

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL HELD ON  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019 AT 8pm IN EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**

**PRESENT:** James Meneely, Valerie Chisholm, Adele Thomson, Natalie McMillan, Nick Bothwell, Shabnam Ijaz, Moira Forbes, Rob Catterson, Gordon Wallace, Arezu Bari

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Stuart Maxwell (Head Teacher), Shona McWilliam (Clerk)

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Charlie Gilbert, Wendy Durie, Jennifer Nesbitt, Cathy Wilkie-Thompson & Katy Berry

**1. INTRODUCTION**

James welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019)**

Minutes approved and seconded. They will be entered onto the school's website.

**a) Road Crossing Update**

Stuart confirmed that work has commenced at the crossing. Lighting is still to be installed.

A Pelican crossing has just been installed off the roundabout on Capelrig Road. No one knew about the installation but good position for cycle path and bus stop.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

Stuart received a letter from Crookur Greenfarm Mearns Village Community Council regarding a recent article in the local Extra newspaper on 'air quality and the impact of traffic congestion around schools'. The members discussed the communication and as the school car park is private and large enough to accommodate our parents the issue of traffic congestion and car idling doesn't affect Eastwood. Shona will acknowledge receipt of the letter and confirm that this issue has been discussed with the Parent Council.

Equalities Forum 16<sup>th</sup> May. Natalie attended this meeting. There was an interesting talk from the Princes Trust. No information required to be passed onto council.

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**a) Staffing Update**

Retiring staff – Marion Williamson (PT of Social Subjects), Katy McKean (English), Derek Griffin (PT of Pupil Support), Fiona Cameron (French), Marion Dyet (Computer) and John McIntosh (English).

New posts – 2 in English which have now been filled.

Drama have now appointed a new teacher from Williamwood High due to Amelia Bryce's acting PT post of Drama at Woodfarm High being paid permanent.

Ross Williams has been successful in gaining Derek Griffin's PT post in Pupil Support.

PE department will have a new teacher from August, Caron who used to be with us quite a few years ago.

Stephen Hamilton PT of Modern Languages will be retiring in June 2020 and has decided to step down as PT but will remain as a teacher for the next year, thus creating an Acting post which has been filled by Nikki Kendal. Nikki's Pastoral care post (acting) will be advertised internal.

Laura McCarron was acting in Pastoral and has been successful in gaining a permanent post. (Ross Williams's post).

The Computing department is actually overstaffed thus meaning there will be no vacancy in this department. Stuart mentioned that Computer Science courses in schools need to be enhanced to boost intake of pupils on the course. Dr Bari confirmed this as her daughter is interested in taking computer science onto university but feels that schools are lagging behind, the gap is still too big between school and university in this subject.

**6. DISCUSSIONS ITEMS**

**a) Draft School Improvement Plan**

Shona will email the draft Improvement Plan to our members

**b) School Budget 2019/2020**

Education and schools are required to make large savings in this Financial year. Twice as much as last year. Subject departments have less money to spend on books etc. Stuart said that we were lucky having a new school as less repairs are required on the building.

Bus/coach trips were in the past subsidised but now as we over spend in the Activity Budget every year, Stuart feels that the only way to make it work is to ask parents to contribute to the cost of coaches. Moira suggested that perhaps parents could seek out cheaper/better quotes for coaches and Nic proposed that he could help out with quotes for eg photocopiers etc.

Stuart mentioned that every year we spend approx. £8,000 on invigilators for our Prelims, we may need to use school staff instead. Moira suggested that parents could assist but would require to be PVG checked. Stuart thought this might be a good suggestion and will look into it.

School technician services are being restructured. Due to our senior technician, Gordon retiring, Eastwood will lose half a technician.

PSAs (Pupil Support Assistants) will be losing 50 hours. Classroom assistants will be removed from schools.

**c) AGM**

**7. A.O.Be**