

Struthers Primary School



Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting 7th November 2017 at 7pm

Present: Craig Dalziel (Clerk/Acting Chair), Eilidh McBean (DHT), Lucy Lockie (APT), Kirsty Neil (APT), Kerrie Wylie (Staff), Corrie Duncan, Susan Kirk, Catherine Barclay, Lynne Miller, Andrea Baird, Gillian Garven, Julie Matthews, Clare Kennedy, Kath Brearley (Staff), Elliot Kerr (Staff), Richard Woods, Gail Whyte.

Apologies: Kirsten Gallacher (Chairperson), Lisa Conetta (Vice-Chairperson), Jane Houston (HT), Lucy Mullan, Connie Murray, Fiona Armstrong and Janet Smyth

1. Welcome and Introduction

In Kirsten and Lisa's absence, Craig welcomed all those present thanked them for their attendance.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the September meeting were unanimously approved.

3. School Updates

In Jane's absence Eilidh gave a brief overview of some recent staff changes. Kath Brearley had returned from absence and a student is currently working with her class. A new member of staff has just started in the Nursery and Karen Kerr is expected to be absent until Christmas at least. There are also several students assisting at present in the nursery. A 0.6 teaching post had been advertised and there was one applicant who later withdrew. Val Edgar who has currently been working in the school has agreed to cover this for the foreseeable future but the post is likely to be re-advertised.

Kath and Elliot are launching a reading challenge again after Christmas during lunchtimes to help those who are reluctant readers. They were wondering if the fundraising group could contribute around £150 towards the purchase of some new books and possibly some magazine subscriptions. They are hoping to have around 8-10 children per group and launch the programme in January. Kath commented that it was a nice activity for the children to do over the winter months. The fundraising group will liaise with her over the next few weeks to discuss further.

4. Fundraising Update

Corrie opened the fundraising section by updating the group on preparations for the Christmas Fayre. The school will once again be having a dress down day and asking for pupils to bring in donations. The group are looking for 2/3 volunteers for a number of stalls including brick' a brack, bottle stall, tombola and the tea/coffee stall and a couple of volunteers to help sell the calendars/raffle tickets and it was agreed that the calendars should be priced at £6. Andrea has a letter ready to go out requesting volunteers and this will be sent out ASAP. Lucy M has offered to help out during the day setting up during the day and Gillian offered to help as well. Corrie also added that the group have been asked for a contribution of £892.50 towards the pantomime trips.

Other points discussed included: the purchase of the selection boxes for the Christmas parties – Susan offered to look into this, the group are looking to drop the price of the breakfast club from £2 to £1.50 and Corrie is in talks with Meadowgreen with regard to them taking over the running of the breakfast club.

Janet was unable to continue as Treasurer and Gail has agreed to take over this role. Finally Corrie added she had received an email from Colin Clark to make the school aware that there is a consultation event running at the Cabin on Sat 18th Nov with regard to improving the cycle infrastructure around Troon.

5. Curriculum Rationale

Lucy opened a discussion on the new curriculum rationale. Lucy has been very busy pulling all the information together over the past few months and has produced a short animated video which she showed the group. Struthers is the first school to produce a video for the CR, and it has been sent into County Buildings to the Quality Improvement Officer and to Douglas Hutchison and it has been very well received. She added that she had tried to keep the video reasonably short to maintain the interest of the children and it was agreed by all present that the video was an appropriate length. Lucy advised a few small tweaks have still to be made and further discussions will take place with staff before it is placed on the school website.

6. AOB

Craig commented that there had been some near misses recently with children cycling around other children and parents on the way out of the school grounds at finishing time. He asked if a piece could be put in the school newsletter reminding all pupils to follow the school rules of not cycling until they reach the bridge at Tay Road or until the end of Staffin Road either on the back path or along the road and Eilidh advised she would put this in the next newsletter.

7. Date of Next Meeting- 16th January –(7pm in the Community Room)

