competing in the Dr Turner's hockey tournament last week. The team lost to a strong side from Dalbeattie High School but were delighted to be back out representing the school at sport.
- Our UCAS/College application process is now well underway this year with all Senior pupils applying to university or college now allocated a staff member to support them through the process.