



## Minutes of Auchengray Primary Parent Council Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

### *Attendees:*

Staff – Carol Pennock (Head Teacher), Cathryn Wright (Principal Teacher)

Parents – Moira Marshall (Chairperson), Susan Peter (Secretary), Stuart Crighton (Treasurer), Gayle Robertson

### *1.) Apologies*

Claire Dunbar, Marnie Crombie-Jones

Sam Norton-Alexander (Watif) invited but apologised afterwards for not making it for the evening.

Moira opened meeting at 7pm and welcomed everybody at arrival.

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

Previous meeting (24/01/18) minutes were noted (Moira Marshall) and approved (Susan Peter-Vietense & attendance) with the additional note and correction from last minutes noted by Carol Pennock about the school app and its improvement in the future. We are hoping for online learning involvement for pupils by interactive use of an app between teachers and pupils. This will encourage pupils more confidence and instant learning through use of an app. The school app at this stage is a platform for parents and teacher communication.

### *3.) Head Teachers Report*

#### *School improvements*

Carol spoke about staff audits and pupils questionnaires to keep up with continuation of improvement of school environment from all sides. She also added that parents would be involved in filling in a questionnaire in the close future to involve parents in this process. Carol is looking to set up a School Improvement Group (Focus Group with parents, one hour per term) which would be running beside the Parent Council. Different needs can be covered by this group to involve school and community e.g. Watif, Auchengray Church...

#### *Staff*

Mrs Nicol currently at Lamington Primary School. Mrs Wright will stay principal teacher until the end of this term. No other news in this matter.

#### *PEF (Pupil Equity Funding)*

Carol explained that funding depends on how many pupils need help within daily school running. This term, money is spend on continuous improvement in literacy by purchasing books, Reading Eggs, Five Minute Box.

### *School App*

The app which was paid for by Parent Council is running successfully with 37 individual downloads. The app is now secured and protected by unique name and password which can be obtained from the school office. Carol is very happy about usage of app and also gave thanks to Mrs Wright for continuous updates on app and school website (weekly updates on achievements, pictures in Class/General Gallery etc.)

### *Road Safety*

Poles for flashing 20m/h signs (at start/finish school times) are being installed. Work should be completed within the next month, currently waiting for electricians to be put in place.

Carol spoke about next winter road gritting routes and hopefully the inclusion of the small section of the Tashieburn road (locally known as the Coal Road) on the precautionary gritting route as it is now a school transport route. There was some discussion about the quality of vehicle used for the school transport on occasion, this is not something the school nor do the parent council have control over. If parents have a concern, they should contact the transport provider (i.e. the contract holder) or the schools transport team within South Lanarkshire Council.

### *Activities*

Plenty of activities are running until the end of this term some of which have already taken place with great success e.g. Photography Project, Numeracy/Topic Afternoon, Easter Service, Cross Country, Football Festival, After School Clubs... the list is long.

Up-coming for your Diary + more later

- Multi-sports during lunch time
- Official opening - 1<sup>st</sup> June
- P7 leavers' ceremony – June 21<sup>st</sup> in the morning
- Sports day – June 21<sup>st</sup> in the afternoon
- Royal Highland Show - 22<sup>nd</sup> June (later pupil school arrival – letters will be in school bags soon)

### *School Fund*

A School Fund Committee will be set up in the future consisting of school staff e.g. Head teacher, Principal Teacher, Office Staff. There should be 5 members, 2 of which will be the Head teacher and the Principal Teacher.

### *School Grounds*

Hoping to get "Loose Parts Play" up running for the start of the 2018/19 term, the only obstacle are regulations around storage facility. Carol is in communication with SLC about this and will keep us updated. Once an agreement in place, the school is happy for donations e.g. bikes, scooters (safety equipment) etc. Loose Play will run on rotation base to give all pupils a fair share of use of equipment. Playground marking should be soon in place too for Break Time fun play. This will initially be a T-junction to help the children learn about road safety, a 10 x 10 Square that can be used for games and teaching and a compass dial which again can be versatile in teaching and games. If we wish to have any further markings painted in the playground then we will need to look at doing some fundraising. These markings are being put in as part of the new build completion.

Application for trees are in the pipeline also ideas to wind shelter along school fences

Hopes to run a community based garden (vegetable patch, weather station, bench, etc.) behind the school are a possibility, Tarbrax Community Council no longer wish to lead this project, however talks are ongoing with Watif and TCC in hopes we can create a partnership to create a community space.

Next year's Levensat Project title is "Your Involvement with your local community and environment", more to come on that.

*More Dates for the Diary (<http://www.auchengray-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk>)*

29th-31st - P7 3Day visit

1<sup>st</sup> June - official School opening

4<sup>th</sup> June – Pupil Reports Issued

5<sup>th</sup> June – P1 visit

7<sup>th</sup> June – P1 visit and lunch

16<sup>th</sup> June – Fun Day, Raffle prizes needed, Run by Watif and TCC at Tarbrax

21<sup>st</sup> June – Leavers' Assembly and Sports Day

28<sup>th</sup> June – Dress Down/ Pyjama Day

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

Treasurer advised the bank account balance of £1169.44 some of this will hopefully go towards loose parts play either for storage or parts. Moreover, application for online Payment Account (just simply to make life easier for the parent Council) was signed.

#### *5.) Matters Arising*

A parent was asking about possible Orientation project which has been discussed under former Head teacher and former Principal Teacher during the past Parent Council Meeting. This project would involve strengthen pupils team working skills and more. This matter is left open to discuss as a future project such as an After School Club. However, School Diary at this stage quite full at this moment to put it into this term.

#### *6.) AOB & Date of next meeting*

Leaving presents for P7 will be organised by Parents Council, it was discussed that these gifts would be presented by the Parent Council, as Chairperson Moira is happy to do the presentation.

The School will organise a welcome gift for the incoming class of P1 pupils

Parents Council Meeting was closed at 8:45pm. Thanks to all attending.

The next parent Council Meeting was set for 19/09/18 (Wednesday) 7-9pm. Reminder and Invitation to parents, councillors, trust members, etc. will be send out closer the time.

15/05/18 - Secretary Susan Peter-Vietense