



## **Minutes of Auchengray Primary Parent Council Meeting**

**24<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

### **Attendees:**

Parents – Moira Marshall (Chairperson), Stuart Crichton (Treasurer), Gayle Robertson, Susan Peter, Claire Dunbar. Staff - Carol Pennock (Head Teacher).

### **1. Apologies**

Adela Keenan, Heather Wilson, Marnie Crombie-Jones & Kate Wright (Principal Teacher).  
Moira opened the meeting at 7pm and thanked everyone for coming.

### **2. Minutes of last meeting**

Previous meeting minutes were noted (Moira Marshall) and approved (Susan Peter). Claire Dunbar nominated Susan Peter as Secretary, as this post has been vacant since the AGM in September. This nomination was seconded by Moira Marshall. The Constitution was belatedly reviewed and approved.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### *Ceilidh*

Moira presented a detailed Ceilidh Report, including income and expenditure details. This event raised a total of £481.01 for the Parent Council, and used a grant of £500 from WATIF. The report included points made regarding rumoured views regarding the time and venue of this event, as well as the option of ticketing, arising to debate and discussion. It was concluded that the event was a huge success, and that it could be held as a ticketed event earlier in the evening if organised again. Moira agreed that such events are a learning curve for the current Parent Council. Claire congratulated Moira for her effort in making this event such a success. Moira thanked those parents who had helped at the event and stressed the need for more helpers from the parent forum at future events. It was also noted that Tarbrax Village Hall gave the Parent Council a reduced fee for the hall hire, and Marnie did not charge a fee for her catering time or costs, which was greatly appreciated by the Parent Council.

#### *School App*

25 people have so far downloaded the App. There have been some glitches with it. Carol will approach the App Provider to discuss these issues. Security PINs and School Authorisation codes will also be considered, as will the involvement of the pupils, although the Provider does not hold plans for that use currently. Parent Council contact details will be added. There was discussion about the duplication of information for the App as well as the website, which (it is felt) is outdated and cluttered. The staff are reviewing the current website provider, and hoping to adopt a more user-friendly format in due course.

*Playground – see Head Teacher’s Report*

#### *Road Safety*

Stuart reiterated the need for road safety measures in Auchengray, specifically flashing signs. Council cutbacks means there is no provision for these, and funding will need to be sought from other sources, e.g. Levensat Trust. Carol informed everyone that a Community Police Officer attended the school to demonstrate road safety measures with the pupils, including a radar gun, and this was a great success.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Stuart advised the bank account has a balance of £1,804.55. A cheque for £454 for a new laptop, and another for £216 for the School App are needed. £500 was granted from WATIF to help with the ceilidh.

#### **5. Head Teacher's Report**

Carol presented the School Improvement Plan and discussed this in detail. There are limited resources at the school for Levels 2 and 3. Carol is planning to purchase books for these levels using Pupil Equity Funding. Kim Ross (Specialist Support Teacher) will provide a Parent Workshop this term, with Walston Primary parent group in attendance. This will assist with parental involvement in the pupil learning journals. Carol advised that Mrs Nicol will be on leave until at least April, and her return will be phased. Those present reiterated the desire for a second teacher, but it was explained that it is necessary to have 20 pupils to secure another teacher. Carol discussed the Pupil Evaluations and concluded that pupils are happy with the curriculum, enjoy the school environment and being with their friends, as well as the positive ethos of the school. Pupils expressed that they would like more outdoor opportunities and outdoor equipment, as well as more maths, science, shows, and Spanish. Carol will look at developing these wishes. Carol outlined various activities which took place last term. Please refer to the attachment for further detail. Claire mentioned the need for the website to include details of all these activities, in the hope of attracting more pupils. Carol stated that a representative of the Parent Council is required for the School fund account. There was a discussion about the school grounds - Carol asked the parents to consider 'Loose Parts Play' within the playground. Further details can be downloaded. It is hoped that a collection of outdoor items from the community can be organised in March and further items purchased e.g. mud kitchen, storage hut. The playground could be further improved with a 'willow den' windbreak. Carol will look into the cost of this. The Parent Council will assist with the cost of developing the grounds. Moira will further explore 'Free Trees' for the playground, as part of this.

#### **8. AOB & Date of next meeting**

Claire agreed to organise cross-country training for P4 – 7 for Feb/March. Gayle mentioned a helper for this, and suggested a 5 minute workout for pupils when the weather prevents the morning jog. Carol is hoping this can be adopted. Carol will follow up on a treat for the wee ones outstanding from last June. There was discussion regarding the meeting’s clash with a WATIF meeting - other parents, plus the Principal Teacher, were unable to attend the Parent Council meeting. It is hoped that future clashes can be avoided. The next Parent Council meeting was set for Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018. **CD 24/01/18**