**Port Ellen Parent Council Meeting**

**Minutes of Zoom Meeting**

**27th October 2020**

**Apologies**

Maria Heads

**Minutes from Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

Change to school day has been better for utilising support staff much more efficiently. Was almost unanimous feedback from consultees.

**Snack Update**

BW updated on Fruit from Covid funds – Parent Council very pleased and thanked SID and Gary Scott.

SID is registered for Co-op food waste so Port Ellen will benefit from that as well.

Tina has secured £500 also through the Co-op fund – can’t confirm until received but looks like a positive outcome. Maureen said she thought both Bowmore and Port Ellen were successful through the fund.

Maureen asked for feedback on the fruit, some older children parents wondered if they could get more. Was discussed internally and now that cost isn’t an issue, older children will get more. Have also introduced crackers and cheese – no sugar. So hopefully this has addressed issues from parents. No members of the parent council had received feedback.

**Covid Regulations in Schools**

Jo Clark had been asked by Captains about setting up school clubs. Maureen will take this query to the education department central management team for advice and to see if it would be possible in bubbles.

Andrew Burnham has raised the issue of coming into the school as he is doing quite a lot of youth work within the community. It has been proposed that Andrew comes in three times a term and works with the older children – just the P567 class. Again we do not know if this can be allowed to happen but Maureen will discuss with management.

**Vandalism**

Really disappointed to hear that it has been happening again. Maureen has been in touch with David White at the council. A plan has been done for CCTV in the school, location of the cameras would in four areas surround the school building.

£5,500 quote for 4 cameras around the school from Argyll and Bute Council. Iain Woodrow however has quoted £2,500. Hope that A&BC will fund this work – awaiting to hear.

Moira asked what you can do with the footage. Maureen explained that it can be shown to the police. If under 16 can’t be charged for vandalism, all the police can do is take them home. And would continue to take them home so that the parents realise there is a serious issue. Legally are within rights to take CCTV footage. Quite often in the case of the consistent perpetrators, the parents just stand up for their children. Many children travel across from the island to Port Ellen, we don’t know all the children and families involved.

Lots of problems all across Port Ellen, playing fields as well. Alyson MacGillivray has said anything SID can do to support and get community involved in coming together to address the issues in the village.

Maureen has a meeting with Lara at the Cyber Café. They have a ‘Walk About’ project and could link into this. Involves walk about the village, taking children into the cyber, chatting to them, making sure they are okay, being responsible etc. School will share the issues and see if any partnership working can be carried out to benefit all.

Moving forward, will feedback from meeting on Thursday with the Cyber Café Walk About Scheme. Has been running successfully in Lochgilphead so keen to hear what we can learn and hope that it will make a difference.

Since last meeting, we’ve had the tragic death of Drew Brown. The school has had new benches installed in memory of Drew and a garden being created. This is a really special place and we all hope that no vandalism or harm comes to this area.

Maureen has personally thanked Naomi McDowall for being so observant and we hope she continues to report antisocial activity at the school.

**Fundraising**

Mrs Harrison will still do a nativity and make a DVD to sell. It won’t be on seesaw and will be a good fund raiser for the school.

The teachers will discuss presents for the school children.

Discussed ideas for fundraisers e.g.

* online bingo,
* a raffle was done by the bump to birth fund. 100 squares at £20. Was a good fundraiser.
* Advent Calendar prizes would be a good idea, a prize a day.
* Tombola like prizes 25 squares £10 a ticket. OR 100 tickets over 25 days. 1 in 4 chance of winning with tombola like prizes.
* Possible pop up shop to sell canvas bags outside the school plus any other items.

Staff meeting on Monday and Maureen will update the parent council.

Query about whether we are allowed alcohol as prizes.

**Next meeting**

Tuesday 24th November 6.30pm

Agreed AGM will be 26th January 5pm. Advertised as ‘Zoom link will be sent if you private message.’