

# Minutes of Wallace Hall 2-18 Parent Council Meeting Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 7pm via Teams

**Present: Louise Cochran (Chair), Caroline O'Hara (Vice-Chair), Katrina Galligan (Secretary), Barry Graham, Melanie Halliday, Euan Mack, Cathy Mackenzie, Ann Andreasen, Lynne Maxwell, Christine Carson, Jane Valentine, Anna Meredith, Jillian Maxwell, Sharon Young, Claire Ingram & Mark Ingram**

Item		Action
1	<p>Apologies: Charlene Henderson, Kerry Fry &amp; Laura Weir</p> <p>Welcome – LC welcomed everyone to the meeting, as well as introductions for new members</p>	
2	<p>Approval of the Minutes from last meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Minutes approved and agreed as correct. Approved by LM &amp; seconded SY</p>	
3	<p>JV attended the Communication and Social Media training in June  JM Booked into Fundraising training at end of the month  CC didn't attend the Treasurer's training  JV Feedback- 4 Packs came along with meeting which are interesting.  Social Media – general dos and don'ts, drafting social media policy and different media pages.  Communicating with school community- use of newsletters, leaflets &amp; school notice board, examples of good successes as well as parent forums  Surveys and Questionnaires- preparing these for your audience and suggestions  Guide to Campaigning- Setting up and gathering support  JV to send to BG to send to Pupil Council</p> <p>Respect Me Anti Bullying training was cancelled  New date is 16<sup>th</sup> Sept.  KG has sent the link to LM to attend</p> <p>Road Safety Meeting  LC attended this. It took place on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June.  Diane Jarvie organised it and then could not attend, LC chaired this meeting instead.  Wandered about Streets and Roads around the school and took notes about the dangers, things needing sorted and anything that would solve the issues. This took around 1 hour and LC has written a report and has sent it to Diane Jarvie and waiting on date for the next Road</p>	<p>JV, BG</p>

	<p>Safety meeting. LC stated there were a number of issues that needed resolved. AM was also in attendance as well as pupils; it was good to hear feedback from pupils on their own experiences and their views.</p> <p>PC Adair also attended.</p> <p>Waiting for date for next meeting to see how PC can help with these issues also.</p>	
4	<p>Email received from Vanessa Morris, Support Officer, Curriculum and Quality Improvement Education and Learning Directorate. LC read out relevant sections:</p> <p>Please note a <b>new mailbox</b> for Parental Involvement and Engagement (PIE) queries Education and Learning Parental Involvement <a href="mailto:EducationandLearningParentalInvolvement@dumgal.gov.uk">EducationandLearningParentalInvolvement@dumgal.gov.uk</a></p> <p>This will predominantly be used by Parent Councils or those parents looking for more information on Council processes or guidance.</p> <p>Financial Support for Parent Council will now be managed through the <a href="mailto:EducationLearningParentalInvolvement@dumgal.gov.uk">EducationLearningParentalInvolvement@dumgal.gov.uk</a> and should now be marked for the attention of Heather Kerr (not Lesley Beck).</p>	
5	<p>a) Anti Bullying Policy Update – last year Blethers with parents gave us some good information about how to take this forward and really appreciated the parents commitment. CMack to meet with LM to create draft, and a small focus group online with parents, to then launch this Anti Bullying Policy.</p> <p>Trialling Positive Behaviour Approaches as well as consulting with Staff and thinking about consulting with students on this issue.</p> <p>Bronze Award in Rights Respecting Schools Award working towards the Silver</p> <p>Working on school on 4 areas of rights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Right to be Safe</li> <li>Right to be Listened to</li> <li>Right to be treated with Respect</li> <li>Right to Learn</li> </ul> <p>Use of word Golden time in reference to free play time has been changed to Play 31 This will no longer clash with assembly as the assembly has been moved to Thursday Most of the time this will be on a Friday as it is important.</p> <p>Communications Strategy- discuss with PC and Parents what works well and what doesn't and be able to share information effectively and make everyone involved. Share achievements and learning. Work with L&amp;T Group or another group and set up a forum and ask the parent body. Recently stopped using Class Dojo as it had some disadvantages. Work with PC to set this up and asked if any PC members would like to be involved. LM, MI &amp; CI would like to be involved.</p> <p>b) &gt;£300 at 10p Trial</p> <p>Thanks to Mrs Ritchie</p> <p>House Captains also helped and the kids really loved it</p> <p>Successful event and all measures in place</p> <p>In the summer hoping to do another similar thing with the house captain with house points.</p> <p>Next 2 terms – No Halloween disco but thinking of sweetie cones again as they were successful last time. For xmas, thinking of xmas class xmas cards, waiting to receive packs.</p> <p>Class crafts are normally done every year, talk to staff to do something else as this has been done for a long time and feel it is getting quite tired.</p> <p>Congrats to JM and everyone who helped.</p>	

