**Pollokshields Parent Council Meeting Minutes 22/04/22 7:30- 8:55pm**

**Chairing:** Saskia

**Minutes:** Fozia

**In Attendance:** Sam, Kirsty, Fleur, Nathalie, Laura, Heather, Rachel, Ms Smith, Mrs Ahmed, Ms Mitchell.

**Apologies:** Samina, Iffat, Ambreen.

1. **Welcome:**

Minutes approved and Miss Mitchell confirmed that she would put them onto the website. We discussed where minutes appear on the website and it was mentioned that the old school website is still appearing at the top of searches. **Ms Smith said that she would look into removing the website and making the new one more visible online. Ms Mitchell confirmed that she would email a link to the minutes to the Parent Council gmail.**

1. **Treasurer’s report:**

Sam reported that the Parent Council account currently holds £2,597. The Spring Fling made a profit of £307.30 (takings of £506.60 and expenses of £199.30). The account still holds £1,600 from the minibus fund which needs to be used for transport and £800 for Community Club, which leaves £197 unallocated.

1. **Feedback on the Spring Fling:**

No comments were made. Saskia confirmed that the event had been a success, both in terms of fundraising and as an enjoyable/well attended event and that we will hold it again next year.

1. **Summer Fayre update.**

It was agreed that this will be held at the Bowling Green on Saturday 18th June. The choice of venue was discussed and although some were keen to hold it at school, everyone was happy to try a different venue this year. The main reason for this venue is the amount of outside space in one area, rather than needing to travel between two playgrounds and various rooms within the school building. This allows children more freedom as the Bowling Green is such a safe space.

The Parent Council will be in charge of food and will keep any profits from food. The school will organise all activities and will keep the profits from entry/activities. They will try to do as much themselves rather than paying people to do face painting etc. There won’t be any stalls for buying items: the emphasis will be on fun activities for children, such as hook a duck, ring toss, lucky dip. There will not be any performances although Nathalie pointed out that the funding application stipulates that there will be entertainment. A magician was suggested and priced at approximately £150 for 1 hour or £250 for two hours. Ms Smith had asked children what they hoped would be at the summer fayre and their responses were mainly food related: chocolate fountain, waffles etc. Entry will be £1 per person capped at £4 per family. Most activities will be included in the entrance price but some such as the bouncy castle, soak the teacher and face painting will not be included. It will be open to the whole community. Bunting handmade by school/parents has been suggested; however, this is time dependent.

**Ms Smith said that she needs to go to the Bowling Green to see where everything will go.** Concerns were raised about transporting items from the school to the Bowling Green and Ms Smith said that she could arrange for teachers to help with this. There were also concerns about cooking facilities which **we need to discuss with Tab to find out whether we can use their kitchen and how events involving food tend to be run at the Bowling Green.** Some parents were sad that the event would not be held in the school as they are keen to get back into the school after such a long time. Ms Smith talked about her plans to open up the school more to parents, such as ESOL and showcase afternoons providing the opportunity for parents to visit their child’s classroom. **Ms Smith will arrange another meeting with the Parent Council Chairs to discuss the event further. Saskia will arrange a meeting with the Parent Council members who had said that they are willing to help to organise this event.**

1. **Community Club update:**

The forms were due back the day after the meeting and Miss Smith said that she would work out groups/numbers and adjust staff assignations accordingly. Sam confirmed that the Parent Council have nine different colours of wristbands. He queried which age group Robert will be taking and it was confirmed that it was P5-7. **Ms Smith said that she will contact Sam to organise another meeting before Community Club starts.** A few volunteers from the Parent Council are needed to help with sign up on the night and in the cafe in the Hive. Sam, Saskia and Fozia have confirmed that they are available to volunteer. Teachers will be on the door at the end.

