

MINUTES of MEETING

Present: Chairperson: Nicola Manson (NM) Vice Chairperson: Nicole Petrie (NP)

Treasurer: Christine Reid (CR) Secretary: Val Cooke (VC)

Head Teacher: James McLeman (JMCL) Teacher Representative: Nicola Blair (NB)

Parents/carers: Simon Nesbitt (SN); Martin Roche-Nishimori (MRN); Ursula Pfahler (UP); Katie Long (KL)
Maya Marsh (MM); Shakeel Ansari (SA);

Apologies: Gavin Morgan (GM); Lynne Gray (LG)

ITEM	MATTERS DISCUSSED AND DECISIONS MADE	FOLLOW UP
1	<p><u>WELCOME & APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>NM welcomed the new parents to the first APPC meeting of the school year.</p>	
2	<p><u>AGENDA CHANGES</u></p> <p>No additions or changes to the Agenda.</p>	
3	<p><u>MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING 21st March 2019</u></p> <p>These minutes had been checked by JMCL. Proposed by CR & seconded by NP.</p> <p><u>C/F Action Points –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <u>P1/2 Back Up Clothing</u> – Katherine Morgan (KM) - (who previously ran the 2nd hand uniform stock) had liaised with Mrs Martin and it was now thought that there is enough back up clothing for P1/2 to use if necessary. ii. <u>RagBag Collection</u> – the bags have been received and will be handed out in the children’s homebags for the next collection on 3rd October. NM will follow up with the organisers to see if they would be able to do a talk at a school assembly for the children. iii. <u>Disco</u> – another reminder that the children are <u>NOT ALLOWED</u> into the changing rooms once they have hung up their coats/bags. The event is held by the parent council and it is up to the members to do the policing not JMCL. Our new ‘music mixer’ is GM – JMCL has the speaker system that can be used, and it was thought that APPC should invest in some disco lighting since it is something that would be used a lot.. CR will look into. iv. <u>Sponsored Walk</u> – this will be discussed further at the Fund raising meeting. NB noted that she would be keen to do a sponsored walk or cycle. It was thought that the money raised could be split 50/50 between the school’s chosen charity and APPC funds. <p>All other matters had been dealt with via parent council emails due to the 30th May meeting being cancelled.</p>	<p>NM</p> <p>CR</p> <p>FR Mtg</p>
4	<p><u>HEAD TEACHERS REPORT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current pupil head count is 74. Everyone (teachers and pupils) are settling in nicely since the start of term. Now 4 classrooms – which are full. There is only one vacancy for a pupil support assistant (11.5hrs/week). Interviews will be held before the October holidays. • At the school assemblies they have talked about the 4 capacities – successful learner; confident individual; responsible citizen and effective contributor. 	

