

## Crookfur Primary School Parent Council



Website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/parents/parent-council/>  
Email: [CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:CrookfurParentCouncil@gmail.com)

### Minutes

**DATE:** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7pm  
**LOCATION:** Eastwood High School  
**CHAIR:** Mrs Denny Henderson  
**PURPOSE OF PARENT COUNCIL:** The Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 required every school to have a Parent Council. The main aim of a Parent Council is to try to represent all parents/carers, help the school community be successful and support improvement where needed.

#### 1. Welcome and opening remarks

Denny welcome everyone present to the meeting. AGM meeting minutes to be forwarded on to parents that attended.

#### 2. Present and apologies

Role	Name	Present	Apologies	Role	Name	Present	Apologies
P1	Catherine McLatchie		X	P5	Conor Murphy		X
P1	Cindy Paton		X	P6	Laura Crichton		X
P1	Samra Naureen	X		P6	Michelle Wilson	X	
P2	Jenni MacKinnon		X	P6	Beverly Stoner	X	
P2	James Campbell		X	P7	Kari Gillies		X
P2	Krys Kujawa	X		P7	Jenny McLellan	X	
P3	Amna Munir		X	P7	Allyson Gilchrist		X
P3	Maaham Ahmad		X	Co-opt	Denny Henderson	X	
P3	Sarah Staff	X		HT	Sheena McGuigan	X	
P4	Lynsey Williams		X	DHT	Kimberley Slorach	X	
P4	Ailsa Munro	X		DHT	Claire Jamieson	X	
P4	Melanie McPhail-Smith		X	CLLR	O'Donnell	X	
P5	Christie Alexander	X		CLLR	Buchanan	X	

#### 3. Minutes of previous Parent Council meeting

- 3.1 *Approval of the previous minutes* – these are available on the school website and were approved.

### 3.2 Actions arising from previous minutes

Due to the relatively short time between meetings, the following actions are still outstanding:

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Create a Sway for parents about Bounce Back and other resilience tools.</b>	<b>Mrs Slorach</b>
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Denny to feed back to Jonathan Hull about digital support</b>	<b>Denny</b>
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Denny to send June minutes to Mrs McGuigan for school website</b>	<b>Denny</b>
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Reps to meet with school staff to discuss parental engagement plan. School to coordinate.</b>	<b>Mrs McGuigan</b>
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>PC reps to consider what other responsibilities they could take on</b>	<b>PC Reps</b>
<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Create family friendly version of the SIP. School to coordinate.</b>	<b>School</b>

## 4. Recent meetings and events

### 4.1 Equalities forum – 21<sup>st</sup> September

- Ailsa, Denny and some members of the Diversity Group attended the Equalities Forum. Debbie Lucas, the lead officer for Child Protection in East Renfrewshire gave a presentation about the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill which is sometimes referred to as the “smacking ban”. Debbie was looking for advice on how to communicate with parents about the law that came in in 2019. The message was about communication and supporting parents and carers, rather than punishment.
- The Equalities Co-ordinator meeting was unusually not on the same topic as the Parent Equalities Forum. Instead, it was about the financial supports that are available to families in East Renfrewshire such as the MART team and explored how school's can help provide relevant and timely support to families.
- Cllr O'Donnell informed us of the cost of living plan agreed in Council meeting to do with child poverty. Predicted that there will be 1,000 extra children in East Renfrewshire living in poverty. Cllr would like information shared regarding what available extra benefits are available to affected families. Keep an eye on the East Ren council website for further updates. MART, Citizens Advise can all provide information and support.

<b>Action</b>	<b>share “Place2Be” as a good tool for finding resources</b>	<b>Mrs McGuigan</b>
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### 4.2 Parent Council Chairs – 12<sup>th</sup> October

- David Gordon, the Quality Improvement Officer who is now responsible for Parental Engagement talked about Family Centered Approaches.
  - This is a self-assessment framework for schools which aims to ensure parents are involved in learning. Each establishment has 20 items or so to assess themselves on, then another cluster school would come to validate, followed by out of cluster visit.
  - Crookfur PS has achieved the Bronze and Silver levels and is about to assess towards Gold. The Nursery class was due to be assessed for Gold when Covid struck. Now that the Nursery has transferred to the Family Centre they have taken time to reassess and will be aiming to go for Gold assessment come June.
  - As part of the process the school will need to create an Action Plan and will need Parental support in order to address this.
- Numeracy and Maths – the authority has carried out a review of the strategy and a refreshed strategy will be issued.
  - Check school website for booklet on how Maths is taught. [Addendum: documents are here <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Crookfur/curriculum/numeracy/>]

- Angela Biggart is the school Maths “Champion” and offers support classes for staff on other ways to teach maths including new approaches. The school offers her the chance to attend courses to strengthen this support.
- Maths homework has been changed recently and the school may look for feedback in the future on how this is working.
- Budget – the cash grant settlement from government expected to stay the same (not following in line with inflation).
  - There are documents on the ERC website setting the scene for where cuts will be anticipated due to this. ERC anticipate that £30million of cuts need to be made. Education makes up almost half of the ERC budget and so there are likely to be significant cuts to Education.
  - ERC are launching a Budget Consultation soon lasting 6 weeks.
  - Denny to attend the Budget Panel for PC Chairs

