**Minute of Parent Council Meeting**

**10th November 2021, 7pm, via Zoom**

**Attendees:** Andrea Shaarani (Chair), Sarah Longfield (Vice Chair, Suzanne Murray (Secretary), Elaine Fleming (Treasurer), Jennifer Wilson (Depute Headteacher), Cllr Colm Merrick, Janey Lennon.

**Apologies:** Suzanne Benson, Karen Hayes, Kirsty Vadon, Jackie Borthwick, Jenna Knight

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| **Agenda Item** | **Actions** |
| 1. **Welcome/Apologies/Minutes**   Andrea welcomed all to the meeting. Confirmed accuracy of previous minutes. Andrea noted that she is still to contact Schoolwear Made Easy regarding cashback fundraising scheme. | 1. Andrea will contact Schoolwear Made Easy |
| 1. **Headteacher’s Update**   Mrs Miller: Jennifer Wilson provided an update in the absence of Jenni Miller, who has been off work since early October. Jennifer confirmed that there is no additional support from the SMT while Jenni is off, but there is a supply teacher who can release senior staff from class duties, which is helpful.  Staff: Rhiannon Davidson, a new teacher, has been appointed and will cover non-class teaching time etc. She is permanent to ERC but temporary to the school until June 2022. The post is funded by ERC.  Photographer: Tempest Photography will undertake individual/sibling photos in the school on 16/11/2021; permission slips have been sent home. This will allow time for parents/carers to buy photos as Christmas gifts.  Lunchtime and After-School Clubs: Lunchtime Clubs have resumed and are very popular. New clubs will be introduced after Christmas e.g. construction, reading, film club. After-School Clubs are also popular. Andrea asked if there would be any clubs suitable for the lower school, as all of the existing clubs are geared more to the upper school. Jennifer said that they will look at this for the next term.  Andrea also asked about the choir and plans for a fundraising event. Jennifer advised that she will follow up the possibility of the children singing in Princes Square.  Christmas Events: Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions there will be no Christmas concert or Nativity, but classes will record videos for families and friends. Jennifer is exploring the possibility of individual classes singing a few songs in the playground, so that parents/carers can come along.  Christmas class party dates will be communicated by newsletter. On the last three days of term, children will be invited to wear a Christmas jumper/accessories. Mrs McGarvey is organising a Christmas jumper recycling scheme. Jennifer will send out information about this. | 1. Jennifer will explore options for clubs for the lower school. 2. Jennifer will follow up on the choir singing in Princes Square. 3. Jennifer will explore possibility of Christmas playground performances. 4. Jennifer will send out information re: Christmas events in a newsletter. |
| 1. **Feedback on Meeting with ERC Director of Education**   Andrea has provided a minute of this meeting to the PC members. ERC took their own minutes, too. In summary, this year there have been far fewer incidents, the safety of children/staff has improved, there are more teaching/support staff, and more nurture activities available.  Siobhan McColgan explained to Andrea and Sarah how staff are allocated to the schools, which is based on numbers of children rather than the proportion of issues (e.g. additional support needs, ESOL, SIMD, etc).  Andrea, Sarah, and Colm all stated that the PC had argued their case well, and although ERC did not agree with the PC’s point of view, the arguments seem to have been taken on board (e.g. the school have been allocated additional teaching staff since the meeting). PC hoped that the arguments put forward would be taken into consideration when deciding next year’s staffing allocations. It also transpired that there is a budget for Pupil Support Assistants that can be utilised mid-term if circumstances necessitate it. |  |
| 1. **Road safety issues on Bangorshill Street**   Driving behaviour on Bangorshill Street continues to cause concern. Jennifer asked ERC for permission for parents to enter the playground to drop off/collect children, as people congregating on the pavement on is causing road safety concerns and does not permit social distancing. She was refused permission; however, Andrea has spoken to other PC chairs and knows of at least 4 schools who allow parents in the playground for this reason. Jennifer advised that more updates are due from the Scottish Government and she will enquire again after the update. Colm will also enquire about this.  Suzanne M made enquiries with Glasgow City Council councillor, Stephen Curran. Mr Curran provided the response from GCC Roads Dept which said that there have been no reported accidents or fatalities on that road in the last five years so there is no priority for traffic calming. GCC will put up signage regarding the illegality of parking on yellow zig-zags and conduct a traffic survey re: speeding.  