	<p>c) Raffle on hold due to COVID and sending things out. The licence has been acquired until it is needed. When should we now do this? Xmas, Easter Valentine's Day? CC &amp; BG to work together to discuss when would be reasonable to do the raffle.</p>	
6	<p>BG gave an overall information about pitches to new members who were not quite aware of all these issues.</p> <p>LC read out two emails received from Mr Larann Foss:</p> <p>Emailed dated Friday June 25<sup>th</sup> See Appendix 1a</p> <p>LC emailed LF to get an update Emailed dated Wednesday August 25<sup>th</sup> See Appendix 1b</p> <p>Asked repeatedly for a timeline and no response LC met with COH &amp; BG separately to discuss matter, Think it is time to write to Education Committee- Vice Chair &amp; Chair And MSP, MPs, and Councillors, some of which LC has already spoke to about the issue. Continuing to mess us around Think we should think about also going to papers sometime soon as enough is enough August Education meeting has been cancelled and there is not another scheduled until December</p> <p>Get pupils to pen letter, especially senior pupils as they will have missed a lot of lessons over the years. This would also help with the papers and MPs, MSPs &amp; Councillors.</p> <p>All in agreement – Draft letter for Education Committee &amp; MPs, MSPs &amp; Councillors Primary and Secondary pupils also to add letters.</p>	
7	<p>PC Allowance is dragging on, was not acted upon as a copy of constitution was not forwarded to her, but it is no longer her responsibility. This was forwarded to her. 20/21 End of Year form has now been filled in and sent to Heather Kerr and Vanessa Morris CC complained about Lesley Beck but Lesley Beck has now moved on and Heather Kerr has now taken over.</p> <p>As of August we have over £3000 £1458 Primary £1665 Secondary</p> <p>Primary have a pledge of Purple mash And secondary have to pay out for French Textbooks and craft supplies Need receipts and then can give a cheque for those Issues with Cheques - JM has been able to help with these</p> <p>Secondary has £897 after pledges, does not include the PC Allowance so this will rise after this Funding Bid for tents etc for Duke of Edinburgh for £740 was discussed: For S3-S6 Contribution doesn't have to be full amount Could also go elsewhere like Holywood Trust as can get match funding Pay 1/3 of the required amount £250 BG to inform Mr McKenna</p>	