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Mrs McGuigan to look into coffee and chats with older classes</b>	<b>Mrs McGuigan</b>
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## 5. Financial Report

### 5.1 Financial report since the last meeting

		IN £	OUT £	BALANCE £
<b>Balance at 14/9/22</b>				11,292.63
Money out	Fun day expenses		337.38	
<b>Bank balance on 13/10/22</b>				10,955.25
Money already assigned	Fun day expenses		50.76	
	School Fund Petty cash		250.00	
	Mrs Rattrays Fund		579.06	
<b>Available to spend</b>				10,075.43

### 5.2 Spending approved out of meeting - None

### 5.3 Funding requests from school / family centre

- Denny has suggested that we increase the support of £2 per child to £3 for school trips as a supplement. **Approved by the PC.**
- Gazebo still needs replaced in playground for the Mrs Rattray garden area. Playground items and restoration have been quoted at £28,600 for the entire package, this includes some items Mrs McGuigan doesn't feel they would need
- Mrs Fry has a quote of £10 for headphones with Mics and the school would need around 50 sets. **Approved by the PC.**

## 6. The Scottish Education Landscape

- There is a lot going on just now with Scottish Education.
  - In 2021, the OECD released their report on Scottish Education
  - The Curriculum for Excellence was amazing when created but not moving with the times so needs reviewing. It was critical of the Education bodies such as Education Scotland and the Scottish Qualifications Authority and the senior stage Qualifications.
  - As a result of the OECD report, the Scottish Government commissioned the Muir Report
  - The Muir Report gave recommendations to hold a new National Discussion and recommended that Education Scotland and the SQA were change.
- The National Discussion was launched on 21<sup>st</sup> September and consultation closes on 5<sup>th</sup> December
  - It includes 8 key questions such as what needs to stay and why, looking for information on everyone's opinion on the education system, aiming to reach a wide variety of people and covering all years from Early years to Upper education.

- There is hope to have a facilitated session providing information and asking questions.
- There is also the ongoing Hayward review looking at Qualifications and Assessment at the senior stages. Professor Louise Hayward is running this review and its results may affect the learning for our children in the future.

## 7. Responsibilities of parent council members - POSTPONED TO FUTURE MEETING

## 8. Parental involvement and engagement – update

Pupils will be sent out at parents evening with a survey for Parents/carers to fill in.

## 9. Healthier and Wellbeing update

Mrs Slorach has created a list of what she thinks would be most relevant and supportive and these will be put into the SWAY. She will be pulling items off website and links to resources and putting them all in the same place, it can also be updated so it stays relevant.

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Check RSHP sway in on the website</b>	<b>Mrs McGuigan</b>
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## 10. Extension

- Following Planning permissions coming back, everything went out to Tender, the quotes have all come back far higher than expected (around 20% more).
- Process is being paused and tenders will go back out in early 2023

## 11. Head Teacher Report

### ROLL AND EVENTS

- 510 in school
- 150 family centre
- Homework started back up again
- This week Teachers had reviews with each other, shadowing each other in class, discussing tips and advice, chatting to the children about how they find the lessons and teachings. All class teachers had a visit and participated in a visit. The staff found it very insightful
- Target setting and tracking from first term
- Pop in and plays for P1
- Badges handed out for Pupil Committees. All children who applied for a committee got a role
- In-service day after October will be used for a Cluster event (Shirley Clark – researcher in informative assessment) Eastwood cluster in morning, afternoon will be with Educational Psychologist, full school staff will attend that. These will support the improvement plan.
- Halloween discos

### STAFFING

- Miss Muir on Mat leave
- Mrs Ferguson expecting a baby in new year
- Mrs Jamieson is running sessions for the new staff to support them settling in

### BUDGET

- Difficult times ahead due to budget cuts
- The school has built up savings so that this year won't be affected as they can cover the savings needed to be made

### PEF FUNDING

- Catherine Mulan came out to discuss action plan for spending the funding, what the priorities are, an update at a later date on how this will be spent.
- Portion of funding paying for Mrs Fry's salary and pupil support assistant as they will be focussing a lot of their time on the spending and application of this fund.

- Mrs Rochford will move from Family centre to school in December to provide support in the early years for real targeted support.
- Working along side Eastwood for a cluster collaboration on the equity funding

**12. Questions from Parent Forum**

- Online books for homework vs paper books – The StoryWorld books currently in use, there aren't enough for the increase in the size of school and there isn't the money to replace the books as the stock is going down. Plans will be to continue with e-books.
- Parking on Lomond drive (double yellow lines) – the has began increasing again, it was mentioned to a local Police officer last week who said they would pass it on to Traffic, Mrs McGuigan will also mention to the Campus Cop.

**13. Subcommittee updates**

- Fundraising – discos poster coming soon
- Diversity – great meeting recently

**14. Any other business**

Denny looking into hybrid meetings in future.

**Date of next meeting**

- Diversity Group – Tuesday 15 November
- Parent Council – Wednesday 7 December
- ERC Equalities Forum – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023
- ERC Parent Council Chairs Forum – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023

**Denny Henderson**

**Chair – Crookfur Primary School Parent Council**