**Borgue PTC AGM**

**Thursday 28th October 7:30pm**

**Present:** Iain Coleman, Emma Coleman, Laura Moodie, Sarah McCarthy, Lesley McDevitt

**Apologies:** Donna McWhir, Ade Stovell

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

The end of year financial statement has been sent to the Council and Anne Corson has agreed to review our accounts.

In the last year we have updated the signatories on the account but otherwise there has not been a significant movement in the financial controls.

There has not been much movement in the accounts since the financial year end. £47 was paid in from the film in October. Current balance is £2,483.35.

The treasurer’s report was approved.

1. **Head’s Report August 2020-July 2021**

During the first term we started with 29 pupils but unfortunately 6 pupils left for various reasons including a family changing job and another moving house etc.

**Term 1**

**Term 2**

* Halloween Party
* NSPCC Child Line Virtual
* Learner Conversations (1)
* Christmas Jumper Day
* Globe “Christmas Dickens” Digital Panto
* Active Sports (Amy Niven 3 sessions)
* Harvest festival

**Term 3 (Mrs McDevitt Covid 5 weeks)**

* Feis Rois (12 weeks)
* Burns Celebrations - Mrs McDevitt sent all pupils ‘Drop Scone’ Ingredients and Scottish Author Storybooks.
* Learner Conversations (2)
* World Book Day Activities – Virtual /Assemblies/

**Term 4**

* Outdoor Forest Skills learning
* Playground Leaders (A Niven P6/7)
* Sports Day (no Parents)
* Dr and Mrs Davidson Science
* Slip’n Slide / Beach Visit
* End of Year Assembly and Awards (no parents)

In term 4 the D&G Council Elected Members decided that schools with 21-25 pupils could retain 2 teachers for a further year. Local campaigning continues to encourage D&G Council to review the 25 pupil threshold. Lockdown and Covid changes meant a focus on supporting pupils to reintegrate in school after a difficult period of home learning. Covid regulations continued to be followed throughout the period. A wide range of events and activities continued to be held in school, though the presence of parents and the wider community was missed. Learning conversations also took place remotely. Transition was also limited, especially from P7 to the Academy. There has been substantial coverage of school activities in The Press.

**Pupil Equity Funding**

£2,418 of PEF money was awarded to the school which was spent on whole staff training and resources for the Closing the Literacy Gap (CLG) Intervention, Literacy Ladders, Maths resources and Health and Wellbeing activities. Further funds from Scottish Government to support closing the Covid Related Attainment gap of £4560 was used for Teacher led (Mrs James) Booster Learning groups to target specific learning areas.

£1279 remained in the school fund at end of financial year.

**Parent Council.**

More parents have attended PTC meetings via Zoom meetings which is very positive. There is always room for increased number of parents to be more involved. The PTC and school have continued to have a good working relationship and PTC has supported school very well.

It was noted how much extra-curricular activity had been lost to pupils due to Covid, as well as parents not being able to come into school for the whole year. It was noted what a good job the staff had done, despite the restrictions. Things are beginning to get back to normal. Laura asked that thanks were passed on to the staff for their hard work over the last year particularly and to Lesley for her efforts as she is leaving us shortly to move to a new post in The Rhins.

1. **Post Holders**

The Chair and Treasurer roles are due to serve a further year.

Emma Coleman stood down as secretary and Laura was elected to the role for the remainder of the two-year term.

The AGM ended at 7:55pm. Shona Wilson joined the meeting at this point.

**Business Meeting**

1. **In-School Activities**

* Swimming starts next Monday for 4 days each week for 2 weeks.
* Galloway Viking Hoard visit planned for a Monday 15th November. IC suggested children may want to dress as Vikings, HT agreed it was a great fun idea and will incorporate this into the school trip letter! (***Included in school letter***)
* A 1.5hr ‘Pottery’ session is also planned on Tuesday 23rd November.
* Learning Conversation appointment letters will go out on Monday. The conversations will take place by telephone again under Covid mitigations across the D&G Authority on Wednesday 24th November.
* Children will be able to see the Digital Panto of Beauty and the Beast in the last week of school.
* The Christmas Play will be performed and filmed in the village hall. D&G have confirmed no inside audience performances can take place following Scottish Government guidelines for Covid safety. The final film performance will likely be shared via a private You Tube link.

***ACTION: Mrs McDevitt to confirm ownership of anything uploaded to You Tube. (HT is currently waiting for a reply to this question from Janet Regan ICT Development Officer Education and Learning Directorate)***

After discussions with Janet Regan, the best option is to use Microsoft Stream 365. The film will be up-loaded to pupil GLOW accounts where it can be viewed at home, via your child’s GLOW email. The film will be not be able to be downloaded or shared.

1. **Covid Compliance**

Concerns were raised about the decision-making process relating to going beyond government guidance on events and activities as this reduces the experience and richness of children’s education. The Local Authority felt that any decision had to apply across the whole Council must comply with guidance from Scottish Government, for example on parents not coming into schools. View expressed that one size does not fit all, especially for small schools.

Q: Is there anything the PTC can do to step in if the school doesn’t feel able to put on events?

A: Yes, so long as they contact ‘Connect’ to check the insurance applicable and there is a clear differentiation between a school activity and a community activity. Keen to continue to offer the children the opportunity to participate in a community event once a term.

LM suggested that parents and children could get involved in organising a Christmas Fair event. It is still the case that Covid is mostly being spread through smaller community and family events, so we’d also need to very carefully consider Covid risk management. It was also pointed out the other events such as ‘The Borgue Flower Show’ had not taken place due to Covid responsibilities during the event- no’s in the hall, antibacterial hand gelling, social distancing for adults, facemasks etc.

1. **Head Teacher Recruitment**

Roger Hill, Schools Officer, organises the HT recruitment process. He has been sent contact details of both Auchencairn and Borgue Parent Chairs. The interview is a three-part process over two days and is currently taking place virtually. Parent Chairs are a full part of the interview process. There is a presentation element that involves children and staff as well as parent chairs. Sometimes an Acting Head is put in place (from the Acting Head pool) while the recruitment process continues. Lesley is working hard to make sure everything is organised and ready to be handed over at the end of her contract. Mrs McDevitt’s final day is Friday 3rd December.

1. **Solar Panels**

The PTC has been approached by the developer of Culraven Solar Farm about whether they would be interested in having solar panels installed. He is keen that any benefit from this goes to the school directly, rather than the Council.

**ACTION: Lesley McDevitt will raise this with the D&G Council Estates Manager, Larann Foss.**

Laura left the meeting at this point.

Finally, Mrs McDevitt thanked Borgue Parent Council members for providing great support and friendship over the past 9 years. The PC had been challenging at times, kept Mrs McDevitt on her toes in a very positive way and always with the children’s best interests at heart. The BPC had provided lots of opportunities and funding for all children to enjoy new experiences through their primary school years and to enjoy their school which was fantastic!