

Parson's Green Parent Council

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 22nd January 2020

Present: Sam Rutherford (chair), Katy Longstaff, Justine Fernandes-Binns, Jane Manson, Emma Bartlett, Susan Cochrane, Carys Macdonald, Lara Celini, Nicky MacDonald, Rebecca Caird, Stevie McKinlay, Emma Jowitt, Catriona Rogers, Dawn Posse

Apologies: Rhona Ford, Joan Griffiths, Liz Creelie, Wendy Crawford, Alex Stainforth, Claire Hagget, Rachel King, Sam G, Jennifer McGowan

	Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1	Welcome and apologies	Sam welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted	
2	Approval of minutes from last meeting	Minutes from last meeting were approved.	
3	Treasurers report	Balance: as of 21st January is £5,292 Still to come in: Ravelston house fundraiser money Christmas card £718 - Thank you to Elspeth for all her work on this To go out: £12441.20 for installation of playground, bill yet to come in. £970 snagging for playground Still promised: £40 running club £300 forest school £300 gardening club	

		Christmas fair made £2870, which is fantastic a big thank you to Gillian and Ed £2000 is kept aside for general things that come up (library membership, welfare fund etc)	
4	Funding requests	Additional playground costs Snagging £970 Paint £200 for extra playground equipment (hula hoops, skipping ropes) PC approved this funding request £96 to go towards milk money (cannot pay out of the welfare fund to parent pay) PC approved this funding request £200 for P6 classes, class novels to support their accelerated learning programme PC approved this funding request <i>Many thanks again to Alana for the fundraiser at Ravelston – still to discuss how the money will be spent but suggestions so far are for : a class trip and a signing course (to be confirmed)</i>	
5	Tanzania update	Project is called Twende Kijani: Let's go green project: PG has been teaching this through: leadership groups and one world group Ms Macdonald and Mrs Caird going out for February break will be sharing what PG has been doing and doing some teaching.	

		September will have 2 teachers from Tanzania coming to PG for 10 days. Maybe a PG event to welcome our guests? Ideas from parents would be great. How can we accommodate the visitors and approach parents about this? Need to fundraise for them to come over. Dance fundraiser, Stevie said he and Janall were happy to do it again, maybe a date in April? Parent council to come up with ideas to put on next agenda Emma asked about crisp recycling: walkers not supporting any more points. Tried child friendly bins, but seagulls have been taking out the rubbish, need to have a lid on the bin. Can pupils come up with an idea? Could a bin bag be carried around?	All Stevie All Teachers to take to pupils for ideas
6	Parent Council reflections	New year, new decade Anything you want to see the PC get behind this year? The PC split into groups to discuss this and fed back. Focus for next year: Support Tanzania project 1 in 5 how do we support this, still have the foodbank and it is working Call out to parents for donations for the foodbank Claire's second hand clothes rail – Thank you Claire How we present ourselves: Stock of t-shirts or hoodies that are the right size for school sporting events. Catriona volunteered to have them washed and ironed.	Susan Catriona

		Facebook page, Lara, updates it for parsy parents. If anyone is interested to help? LETS now being charged, is there anything we can do, as fees for groups or individual lessons are going up Susan thinks not just Edinburgh, wider than that. PC thinks it is going to become a barrier for people to take up extra activities. Accessibility within the school: is there one entrance we could make accessible Susan will take it forward with the council Getting more people involved, actively trying to encourage people. Maybe a grown up social? Primary 1 parents have organised a clubbercise. Friday 24th January willowbrae bowling club 7-8pm	All Susan
7	P7 guidelines	Would be good to have some guidelines drawn up for what is flexible or set in stone Qually – summer or winter? Is this flexible? Benmore Hoodies Warning of when meetings are Balance between pupil voice and what works. Parents of current P7s and past P7 parents to get together and come up with a handout for next years p7s	Current P7 parents to organise
8	30 minutes between pick ups	Dawn approached the parent council with a petition of 48 signatures: Could P1&2 wing be open for children to go to the toilet, a class room to be opened up if bad weather Sign in book for in P1&2 wing for fire safety. Susan responded that it would cost £16000 to align the school day for P1&2 teachers to have their non-contact time. The school cannot afford this.	

