



Minutes of Parsons Green Parent Council Meeting Wednesday 13th October 2021 7-8pm on Teams

Co-Chairs: Jannall Irving, Alana Ivinson

Present: Simon Millar (treasurer), Angela Broom, Emma Jowitt, Lesley Mackenzie, Claire Haggett, Emma Bartlett, Donna McGuire, Lorraine Simpson, Mairi Day, Sarah Smith, Samantha Cameron, Sue Nicol, Nicky Isles, Colin Ross, Lorna Brady, Teresa Moss, Karen Carter

Staff: Susan Cochrane, Jennifer McGowan, Nicky MacDonald, Hala Eladany, Angela Volpe

1. Welcome and introductions

The meeting was opened by Jannall and Alana and everyone welcomed.

2. Apologies: Bonnie Thomson

3. Minutes for the meeting of 1st September 2021 were accepted.

4. Treasurer's Report: updated provided by Simon, balance remains at £6600.16, please see attached report.

5. Matters Arising: these were dealt with within the sub-group headings

6. Subgroups:

Fundraising:-

Hallowe'en Disco: the school are unable to host an event within the school building due to current covid guidelines from The Scottish Government. The Hallowe'en Disco is a parent council run event (not run by school staff), the parent council chairs asked for permission from the Locality Parental Engagement Group and were told they could go ahead following covid guidelines. The Ravelston House have offered their venue free of charge for the parent council to run a Hallowe'en Disco. The proposal is for the parents to run 3 separate hour-long discos with a DJ. 12-1pm for Nursery to P2; 1.30-2.30pm for P3-5; 3-4pm for P6-7

Risk assessments to be carried out, covid-guidance being followed, hall cleaned down between groups, DJ is very low cost, there will be some stalls, some home-baking. Will let everyone know about the final details and if parents can stay or not, depends on finalising the risk assessment – a limited number of PVG'd volunteers will be needed. Unable to use the school as a venue so this has been offered as an alternative. Parents would be welcome to wait in the gardens or other area at the venue. Cash floats to be arranged with Simon. Two parents queried the arrangements for hosting the event at the Ravelston and suggested that parents may find it difficult to travel there on the Saturday, they queried why the school could not host parties within the classrooms and expressed their views that the venue is not suitable for hosting an event. Currently the school is not able to host any events or gatherings, school staff cannot host classroom parties, so this is the best available alternative and at least means that a disco can go ahead. The parent council on behalf of children and parents/carers are endeavouring to provide a safe and fun alternative that is as accessible as possible for those who would like to/are able to attend. Fundraising will be through donation buckets and money raised go to the parent council funds towards agreed fundraising targets.

Action Point: Jannall and Alana to finalise plans and share via newsletter

Active Schools

Parent Pay is open for donations. Letter approved by the PC to go out to people who have secured an active school place. See attached letter. The clubs will not run next term unless we can cover the costs so it is important to let everyone know how to donate.

A point was raised about the joininedinburgh.org site being hard to navigate to get an overview of what is available. There have been no paper copies of timetables as it is all online, a request made for an overview for future clubs.

Action Point: Susan to liaise with Paddy about timetable overview and quick link to the booking site for future bookings.

Christmas Fair

Unable to plan for an event at school, the parent council would welcome ideas for a Christmas Fair with a



proposed date of 21st Nov. This is the main fundraising event of the year for the parent council, to enable them support projects in the school. Open to suggestions...

Action Point: parents to use parsonsgreenparentcouncil@gmail.com to suggest ideas, propose raffle items/stalls etc.

Grounds:-

The pupil gardening group (P3-7) is about to get up and running again with Gill and Ed who are planning to take the grounds plans forward. See also the Tool Library volunteers update in HT report.

Action Point: need a parent rep to co-ordinate the grounds/garden work (e.g. arrange garden tidy up), please email parsonsgreenparentcouncil@gmail.com or contact the Headteacher if interested

Clubs:-

Would welcome a parent to co-ordinate clubs other than the Active Schools offer

Action Point: need a parent rep to co-ordinate clubs (email as above if interested)

Library:-

This is the time to get PVG's sorted out for helping in the library

Action Point: any parents keen to help in the library, when we are able to invite volunteers back into the school, please arrange PVG through admin@parsonsgreen.edin.sch.uk

Pre-loved uniforms:-

Claire Hagggett reported back about the success of the uniform rails outside on Fridays from approx. 11.45-12.15. Parents/Carers are welcome to come and browse, take what you need and donate uniform items as appropriate. Claire and Arabella have been organising the uniform including washing, folding, tidying each week. Others would be very welcome to join them on Fridays at pick up time to help with the doors and putting out the rail, good opportunity to chat to other parents and get to know people.

Action Point: encourage everyone to come along and use the uniform rails, encourage new volunteers

Funding Requests:

Forms available on school website in the Parent Council section.

Proposal from Sarah Smith on behalf of the P6 school football team for new strips that would serve the children into P7. The football team have already started, have had 3 wins and a loss, playing most weekends and training planned for the winter. The parents running the football have produced an excellent document to support future school football club set-ups, they have also bought first-aid kits and equipment from their own pockets to get set-up, they would welcome the support of the PC for strips to represent the school in their matches. The proposal was approved and seconded, and Sarah and the other parents were thanked for all their time and efforts.

Action Points: invoice of £430.60 provided to Simon to pay, order to be placed by Sarah Smith. Susan to share Emma Bartlett's email with Simon for accessing the PC account.

7. HT Report: see attachment

Despite many challenges, many positives highlighted.

Action Point: timing of the school day approved through the PC to support the majority response for 8.45am start time/3.10pm finish. The start time of 8.45am will be highlighted and reinforced so that everyone is aware.

8. AOCB:- (any other competent business)

Emma Jowitt attended the first parental engagement meeting for parents/carers of children with ASN (additional support needs) in mainstream settings. She described that the aim of the group is to gather views of parents/carers to feed-back to the council to capture good practice, approaches that are going well and to highlight issues that are emerging across the city. The aim is to have a rep for each school. Emma is happy to be the rep for Parsons Green and would welcome parents contacting her directly.

Action Point: Emma to be rep for the parental engagement meeting for parents/carers of children with ASN in mainstream settings. Share her email with wider parent community: Emma Jowitt emjamieson82@gmail.com