busbyparents@gmail.com

BUSBY PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

WILLIAMWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Monday 19th November 2018 at 6.30PM

1) Welcome & Introductions.

Thank you to all who attended:

Niall Hoskings – Chairperson
Patricia Anderson – Vice Chair
Wendy Fisher - Treasurer
Laura Brookman – Secretary
Vicky Hughes – P7 Rep
Alison McIntyre
Jo Blyth

Laura Syme – P2 Rep
Mairi Watson – P3 Rep
Carrie Hornal – P4 Rep
Deb Walker – P5 Rep
Alison Findlay – P6 Rep
Agha Khan
Marie McBeth
Dougie Melvin
Ken MacIntosh
Andrina Hackitt

Gillian McRobb - Head Teacher
Mark Weir – Depute Head
Julie Oswald – Principal Teacher

Cllr Annette Ireland
Cllr David McDonald
Cllr Alan Lafferty

Apologies: Tracy Rowan – P1 Rep, Cllr Stewart Miller

2) ERC Proposed Developments for ELCC *moved from item 8

It was agreed to move this agenda item to the top of the list.

Niall reported that the Parent Council has shared the link to the ERC planning application documents via email and on Facebook via the class reps. An email was also sent to the Ward 4 Cllr's following concerns raised by parents when the plans were first published. The PC requested their advice to communicate back to parents. The advice was, and the PC has, encouraged all parents/carers to submit their individual response as volume is important.

The PC does have the option to submit one comment but must represent the view of the parent forum, therefore a survey has been drafted and will be shared to gauge majority opinion and a response will be submitted to reflect this.

Cllr Ireland is Chair of the Planning Committee and is therefore restricted in what she can share / say. However, she was willing to listen to parents at the meeting. Items discussed are summarised below:

Comment / Query	Response
The website has been crashing when trying to register and when trying to submit a comment.	This issue was reported by the PC to Ward 4 Cllrs within the first few days and was acknowledged and escalated. All Cllr's request that any ongoing issues regarding website be fed back to them asap and they will review
When is the date for the hearing of this proposal?	Cllr Ireland as Chair will be informed of items in advance. No dates for this particular matter have been presented to her yet. She will check her diary and refer back to Niall if any dates are booked.

	Can the public attend the hearing?	Cllr Ireland reported that the public can attend but confirmed they will not be invited to comment. Cllr Mc Donald is reviewing Service Order 34 to see if this amends that stance.
	The school was asked if they would assist the PC in sending out the link and neutral communication regarding the proposal to their mailing list.	Mrs McRobb confirmed the school are representatives of the council and therefore cannot partake in any issues relating to the council.
	Parents clarified that they are not against the expansion of the nursery or investment in education, but they do object to the selected site as it impacts the outdoor / green space available to the school children.	
	Why is the nursery being expanded when the Phase 1 temporary structure is yet to be utilised?	Nursery places were only increased in Aug '18 and children have been phasing in since the summer. The space was not immediately required but the school confirmed children will start using the new building before Xmas.
	Why was Cartmill Family Centre not built to accommodate the 2020 provisions?	Cartmill was built to accommodate increasing numbers within East Ren. Following this the Scottish Gvt has proposed increased nursery provision by 2020 and ERC are obliged to meet this.

	If the field is being reported as mostly unusable due to drainage issues, how is it able to be built on? Why has the drainage issue never been investigated prior to now?	Cllr Ireland wants to keep the parent forum informed so will look to attend a separate meeting where issues and ideas can be shared.
	Concerns were raised regarding the school's increased roll and the fact the new MUGA takes up a lot of the playground. Some specific parent concerns were presented.	Mrs McRobb reassured parents that the playground is functioning well and does not feel overcrowded or cramped. The playground is supervised by staff at interval/lunchtime and no issues have been fed back. The school has worked with and spoken with the children in regards to their playspace. A MUGA rota is in place. If any parent/carer does have a concern or specific issue Mrs McRobb will be happy to discuss this.
	What will happen with the Cob oven / vertical garden	The school items will not be affected by the plans. The cob oven has recently been rebuilt and will remain and the vertical garden will not be affected.
	Has increased traffic been considered? Pick up / drop off times are chaotic at the moment – why would more cars be introduced? Will a site visit be arranged to observe the roads around the school at the busy times?	Cllr Ireland was unaware of any proposed visits, but notes they could lead to postponement of the meeting as a visit requires a request to be submitted.

Concerns were raised about how much space in the field the new developments would take up and how this would affect pupils access to outdoor learning.	The school confirmed that outdoor learning will continue and not reduce. The school has found the field hard to use all year round due to the drainage issues. The MUGA can and will be used all year round, and there will still be available green space next to the nursery for pupils to access.
Information was given before Phase 1 that the Council would look to assign some funds to improve the school playground by way of compensation of reducing the size of the field. Is this still the case?	The school also believe this offer was made at the time. Cllr Ireland was unaware of this offer and will review.

Actions Agreed :

- The parent forum request as per the PC constitution a special meeting to be heard as 40+ parents have requested this item be discussed further. The PC Committee agreed to this meeting.

- The PC will await the survey results (deadline 00:00 on 22/11/18) to determine the majority opinion of the parent forum.

- The PC and the parent forum request a meeting with Cllr Ireland, the Building Team and other associated parties to share all issues/concerns/queries. It was agreed this meeting will fulfil the special meeting request asked of the PC.

~ Cllr's Ireland, McDonald and Lafferty excused themselves to attend another commitment.

3) Acceptance Of Minutes From Last Meeting.

