

Giffnock Primary Parent Council AGM: 31st August 2015

Present: Linzie Steele (Chair), Gail Joyce (Treasurer), Tasmin Sommerfield (Minutes), Susan Grant, Diane Johnston, Lilly Hill, David McLelland, Helen Hogg, Barbara Gibson, Carol Taylor-Young, Pauline Ferguson (HT), Kirsty Rawley (DHT), Councillor Fletcher.

Apologies: Councillor Wallace, Fiona Walker.

1.Welcome/apologies

Linzie welcomed everyone to the AGM. This will be her last meeting as chair as she is stepping down.

2.Membership/Election of office bearers

Lilly Hill, Susan Grant and Helen Hogg were voted in as new members. Gail agreed to continue as treasurer. Kirsty Porter has stepped down as secretary.

The parent forum had been invited to the AGM via the school newsletter and the Facebook page but there were reports that some parents did not know about it. **Action: Linzie to send letter to all parents via e-mail, describing work of Parent Council, role of office bearers and year group vacancies. Office bearers will be elected at the next meeting.**

Current year group reps are as follows:

Nursery: Diane Johnston + **vacancy**

P1: Susan Grant + new P1 member (TBC)

P2 : Lilly Hill + **vacancy**

P3 : David McLelland + Helen Hogg

P4: Tasmin Sommerfield + Fiona Walker

P5: Linzie Steele + **vacancy**

P6: Barbara Gibson + **vacancy**

P7: Gail Joyce + **vacancy**

It was suggested that photos of each member are put on the Facebook page and the school website so that parents know who their class reps are.

3.Treasurers' Report

During 2014/15 the PC made a profit of £4197. The current bank balance is £9204. Money raised included: Discos - £757, Car boot sale - £100, Christmas Fair - £1967, Obstacle course £3312. See attached report for full details.

The PC donated a total of £8334 to the school, including Hopskotch Theatre shows, science workshops, Christmas activities, after-school clubs, yoga materials, cheerleading costumes, Eco Committee, camera for Mr Small, nursery, P1/P7 ties, drama events, wet play games, swim coaches, end of year activities. Pauline Ferguson thanked the PC for their donations.

Additional money has been promised for the purchase of two sports shields and some display boards. It was also agreed that the PC would subsidise the cost (50%) of swimming lessons for P4 and P5. This had previously been met by school funds but was no longer sustainable due to budget cuts. **Action: Pauline Ferguson to calculate costs and inform Gail. Post-meeting note: following the meeting it was realised that because swimming is a core part of the curriculum, the Parent Council are not permitted to fund it, therefore the offer was withdrawn.**

Gail advised that around £5000 should be kept in the bank account to ensure that regular activities are covered.

4. Calendar of events

The Halloween disco will take place on Thursday 29th October. Josh from Kidnetick has been booked. The P7s will still be at camp but they will have their own disco there. The Christmas Fair is provisionally booked for Saturday 5th December.

A fund-raising subgroup will be formed which will plan the events calendar and organise activities. Parents who do not wish to be part of the full PC will be able to join. Volunteers will also be sought for events. **ACTION: Linzie to include this in e-mail to parents.**

Linzie is happy to continue to assist with events but will no longer be able to take responsibility for planning them. The workload will be split amongst the fund-raising sub-group wherever possible. Feedback forms exist for each event containing key planning information. The Christmas Fair planning/advertising needs to start in the next few weeks. To try to simplify it, alternative models will be considered, eg no external stall holders, although this raises a significant amount of money.

5. Headteacher's report

A curriculum evening is planned for Tues 6th October – 6.30pm to 8.30pm. This is designed to answer questions that parents have asked. There will be 10 workshops – parents will attend 3. The event is for adults only. The Campus Cop will be giving a talk about the dangers of social media. The PC will serve refreshments and provide information about the work of the PC.

“Meet the Teacher” will be on Wednesday 2nd September. The PC will not be present at this event.

6. AOCB

6.1 Covered bike shelter – this will be double the size of the existing bike rack.

6.2 Traffic/Parking - Complaints about parking have been received from residents on St Catherine's Road. **Action: Pauline Ferguson will re-issue the letter that she sent out last session.**

The Church car park can't be used by parents – it has been removed from the school handbook. East Lothian Council has piloted exclusion zones around schools – Councillor Fletcher asked for views on this. There were concerns that it may just move the problem further out. It was suggested that the car park spaces were changed into safe drop-off places once the one way changes had been implemented. It was also suggested that parents could be encouraged to drop their children at the school gate rather than take them to their lines. This would require a change in culture of the school. **Action: David and Barbara will discuss how to obtain parents' opinions on this.**

6.3 Breakfast club/after-school care: some parents had expressed concerns about capacity as both are full except for Fridays. **Action: Tasmin will contact Laura Charles at Primary Playcare to ask if any plans to increase capacity.**

6.4 Military families: Helen reported that additional funding is available to the school for children in military families. **Action: Pauline Ferguson and Councillor Fletcher will investigate this further.**

6.5 Bikeability level 1: David volunteered to run a Bikeability basic skills course in the playground as an after-school club. This will be for P5s.

6.6 Notice board – this has still not been replaced. **Action: Linzie will ask Stephanie Hendry to chase this up.**

7. Date of next meeting: TBC, in 6 weeks time.