**Minutes**

**Castle Douglas Parent Council AGM**

Meeting held Monday 9th September 2019 at 6:30pm

 Meeting called by Amy Graham, Chairperson.

 Present: Amy Graham Chair/ parent; Lesley Andrews Vice Chair/parent; Gemma Blackburn Treasurer/Parent; Katherine Crowther- Parent; Jonathan Hall – Parent; Kay Mc Farlane – Parent; Tara Rooney- Bell – Parent; David Tyson -Head Teacher.

 Apologies: Anne Bell (Teaching representative) and Eileen Hope – Clerk.

If name initials appear in **bold** – action is required.

**Welcome**

AG welcomed everyone to the meeting**.**

**Minutes of the Previous AGM held in 2018**

AGM minutes were read out. The last AGM was held Monday 10th September 2018.

No outstanding issues remained from this AGM.

**Office Bearer Elections**

 A vote was held for the election of new office bearers and the following was the outcome:

Lesley Andrews current Vice chair and parent was voted in as the new Chair.  Amy Graham stood down as Chair and was elected Vice Chair and Gemma Blackburn remained in her position as Treasurer. Jonathan Hall was elected Secretary.

 The Committee expressed grateful thanks to Eileen Hope who has acted as the Clerk to the PC for nine years. The PC are extremely grateful to Eileen for her invaluable contribution and wished their thanks to be minuted.

**Minutes of the previous regular committee meeting Monday 18th March 2019**

*Budgeting Issues including DSM budgeting and Support for Learning Budget cuts*

The school’s devolved budget for this coming academic year will be £9500 for a role of 360 children.8 years ago, it was nearly double.

 Budgets generally were discussed, and specific concern was expressed from KC that the cuts to SFL budgets were affecting those children with support needs at all levels. KC stated that the PIN group had sought legal advice for Mr Ian Nesbit, solicitor of Cairn legal. His view was that in a number of areas the Council were breaking the law in relation to pupil provision.

KC stated that if the Council received enough letters of concern /complaint from each school then the Council were obliged to notify the Scottish Dept of Education. AG said that the Council was also going to hold two budgetary meeting saving review meetings that parents could attend on the 27th and 11th October to discuss cuts to the budget. KC said either she or her husband Doug would go and report back to the PC. **KC**

 LA said she would be happy as new Chair of the PC to write a letter to the D&G Director of Education supporting the parents. **LA**

Because the hours of the earning support are being cut those affected children are unsupported in the classroom and this is impacting on their fellow pupils in class.

*Carlingwark Outdoor Centre Closure*

The local community is waiting on the Castle Douglas Development Forum getting back to the PC with the details of the feasibility study they commissioned on Carlingwark Outdoor Centre.

DT will find out whether he can still take pupils walking in the absence of help from the previous staff at the centre. **DT**

**Head Teacher’s Report**

School inspection

DT reported that the school inspection in May had gone very well

DT felt the school report, which is now publicly available, was a good one especially the reference to the way in which the school dealt with the integration of those pupils with special needs.

The Inspectorate said the school had to also track all curricular areas going forward.

DT also informed the PC that the in-service day had focussed on Pivotal Learning and from that day, in liaison with pupils ,3 school rules had been chosen: Ready. Respectful. Safe.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Currently funds sit at £667.05 pence GB

**AOCB:**

 Balcony flow of children in the morning and at end of school day.

JH expressed concern that the current system of parent / pupil traffic on the balcony was not conducive to the safety of the smallest children. DT said he would review the procedure **DT**.

 School lunches

Quality of school lunched was discussed with an overwhelming percentage of children c 65-70% bringing a packed lunch.

The quality of lunchtime food and portion sizes was discussed, and it was decided that the school would hold a pupil survey to determine views.

 The survey would take two forms – one applicable for P1-4, the other survey for P 5-7 .GB would forward to some sample survey questions to DT.  **GB**

**Dates of Next PC Meetings Date of next meetings will be:**

**the 18th Nov 2019, 16th March 20 20 and the 18th May 2020 and the 7th September 2020.**