		Susan welcomed parents to come in the front door, sign in and wait in the reception if the weather is bad or children need the toilet. Susan highlighted it would be hard to give a classroom as this is a working space for the teacher whose classroom it is and she would have to consult teachers and facility management as they are also been cleaned at that time. If the school was built now it would have a parents' room for just this purpose. Susan has asked about a shelter previously and PG is not allowed a sheltered structure as it is an open playground. Susan to ask her colleagues how it is handled in other schools and ask staff. The Council would respond by saying is the schools problem.	Susan
9	Fundraising and events	Clubbercise Friday 24th, all welcome Dance fundraiser TBC (April) Summer fair Friday 12th June (working date)	Stevie
10	Playground update	Snagging done today, 24 hours for everything to be dry. Might need some parents to give it a paint, will help give it more life. In the spring with dry weather Grand opening of playground – Monday Thank you Justine and everyone who has helped. P1&2 made Justine a card to say Thank you. Sam suggested that we could do some guidelines for any future schools who might get donated equipment	Justine & Sam
11	SUSTRANS	Safer routes to the high school Places for everyone scheme, so also reach out to wider community. Will also be coming back to PG.	
12	Headteacher's report	Staffing – welcome to Ms Elms and Mrs Wringe who have started work as PSA's until June.	

		• Playground – a huge thank you to Justine Fernandez-Binns for the drawings and the incredible amount of time and patience spent on seeing this project through, we are all delighted that it is now installed and completed! A huge thank you also to the Modern Art Gallery for the equipment via Lee Haldane and to the Parent Council who have wholeheartedly supported the project. • We would also like to acknowledge the painting of the PlayPod, which is a stunning addition to the playground area and thank Sam Rutherford for the painstaking work of preparing the container and arranging the artist, Paco Graff. • We are also delighted to say that there is a new bike rack that has been installed in the playground that was won during the Big Pedal last March, thank you to Ms MacDonald. • Classes for 20-21 (likely to be 13 classes organised as P1,P1/2, P2 and then double stream from P3-7) Parents are encouraged to complete the City of Edinburgh Council survey about their views around the formation of composite classes. The survey is open to parents/carers throughout the school and nursery, as well as those with children at high school. The survey has also been sent to all staff to seek their views. It closes on Sun 26th January. The link is: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/sccompc • Nursery Expansion to 1140hours (from 600hours). All 3 and 4 year olds will be eligible for 1140 free hours of nursery provision from August 2020. Parsons Green Nursery will be remaining as a term time provision with 30 full time spaces. The exact timing of the day are still to be finalised but will follow the school week (ie not a Friday afternoon). Lunches and snack will be provided. A booklet with guidance for parents/carers has been issued which explains the different models and what is available in this area. https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/nurseries-childcare/expanding-funded-early-learning-childcare?documentId=12020&categoryId=20071 • Raising Children with Confidence (RCwC) This course was run successfully between Oct and Dec 2019 on Wed evenings, led by HT and DHT. The feedback has been extremely positive and the participants would	
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		recommend it to others. The next course is running on Thursday mornings following the Feb break. There are a few spaces but they are filling up fast! Please email admin@parsonsgreen.edin.sch.uk or contact the HT or DHT directly. • Pupil Learning Logs – these new logs are aimed at supporting our learners to be fully active participants in the learning process, understanding themselves better as learners. The log supports the child to self-evaluate against the wellbeing wheel (sometimes known as SHANARRI wheel, which stands for Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included). The log also captures skills and highlights of learning from the term. Please look at these at the parent consultations, we are aiming to build on these each term. • Parent Consultations – end of January instead of March, and again at the end of May along with a shortened report. This is in response to parents indicating they would like more timely feedback in order to support their child. • Bingo Balls – each week in the P4-7 assembly, a bingo ball is drawn, this corresponds to a pupils place on the register and they have a turn having a learning chat around a key question. E.g. what are you proud of in your learning? What helps you with your writing? The views are used to support our self-evaluation within the school to help us improve. • There will be a survey about homework at the parent consultations. You will be asked to place a dot next to one of four statements. • Thank you to parents who are able to support the Financial Education Week (24th Feb) by talking about how they use numeracy/maths/money within their job. We are also very grateful to parents who have come to deliver talks to classes about their jobs within STEM. We would be delighted to have more parents come in to talk about their careers. During the week all classes will receive Money Sense workshops from RBS. • Building Resilience – the current unit of work is Respect Yourself.	
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13	Sub groups	Library – The library ladies continue to do a terrific job - if there are particular titles please let the library know. The PC is always keen to support the library.	
14	AOB	Signing, George's mum, Emma, has done her training in 'sign along' and will come into the school to support the children to learn some 'sign along', start with P1&2 and start with names & greetings. Signs for Head teacher/ deputy head/ gym hall etc to put up on appropriate doors. £1.20 a sign. PC asked Emma to put in a funding request. Maybe have a link on the newsletter for a sign a week. Dawn asked about One plus two: core language plus two others (French and Spanish). School has just been given a little bit of money to release their lead teacher for one plus two Mrs Murray, to update on this. Edinburgh University French student will be here every Wednesday for next few weeks with P3s Susan did agree that this could do with another push.	Emma Emma Susan