	<p>Approved</p> <p>CC has LC cheque and will send it to school for LC to collect</p> <p>Online Banking – Suggestion made to moving to this due to COVID and meetings being online and increasing more difficult to pay people by cheque and would be more paperless and would help CC and future Treasurer's, as well as paying the secretary who is currently paid by cheque.</p> <p>CMack to look into as has looked at this previously with an organisation she is also involved in.</p> <p>Look into Online Banking and discuss at next meeting. Cheque book to be held in school office and 3 or 4 cheques signed so people can be paid immediately.</p> <p>Cheque Book presently not at School Office, CC to return to school office when finished using it, where it is to be stored.</p>	
8	<p>Report from BG Head Teacher</p> <p>See Appendix 2</p>	
9	<p>Head Boy and Head Girl will be attending our meetings throughout the year It is very important we hear from them and the Pupil Voice. LC asked what we want to know/hear from them? We want to know what is going on with the Pupil Voice, any issues, their views on matters, etc. BG will let Head Boy and Head Girl know what we are looking for them to report on.</p> <p>Teams Free no longer allows you to record KG using Voice memos Unsure of using Zoom due to be easily hacked.</p> <p>Thinking of Screen Capture software to record the screen and the video Issue with Students on PC Teams and cameras, but they are over 16. BG to follow up and check about students and video recordings. Both students signed Data Protection Forms</p> <p>AGM Chair, Treasurer and Vice Chair all up for re-election. COH will not be standing for re-election but wishes to stay on PC. Vice Chair will be needed Whoever stands for election needs to be willing to serve a two-year term Chair is unsure if standing for re-election due to her child thinking of leaving at end of S5. Chair could serve for another two years, as child has two years left and undecided, but possibly go in one when/if her child decides to leave. In which case would be an idea to have a Vice-chair willing to take over role of Chair when Chair leaves, to understand what Chair does and sit with LC and learn what is involved in the role. LC urged PC to think about who they want to fill these roles. Anyone wishing more information on any of these roles to contact LC or Office Bearers.</p>	<p>BG</p> <p>BG</p>
	<p><b>AGM Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Oct 7pm via Teams</b></p>	

## **Appendix 1A**

Hi Louise,

The Education and Learning committee meeting went well, and we're now past the timeframe that any additional info or requests can be made which could alter the outcome, so I can confirm that agreement was given to carry out the surveys across the identified secondary schools. An instruction will now be given for this piece of work to be scoped up, published through the correct procurement route, and hopefully we can make an award to a contractor in the not too distant future. I'll keep you up to speed with the steps as they progress.

Regards,

***Larann Foss***

## Appendix 1B

Good morning Louise,

Unfortunately during the summer it's probably the busiest time of year for any capital works, schools being empty and the opportunity that provides. Which means that anything new sits until there is capacity with my colleagues in PEP (Property, Estates and Programmes), and in this case one of the new things sitting for capacity to move forward is the pitch survey works. Internally to the service we have been looking at what standards and specifications we want the pitches to be measured against, and this will form a critical part of the tender information. However until this has been published, returns made by whichever contractors are looking to carry out the works, a winning contractor awarded, we won't really know of the timescales as that's for the contractor to detail within their submission.

Hopefully the next few weeks will be calmer for PEP, and resource can be allocated to move this forward.

Regards,

***Larann Foss***

## Appendix Two

### Head Teacher's Report for the Parent Council –September 2021

#### ELC News:

- The ELC have returned as one whole setting and welcomed 8 new children to begin their learning journey with us. The coming together of the nursery has created a lot of new opportunities for all of the children.
- Mrs Marchbank over the summer has completed her Froebel in Childhood Practice course which she participated in over the course of the year. This has great benefits and further opportunities for our setting.
- The children are in the process of helping us renovate their outdoor area with lots of their ideas being put into place.

#### Primary News:

- Our new Primary One pupils have settled in well to school life and it is great to see them enjoying the classroom experience.
- The Wallace Hall Accordion Groups have started again for this session with some fantastic recordings featuring both primary and secondary pupils on our social media pages.
- Congratulations to Ellen MacCormick and Struan Harkness who played golf at Gleneagles recently as part of a 4-person team from Thornhill Golf Club. Although they didn't win, Ellen and Struan were awarded a qualifying medal.

#### Secondary News:

<b>S4 - Type of Qualification</b>	<b>2021 S4 Results for WHA</b>	<b>2021 S4 Results for D&amp;G</b>
2 or more National 5s	81%	75%
4 or more National 5s	67%	56%
6 or more National 5s	44%	33%

<b>S5 - Type of Qualification</b>	<b>2021 S5 Results for WHA</b>	<b>2021 S5 Results for D&amp;G</b>
1 or more Highers	78%	60%
3 or more Highers	54%	39%
5 or more Highers	29%	15%

<b>S6 - Type of Qualification</b>	<b>2021 S6 Results for WHA</b>	<b>2021 S6 Results for D&amp;G</b>
1 or more Advanced Highers	29%	24%
2 or more Advanced Highers	16%	8%
5 or more Highers during S5 & S6	49%	34%