1. **Sports Day update:** Jethro and Mr Pollok met to discuss initial plans. They agreed to use the same format as last year as it was so successful. It will be held on Saturday 3rd September or Saturday 10th September depending upon venue availability. The cost could potentially be an issue as £600 is required. It was suggested that we charge for entrance; however, **Nathalie has found a potential source of funding, which she will apply for.** It was also suggested that we charge for refreshments as nobody seems to mind paying for them and that raises a lot more funds than asking for donations.
2. **AGM/ Kids Disco:**

To be held at school on a Saturday in October. No staff will be required other than the Headteacher and possibly the Deputy Headteacher. **Miss Smith will ask a friend whether she can recommend a DJ.**

1. **School Trips:**

Ms Smith informed us that each class has had or will have a trip related to their topic, to a destination chosen by their teacher. This has been paid for by PEF money.

Ms Smith announced that the entire school will also be taken to Edinburgh to see the Lion King at the Playhouse on Wednesday 8th June. This will be funded by the money allocated to the postponed panto, a large part of which was raised by Kate Deeming’s Christmas Tree dancing. The cost is triple that of the panto though, so extra funds are required. Ms Smith asked if the Parent Council could help to fund transport. **We agreed that we would ask the rest of the Parent Council if they are happy for the full £1,600 left over from the minibus fund to be used for this.** Nobody at the meeting objected and it was pointed out that this money has been sitting in our account for a long time and would have been spent over the past two years if trips had been taking place as usual. We warned the school that this would deplete our funds substantially and that we might not be able to help as much with trips next year. Ms Smith said that she may also ask parents for a small donation towards this trip, perhaps £2 per child. It was raised that some parents would be happy to pay more towards the cost of their child and perhaps even others attending. Ms Smith informed us that parent helpers will be required and that she will give members of the Parent Council the opportunity to sign up before opening it up to other parents. The plan is to arrive in Edinburgh at 12:30 and return to school by 6:30pm as the show finishes at 5pm.

Ms Smith informed us that they plan to take the entire school to Ayr beach as a summer trip. 3 classes will go at each time. School is going to see if they can pay Ayr Council to open the toilets and are looking into buying an ice cream for each child. These trips will go ahead whatever the weather.

Nathalie suggested crowdfunding for trips and **Ms Smith replied that she may consider this option but would need to think very carefully about how to word it. Tara has experience of this and is willing to help.** It was suggested that we give parents the opportunity to set up a standing order towards funding trips. Ms Smith said that this could be done through Parent Pay but that not all parents have signed up to it. **She said that she would need to check whether the money can go straight to the school or whether it would need to go to the Parent Council first.** She mentioned that school is not meant to accept cash but that she is keen to do so for trips to make it easier for parents and therefore hopefully receive more donations. **Ms Smith will check to see if she can find a way to allow cash donations.**

Fleur asked whether there are any plans for Young Enterprise projects or for the children to raise money and Ms Smith informed us that the P7s are growing £5 towards their residential at Ardentinny, that P1 raised £60 towards their zoo trip and that P2 raised money for a Guide Dog charity.

1. **Apparel Xchange:**

The first Monday in May is a Bank Holiday so the stalls will next be held on 9th May. **Laura will consider whether there should be any changes made to the way that it is run and discuss this with the relevant people. The point was raised that it would be useful to see if there is any way that we can source larger sizes**. **It was suggested that the leaving P7s could be asked if they would be willing to donate their uniform.** Apparel Xchange will be attending the induction afternoon for the new P1s on 1st June to provide information for parents. This would be a good opportunity to tell parents about the Shields Shop. The stalls will be out the Monday following the event and this could be a good time to shift the smaller sizes (of which there are many items) to parents with children starting P1.

 10) **Parent Pay:**

Ms Smith informed us that Parent Pay will go live with meal selections on 9th May. School will be encouraging parents to select a meal option in advance, to help to reduce food waste, help with budgeting and to ensure that they get their first choice. If the parent does not select online, the teacher will ask the child to select a meal in the morning when they are taking the register. Parents can select meals as far in advance as they wish.

 11) **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held in school on Monday 16th May at 3:30pm (doors open 3pm) and Ms Smith suggested that we use the studio, possibly with the children in a room next door. There will be tea, coffee and home baking. Theresa has kindly offered to look after the children. **Nathalie will speak to her about this in more detail.**