Andrea and Sarah raised road safety at the ERC meeting and Siobhan McColgan will speak to a road safety contact in GCC.  Colm suggested that police can regularly patrol the road. He stated that the respective roads departments in GCC and ERC have started talking to one another. Colm also mentioned a successful pilot at Giffnock Primary where the road is closed to non-residents during school drop-off and pick-up times. Andrea highlighted that their location differs as it’s not a through road and has less traffic; however, there is no reason why Bangorshill St couldn’t be residents-only, as there are several adjoining roads that would allow access.  Andrea also noted that Suzanne Benson’s husband is a printer, and has kindly offered to provide a banner promoting road safety. Jennifer will look into running a competition for the children to design logos for this, and will discuss with Suzanne B about what’s possible.  Jennifer noted that one of the teachers is taking forward the Junior Road Safety Officer scheme. PC suggested that teachers/JRSOs in hi-viz vests discouraging pavement parking etc might work.  Elaine raised issue of overhanging branches and debris at bottom of Bangorshill St. Jennifer will check: may have been cleared recently. | 1. Jennifer and Colm will enquire again with ERC re: parents in playground. 2. Jennifer will speak to Suzanne B re: banner, and look into organising competition. 3. Jennifer will check re: debris at bottom of road. |
| 1. **After-School Care**   Andrea discussed emails received from Isobel Crossan, who wants to open an after-school service in school. Unclear about how to go about this: Jenni Miller had suggested the PC needed to put it out to tender, but PC don’t know what the process is, and will require school permission due to the need for janitorial staff cover. Colm will check this out.  Sarah pointed out that we had carried out a survey and there wasn’t sufficient demand; she felt that the PC had acted diligently in undertaking the survey but the numbers would make a service untenable.  Suzanne M raised some concern about the inflexibility of the offering from Isobel Crossan re: the cost and fee structure, and that she is offering to run the service at a loss, perhaps not realising the school roll, size of premises, and lack of other nearby schools. Suggestion that PC meets with Isobel Crossan to discuss what’s viable, as the service needs to meet the needs of parents. | 1. Colm will check processes for tendering after school service. 2. Andrea will discuss further with Isobel Crossan. |
| 1. **Fundraising**   Some members attended a fundraising meeting on 27/10/21. Agreed there was not the appetite for a winter fayre or bigger event at this time. Andrea, Jenny Cowieson (P2 mum), and Suzanne M have gone around local businesses and have manged to secure some raffle prizes. Duane Roft is applying for a small community lottery licence from ERC to enable us to carry out the draw within legal parameters.  Discussion of equality issues in relation to prize draw. Prize draw deemed OK as it’s for charitable purposes and not for personal gain like gambling (which some religions don’t permit). Sarah pointed out that we have vouchers donated from butcher’s, which wouldn’t be Halal, however voucher could can be passed on to a friend or neighbour if unwanted.  Also raised issue of lack of parent/school engagement and discussed hiring hall on Kiloran St for a few hours after school on 17/12/21 (last Friday before end of term), to hold the raffle and offer teas/coffees/baking, chance to have a chat with other parents and teachers. Andrea will send email to Carnwadric Community Hall to ask about hire availability and cost.  Elaine raised re Halloween money as the money collected from school (£18.50) didn’t seem to correlate with the money sent in by parents, and represents quite a significant loss on the Halloween boxes. Jennifer will ask teachers if there is any money put away for safekeeping. Some classes were not asked for donations – can’t ask for it now. Highlighted that in future wording needs to be more encouraging e.g. rather than suggesting a donation, say “Bring in £1 for Halloween treats”.  Andrea advised that the Christmas cards/artwork has raised £127 so far. Seems a reasonable return for fairly minimal effort. | 1. Duane applying for small community lottery licence. 2. Andrea will enquire re hall hire. 3. Jennifer will check re: Halloween money. |
| 1. **AOCB**   Janey asked about hoodies; needs a list of names, colours, sizes. Jennifer will organise this so that the hoodies are delivered in advance of the Lockerbie trip. | 1. Jennifer will organise list of hoodie orders. |

Next meeting TBA.