

Struthers Primary School



Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting 5th June 2018 at 7pm

Present: Kirsten Gallacher (Chairperson), Craig Dalziel (Clerk), Lucy Mullan (Vice-Chairperson), Gail McKellar (HT), Eilidh McBean (DHT), Lucy Lockie (APT), Darren Haniford (APT), Susan Kirk, Catherine Barclay, Gail Whyte, Corrie Duncan, Fiona Taylor, Eliot Kerr (Staff), Gillian Garven, Andrea Baird, Julie Mathieson and Lynne Houston

Apologies: Lynne Miller

1. Welcome and Introduction

Kirsten welcomed all those present thanked them for their attendance. She gave a warm welcome to Mrs McKellar who was attending her first meeting.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were unanimously approved.

3. School Updates

Mrs McKellar opened her Head Teacher's report by thanking everyone for her warm welcome to the school. She advised that there had been a slight change to staffing from the last meeting as the transfer of a member of staff from Cairn Primary was now not going ahead. Therefore at the recent interviews 2 members of staff were therefore appointed, Miss Rachel Alexander who is moving from Monkton and Mrs Kimberley Bloomer who is moving from Annanhill Primary in Kilmarnock. In addition Miss Ashley Pride is joining the staff as an NQT. Letters will be issued on Monday regarding classes for next year. Eilidh will be teaching in the nursery 2 days a week due to cuts to nursery teaching staff provision and she will be joined by an Early Years Practitioner on a 0.5 contract with interviews taking place later this month. Primary 2 is now full and the council's redirect policy is now in place for this year group which will obviously impact on those moving into the new Earls Green development. The council have been reviewing this policy as a number of schools in South Ayrshire are experiencing the same difficulties. Gail added that Education Scotland were coming out to the school on the 19th June to discuss this and were looking to speak to some parents regarding this. Some other points discussed Included:

- A choir made up of 8 P5 pupils are visiting St Ninians on 15th June along with some pupils from the Rights Respecting Schools committee.
- Extension building works are likely to start in October.
- School show rehearsals are in full swing.
- School Kitchen to be refurbished over the summer.

Lucy M raised a query regarding a shortage of hot school meals, Eilidh advised that when the numbers are collated and sent to Muirhead in the morning it is not specified how many hot meals are required, just the number of meals in total (but all children receive an order) but this would be looked into again. Finally a complaint has been

made by a resident in Leven Road with regard to parking (complaint was made on sports day) A reminder to be courteous when parking will be sent out in the newsletter.

4. Fundraising Update

Corrie opened the fundraising section by advising the P7 cluster disco was next Thursday 6.30-8.30 at Muirhead Activity Centre and Corrie would be attending with Kirsten, a request was made for either a male teacher or male parent to also assist. Corrie advised this would be her last meeting as chairperson and so far there had been no response from anyone offering to take over. It was stressed that if no one could take over this would result in the group winding up and this would clearly have a detrimental impact on the school. The group are going to look at putting a "job advert" on the fundraising Facebook page to try and attract interest.

Eilidh added that the sponsored bounce had been a huge success and that the discos were proving very popular.

Lucy M suggested a race night as an idea for a different fundraising activity. It was also suggested to update the Facebook page with more reminders of events to encourage more helpers and Mrs McKellar advised she was happy to mention the group's page in the weekly bulletin.

5. AOB

Andrea thanked everyone for their help and support over the years as this was her last meeting. Kirsten thanked Andrea on behalf of all the PC members for her years of service. A discussion took place regarding the days of meetings, it was agreed that the next meeting in September would change to a Wednesday and start earlier on a trial basis to see if this encouraged more parents to come along to the meetings.

6. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 5th September 6pm – Please note change of day and time.

