

Minutes of Wormit Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Date & Time: 8 March 2022 at 6:30pm

Location: Online

In attendance:

Lucy Jess	Nissa Finney	Lorna Tasker	Carol Hamilton
Fiona Scalon	Ann Sinclair	Rhiannon Moore	Katie Brennan
Silvia Synowsky	Clement Bouchent	Heather Batchelor	Debbie Dyer

Apologies:

Sherree Rennie	Alana Stevens		
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1. **Welcome:** Everyone was welcome to this meeting and had an opportunity to introduce themselves.
2. **Parent Council - Committee:** Nissa outlined the purpose of the meeting to establish a new group of parents to support the school. Parent Council remit encompasses supporting school direction and pedagogy (e.g. by arranging curricular events); fundraising; and supporting activities that build the community around the school.

To do this we need a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Lorna is stepping down as chair but is happy to help and support as are other previous serving committee members such as Nissa, Ann and Debbie.

Discussions arose around the roles and interest to be involved in the future as it felt like it could be a lot to take on right now particularly when the group hasn't had momentum for a while due to covid.

It was suggested that one option would be to have joint Chairs which we have had in the past.

Expressions of interests were given and the following proposals were made:

- Co-Chairs - Rhinannon Moore (proposed Lorna, seconded Nissa) and Katie Brennan (proposed Lorna, seconded Carol)
- Secretary - Silvia Synowsky (proposed Lorna, seconded Nissa)
- Treasurer - Carol Hamilton (proposed Lorna, seconded Katie)

No objections were raised, so the core committee roles above were confirmed. Roles will be reviewed at the end of this academic year.

ACTIONS:

- Lucy to introduce Carol to Rachel for a bank account and finance handover.

- Lorna to share relevant information including the log in details for the parent email account with the core committee this week.
- New committee to confirm a date of next meeting and circulate.

3. **Parent Council - Ideas for events/activities for coming year:** Lorna provided a short summary of the kinds of events and activities that have happened in the past and then the floor was open for ideas

It was confirmed that there wasn't a huge push for fundraising (although if it is a happy by-product then great). The main focus should be about building community and connection after a period of being unable to do that kind of thing.

Katie: keen on a community building activity, also some curriculum based (could be good for supporting and welcoming all the new families), some sort of event towards the end of the academic year celebrating Wormit Primary.

Rhiannon: can see lots of different activity stations, big park seems like a great area for this, people have missed connections so would be good to support that, family play activities (has experience with this)

Heather: lots of ideas, likes lots of different activity ideas (sports, arts etc), has work background that can support with this, generally super happy to help with organising events and activities, fundraising ideas could be an outdoor treasure hunt related to the local environment (local clubs, historical points of interest etc) and be able to get the children involved too

Fiona: likes the idea of outdoor events like treasure hunt

Lots of interest in events/activities but conversation was cut short due to timing. Definitely something to pick up on again soon.

ACTION:

- Co-chairs to take the event/activity conversation forward.

4. **Headteacher's report:** Lucy started with thanking Lorna and Rachel for the roles in Chairing Parent Council and PTA respectively for a number of years. She also extended her thanks to other members who have left during the covid period with children moving up to Madras. In particular, she thanks Nilla Spence for her work as treasurer. Lucy also thanks Nissa for her energy in getting things up and running again and for her prep for this meeting.

Lucy reports that we are in a positive place and it is a perfect time for a fresh start. Covid restrictions are lifting and the school is now able to have indoor assemblies and mix classes more. This has been really lovely. She hopes that restrictions on parents coming into school will be lifted soon too.

Staff have been working with pupils about what they remember from pre-covid - what they want to restart etc (mix up Friday / disco music on Fridays was mentioned). Also consider what new things they might like to try?

The recent World Book day event where different classes shared books with each other was a great success.

There is an upcoming Comic Relief day where pupils can come dressed up as a superhero.

Lucy is looking to increase engagement with parents too. Some of the things she has been thinking about are: exploring inviting some parents to explore parental engagement with other HT she is linked to with the Learning Partnership; and working to ensure and get further feedback on whether the level of communication from school is at the right level.

Lucy also reported on the building work. Later this month the modular unit will start and will be finished by the end of May. During the summer, the whole P1-6 area will be refurbished. In order to prepare for that the staff will undertake a huge clear out. Lucy is currently seeking funding for new furniture for P1-3.

Rhiannon highlighted her interest in supporting recycling any materials that are being thrown out in the clear out. Heather noted that her work (D&A College) has an enterprise project for furniture. Katie supported recycling as much as possible. Lorna offered support to audit and recycle (where appropriate) any of the tech that has been gathered and used over the years.

ACTION:

- Lucy to reach out to Rhiannon, Heather and Lorna where appropriate.

5. **AOB:** Fiona reported back that she reached out to Active Schools and to Willie Rennie about offering more provision through Waterstone Crook and was disappointed with the response. She remains on the case and this item should be followed up at the next meeting.

ACTION:

- Silvia to put Active Schools update on the agenda of the next meeting.

Meeting ended 7:35pm