

Balmerino Primary School

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING – Monday 3rd Nov, 1.40-2.40pm

Minutes

Present:	Louise Cole - Parent/Chair	Lucy Jess- Headteacher
	Hannah Mackins- Parent/Treasurer	Hilary Mudie - Parent
	Blaise Davidson - Parent/Communications	Kassandra Stewart - Parent
	Nicole Willis - Parent	Nathalie Jordan - Parent

	Agenda Item	Action
1.	Welcome from Chair LC welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for joining. Advised apologies from Sarah Proudfoot, Claire Douglas and Alison Smale for not being able to attend.	None
	2. Fundraising and Spend -LC gave a run through off the PC accounts ● PC Bank Balance: £2,723.38 ● Float Held by HM: £100 ● Third Wheel Donation (Library): £100 (received 12th June 2025) ● Tesco Grant Budget Remaining: £80.56 towards LLG ● Additional 5K Challenge Funds: £65 handed in (LC has now deposited to account) ● £100 towards the Nursery Corner - LJ explained the corner is now finished and is looking really great. ○ Discussion about what we should do with funds in the bank. LC asked if we should check with parents/teachers to see how best to spend funds. ○ LJ advised there is a need for funds for tech items such as new smartboard, netbooks ○ Agreed that would be best to get an idea on the quote for the potential new playground artwork before spending.	LC - to email parents with a summary of the year PC contributions to school LJ - ask teachers for a wishlist for how funds could be spent
	3. Live Literature ● Remaining Budget: £80.56 (to go towards Live Literature fee) ● LC explained author selection needed for Live Literature visit by March 2026, narrowed down to two. LJ stated that after discussion with teachers they would like to firstly invite Alastair Chisholm due to the age range and style of workshops being about writing. ● LJ stated a potential date for the workshop would be in Term 3 and any time Tues-Fri would work best. Firstly to ask the author for suitable dates and ask if he can do a workshop for P1-7 (potentially with the nursery if suitable.)	LC - email and invite author

	NJ advised she has a friend who writes children's books who could maybe come in and do a workshop/reading would maybe work for nursery.	
	<u>4. Christmas Planning</u> Christmas Disco Proposal: - Date: Friday 19th December - Time: 3:00–4:30 PM (Hall has been booked by LJ 2–5 PM) - Entry: Suggested donation - £2.50 (includes juice & christmas chocolate lolly) - Parents must stay, no bake sale - Discussion that we will email parents asking to register in advance with a number hoping to attend and also asking for parents to help before and after the party for set-up/clean up. - BD to make a poster to advertise the event - LC - Bring disco lights, HM - more lights Christmas Fair - Date: Mon 8th Dec 1.30-3pm - Discussion about how parents can help at this event and how they can enjoy stalls with their child at the same time. - Decided there will be one PC stall selling knitting items and also has a Guess The Weight of the cake competition (to be looked after by BD mum. - Agreed there will be no bake sale from PC - LJ explained the fair will be craft based with children using their enterprise skills to make items to sell. - HM - bring float, LC bring cake and guessing sheet, BD bring knitting	LC - send details of disco to BD to create poster, LC send email to LJ with poster and disco details for LJ to send to parents to get them to register no.s in advance. LC - check with LJ as to what time PC can set-up on 19th NJ - research/buy lollies LJ - to talk to AK about Bric a Brak stall for 8th
	5. Internet Safety Discussion about possibly arranging a workshop with Carolyn Berry again. It had been talked about before to have one as a workshop with P5-7 students. LJ explained she was going to reach out to Emma Fisher from Police Scotland to give a talk to P6 class as part of the school curriculum and would also email CB to see about an internet safety workshop in the evening with parents and P5-7.	LJ - to email CB

	6. Grants Update - • LC applied for Persimmon Home Grant in Feb for playground improvements, no word therefore we might not have been successful, we could apply again. Discussion about how last time we applied for school ground improvements. LJ discussed how the trim trail had been removed and would not be replaced and that any fixed playground equipment requires permission from Fife Council. Potential to re-apply to grant but maybe for a Community Garden. • LJ had previously suggested reapplying for Tesco Grant. Discussion that maybe we could apply for an Outdoor Learning area/Community Garden where teachers could educate on growing vegetables, plants etc and then could also work with the students and parents to harvest items when ready. If this was to be a community garden it would need to be looked after in the summer months so perhaps a rota amongst parents/caregivers would be formed. ○	PC - research into grants
	7. School Grounds Improvement - • Spoke that previously JR was going to carry out a brainstorm with students with the idea of giving students £100 - £150 to improve school grounds and see what ideas the students came up with. Ideas such as refresh playground walls, improve the garden. • Discussion as to how last year's P5 class had previously requested a wildlife mural for the heat pump by writing persuasive letters to the Parent Council. Idea to write back to the students asking them for more information on this and then maybe get them to write directly to the street artist Pacograff asking to come to their school and paint a mural. • Decision for LC to meet with Miss Bowman and work out the best plan. • Should we write to the artist first asking for a quote and idea of time frame or should we get the students to write directly to the artist. • Also need to double check with Fife Council in terms of H+S	LC/PC - meet with LB LJ - check with Fife Council
	8. AOCB - Byre Theatre trip - PC will contribute a minimum of £330 to cover the costs of transport for the trip but might increase after panto. - NJ - asked for more information including log in details to sumdog to be shared with parents for Sumdog and also for more information on how best to use the phonics booklet	LC - send £330 to school fund after panto