



Sgoil an lochdair Parent Council Meeting **18:00hrs Tuesday 29 November 2022**

PRESENT Joan MacDonald – Head of School
Mel Butler - Chair
Martin Butler – Treasurer
Donna Wilson – Secretary
Bellina Currie – Parent
Amanda Macdonald – Parent
Alasdair Nobles – Parent

APOLOGIES Marion Bell - Parent

MINUTES

1. COMMUNICATIONS (GROUPCALL/SEESAW)

Groupcall

Joan questions if the group would prefer less group calls and information to be shared by a monthly newsletter. The group agree that group calls are the best form of communication for sharing information. Joan notes that text messages cost more therefore groupcalls are more likely to be sent via email.

Tip – families could create a shared email address for groupcall alerts to go to that both Parents/Carers can access so the responsibility does not fall on one adult only.

Seesaw

Joan reminds parents that any important messages, such as changes at the end of school day or personal matters should be done through the school office as seesaw is not always checked throughout the day. Joan updates that the school are waiting on seesaw guidance from the council, and this will then be shared with Parents/Carers once received.

2. PARENTS EVENING

Mel notes that a parent contacted her in relation to their nursery time slot not being suitable for them. Joan will arrange for the parents to meet the nursery staff at a later date either after a staff meeting or via a telephone appointment with an opportunity to come into the school so they can see their child's work. Some parents had issues with the e-form to request a telephone appointment, Joan will investigate this further. However, it was great to have parents in the school for the first parents evening following COVID19 restrictions.

3. BANK ACCOUNT

There are still no signatories on the school account. Mel is unable to access the online banking and the bank will not release any details without a signatory. Mel would like to close the account and start a new one. Fiona MacAulay and Martin Butler to meet to discuss further.

Parent council email address – Mel will make a new email address which will be shared in the school handbook.

4. PLAYPARK

The Parent Council have received £20,000 from the NHS towards the school playpark. Lochdar Playpark Association also have approximately £10,000 for the playpark. The council have taken ownership for the playpark as it is on Council land and will take on the full works contract and the maintenance of the playpark. The council will pay any additional monies towards the project on top of the £30,000 the school currently have which is to be transferred to the Council as soon as possible. The estimate for the playpark project is £35,000.

5. CCTV

There is no progress in relation to CCTV and this will remain on the agenda. Mel will email William Macdonald, Director of Education for an update.

6. CATTLE GRID AND ACCESS

A sandbag that was blocking one of the pipes has now been removed and there has been some improvement in the cattle grid since then. The tree roots are also breaking the pipes and there are discussions around ditching around the fence to resolve this. Joan is in communications regarding the work as the area will need to be cordoned off. It has also been agreed that the area at the kissing gate will be raised up to relieve the waterlog here. It is also hoped that the ditching will relieve the water issue on the footpath and access path beside the car park. Joan will also look into road sweepers to clean around the edges and clean the area.

7. P7 SCHOOL TRIP AND FUNDRAISING

Primary 7 pupils across all the Uist schools will be going away after the Easter holidays and staying outside Stirling and visiting Edinburgh for a day. There is a specific P7 trip meeting tomorrow night to discuss details further.

Trip Cost:

- Accommodation - £7500 for all adults and pupils from all Uist schools
- DA Travel - £2000 for bus and driver
- CalMac - £750

Bellina suggests contacting Gordon McKillop, community fund manager in relation to funding for CalMac travel.

Fundraising

- P7 pupils to sell raffle tickets for the Christmas hampers at the Mary's Meals Christmas event at Talla an lochdar Saturday 17 December.
- Co-op fund will be going into the PC bank account
- Joan has emailed councilors and informed them that P7 pupils will be writing to them to request money for the P7 trip
- Alasdair suggests a beach clean-up and ask Storax for money towards this
- MacLennan's Supermarket has provided each school with £1000
- Car Wash to be held in May

8. CHILD PROTECTION – FOOTBALL CLUB AND YOUTH CLUB

Football

Christina has emailed Joan regarding child protection training through the sports Centre. Joan will clarify dates with Christina.

Heather MacKinnon has been in contact with Mel in relation to football coaching and Louise McBride and John Linich have shown an interest in this. The group comment that the football club is working very well, and the current coaches are doing a great job with the children.

Parent support for the football club – Alasdair Nobles, John Linich and Louise McBride will be at football and Robert Currie will be there when available.

Youth Club

There are no issues re volunteers for youth club.

9. E-SAFETY

E-Safety is a running agenda item. The school are to set up a e-safety group in school and it is hoped that a parent will be involved in this. The group suggest Katy Beaton. A groupcall invitation will also be sent out to any other parents who may be interested in being involved.

10. AOCB

Mel to meet with other Parent Council Chairs 31 January 2023. Joan will share the school improvement plan (SIP) at the next Parent Council meeting.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 24 January, Liniclate School at 6pm.