Agreed - no amendments

4) Highlights / Updates From School

Mr Weir reported on the fantastic time had by the P7s at Loch Goilhead despite the horrendous weather. The recent P7 assembly demonstrated skills and learning gained from the trip. Mr Weir noted the pupils were a credit to themselves, their families and the school and they should be proud of themselves. The school will look to book this site again next year.

~ Vicky Hughes passed on the thanks of the P7 parents

Julie Oswald expressed thanks to all parents who came to the school to support International Week. The event was a great success and was followed by an International Evening with lots of activities for families to take part in together. Lots of positive feedback was received.

Mrs McRobb confirmed new staff to the school:

P5 – Mr McLaughlin (started 19/11/18)

P6 – Mrs Thomas (started last month)

CDO – Gillian Reynolds (started 19/11/18)

The school has been struggling for parent helpers for class trips recently and they would like to ask parents to assist across other year groups where possible. They would also like to hear from parents who have been PVG'd and could look to extend their coverage to include Busby Primary. The school would assist parents in doing this with a view to this. Details would be held by the office, but names could be shared with the PC for the likes of discos and other fundraising events.

Actions Agreed :

Mrs McRobb to clarify if ERC PVG is sufficient to cover Busby or if an application would have to be made to extend.

4b) Questions To The School

Mrs McRobb notes that some of the questions felt like individual views and if this was the case the PC should look to refer these queries directly to her or any of the SMT in the first instance. The PC agrees with this and notes that class reps are aware and have been encouraging parents to speak to the school.

- *When will Class Photos be taken*? - In the spring so they can be taken outside

- *Can the MUGA be used in the morning*? – The playground is very busy in the morning and Mrs McRobb would be concerned that large groups of mixed age children gathering inside may pose a safety issue without the presence of staff to supervise so it will remain closed for now, but this can be reviewed in the future.

- *What is being done to encourage girls into the MUGA*? - After a pupil vote, a policy has been brought in alternating football and games each week. A permanent basketball hoop has been ordered and portable ones are brought outside for PE. Although the paint markings are for football, this is just the standard print, and hockey, tennis, dodgeball and basketball have all been played within the pitch.

- *Can the Detention Policy be explained*? - This is available via the school website https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Busby/files/2018/09/Behaviour-policy.pdf

  Mrs Oswald summarised the policy, noting that this was reviewed before the summer in consultation with pupils and parents. Updates include awarding passport points for following the Code of Conduct and respecting rights, with stickers given to fill the passports. Golden Time has been enhanced with more activity based rewards and not just the shop. A 6-Stage Approach is used with much emphasis on stage 1. If this has been exhausted a verbal warning can be issued and will be logged. Detention will be communicated to parents prior to being given. The detentions are now carried out indoors and pupils are asked to work on a reflection exercise.
  If any parent is unsure or unhappy with any element of the current policy, Mrs McRobb is happy to receive any feedback.

5) Fundraising Updates and Plans

The Halloween Disco was a huge success, and positive comments were given regarding the DJ. The pre-sale tickets made a big difference to the smoother intake of pupils at the start. Alison expressed thanks to staff on the night for their help (and dancing!) and to the office staff for assisting with ticket sales.

The Santa Skills Academy Xmas event is on 1st December and we are still very short on volunteers to allow this to go ahead. Class Reps agreed to send reminders via Facebook. We will look to hold a raffle for a pupil to win the Xmas light switch on prior to the event.

Clarkston Hall has been booked for the Family Ceilidh in Feb and there will be a further disco in late spring.

There is a backpack event on 15th December and volunteers are still needed for this.

The PC is registered for Easyfundraising and the PC will look to promote this more in the new year.

6) Funding Requests

- P7 ties need to be ordered before 11th Feb – the PC agreed to fund 50 ties
- Leavers Hoodies are being held at £14. Parents agree to pay £5 and the committee agreed to fund the remaining £9
- Golden Time funds were requested at £500 and agreed
- P7 Lunch is agreed in principal but awaiting White Cart confirming the price.
- Xmas parties will be held as normal. PC agreed to fund juice, snacks, prizes and presents for P1&2. Laura will liaise with Julie for numbers.

7) Treasurers Summary

The Halloween Disco raised £474

The bag pack raised £396

It looks like we will be 2nd in the Asda green tokens award = £200

Funds are sitting at £3200 but Wendy will need to write cheques for above funding requests plus other misc items.

8) PVG

Covered in item 4

9) Actions From Previous Meetings

A Parent Council Events page was created on Facebook to share dates for PC events. To join this group please see :

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1812754229052846/about/

This is a closed group.

10) Actions To Take Forward (summarized from above)

- The parent forum request as per the PC constitution a special meeting to be heard as 40+ parents have requested this item be discussed further. The PC Committee agreed to this meeting
- The PC will await the survey results (deadline 00:00 on 22/11/18) to determine the majority opinion of the parent forum.
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11) AOB

Laura attended the Connect training session on Parent Councils on 6th Nov and has leaflets on various topics on running a successful council, should anyone wish to see or discuss. All leaflets are also available at https://connect.scot/top-nav/resources

Future Dates		
Sat 1st Dec	Santa Skills Academy	2pm-4pm
Sat 15th Dec	Sainsbury's bag pack	5pm – 8:45pm
Sat 2nd Feb	Family Ceilidh	7:30pm
Wed 6th Feb	Parent Council Meeting	6:30pm
Thurs 18th April	Parent Council Meeting	6:30pm
Sat 27th April	Spring Fling	TBC
Wed 5th June	Parent Council AGM	6:30pm
Wed 12th June	Beach Party	6:15pm and 7:45pm

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