	<p>Discussed the pupil council and the role of the school business groups reminding the children of pupil voice and that their business groups get to control the school curriculum for a whole day. There are currently 5 business groups and the children get to choose which one they want to be in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p><u>UN International Peace Day – Friday 20th Sept</u> A letter has been sent to parents inviting them to attend the ceremony at the school at 1.30pm being held by the children to celebrate the above. The activities that they will have been focusing on are - climate change and the meaning of peace. They are learning a song (Mr Campbell), a dance (Mr Saville), art activities (Miss Montgomery) and how to say ‘May Peace Prevail’ in different languages (Mrs Blair).</p> <p>Also attending the ceremony are - the local councillor, Douglas Ross, a representative from Richard Lochhead, a group of elderly members from the Forres community and the local press.</p> <p>We would like to encourage parents to come along and support the children in this ceremony that they are holding & help them promote their school as a rights respecting school.</p> <p><u>Parents meet Teacher night - Tues 24th from 3.15pm and Wed 25th September from 6pm.</u> A letter will be sent out shortly informing parents of how to book a time. The time allocated for each parent/teacher meeting is 8 mins. Parents are welcome to make another appointment with the school if further discussions are required.</p> <p><u>Open Night – Thurs 7th November 6 – 7pm</u> – previously parents have been invited to the school and shown by the teachers how they can support their children with numeracy and literacy. However the attendance has not been good. Therefore this year it will be the children that will be showcasing how they can be supported at home and the session will last about half an hour.</p> <p><u>Additional In-service Days – Mon 16th and Tues 17th September</u> only staff will be at school on these days. Facebook post to be posted to remind parents.</p> <p><u>October Holidays Mon 14th until Fri 25th</u></p> <p><u>School Budget</u> – Due savings, last year Moray Council took back any monies that the school had managed to carry forward, therefore JMcl explained this could be the same again this year. The budget has been in a positive position for years but this may be more difficult in the future. JMcl informed us that Moray Council is needing to save £14 million this year, therefore any support that the Parent Council can give to help with school trips etc.. is very welcome. (Bus hire is £100, and if event is cancelled still have to pay and rebook another hire. Occasionally hire can be shared amongst other small schools to help spread the cost).</p> <p>JMcl is hoping to do small outings and hopefully get parental support with driving the children, which will reduce the cost of bus hire. Parents would need to give permission for their child to travel in someone else’s car. One such event that is coming up is with the Scottish Opera for P5/6/7, where Alves school will be working alongside Mosstowie school and the event is to be held at Milntown Hall.</p> <p><u>Playground Boat</u> – this is off limits for now until it has been made safe to play on. JMcl is liaising with one of the parents who is a joiner and the plan is to tidy it up, paint it, have a bench built in it and surround the boat with wooden blocks to prevent it from tipping.</p> <p><u>Grounds</u> – cut backs on grass cutting has led to some areas of the school starting to look quite shabby in places. JMcl would much appreciate if anyone that has a petrol strimmer and some spare time, to help out by cutting the grass at the side of the school near Mrs Blair’s classroom and also the area of grass at the front of the carpark.</p> <p>There is a surface water pipe that runs along the fields skirting the playground and heads off to the pond on the other side of the village. The pipe has burst and the water is pooling at the lowest point which is the playground. JMcl has spoken to both Scottish Water and Moray Council to have this sorted but responsibility/ownership is still being disputed. The pooling water has contributed</p> 	<p>ALL</p> <p>MM</p>
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	<p>to the council being unable to cut the grass in this area in case the machine gets stuck.</p> <p>On behalf of Moray Estate, NP has asked if JMCL can get hold of the plans so she can review them.</p> <p>There is also a build-up of fat in the drain coming from the kitchen which needs looked at.</p> <p>MRN queried where the school grounds finishes as there is no clear boundary. JMCL advised that during school hours the school has sole use of the playing field, out with these hours the community is allowed access.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Boiler Chimney</u> – has been made safe - however the scaffolding appears to have been left in situ, if JMCL hears any more about it, he will pass the information on to us. • <u>Police</u> will be keeping an eye on the playground as empty bottles of alcohol have been found after some weekends. • <u>Car Park</u> – it was suggested a plan be drawn up of the best parking use of the car park, to allow the maximum amount of cars to park. SN offered to draw the plan up which we can then distribute to parent drivers. 	<p>JMCL/NP</p> <p>SN</p>
5	<p><u>TREASURER REPORT</u></p> <p>CR handed out the income and expenditure from 1st April 2019 – 31 March 2020. Also included was a comparison of these two between 2019 and 2020 so far.</p> <p>If anyone would like more details on the figures, CR is happy for them to email her.</p>	
6	<p><u>CHAIRPERSON REPORT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bags for Life</u> – discussed earlier in the AGM (see Point No. 4 iii) • <u>APPC Moray Council (MC) contribution</u> – on the income section of CR's report there is an entry called Moray Council Grant. MC may want to know how we are using their contribution, therefore if anyone has receipts for example, childcare costs for attending parent council meetings, paper costs for printing, postal costs – please give them to either NM or CR. • <u>APPC Newsletter</u> – our newsletter will be distributed after the next Fund raising meeting once dates for fund raising events have been agreed. 	
7	<p><u>OCTOBER DISCO – WEDNESDAY 30th October 6 – 7.30pm</u></p> <p>GM is the music maestro. CR will look into purchasing lights see previous point 3 iii.</p> <p>We will discuss the ins and outs for the disco at the next fund raising meeting. NM just wanted to check with JMCL if he had any issues/concerns from the last disco re how it was decorated. It was decided that we would have 3 games at the interval and refreshments served at tables near the kitchen in the main hall.</p> <p>JMCL would like the number of pumpkins to be reduced in number due to the amount of staff time it takes to help cut them out.</p> <p>KL thought the children could help make lanterns with battery tea lights in them to add to the decorations.</p> <p>KM will be creating a flier for the disco. NM asked JMCL to confirm about the collection of children afterwards. Primary 1 – 3 children must be collected by their parents/carers.</p>	<p>FR mtg</p> <p>KM</p>
8	<p><u>EVENT DATES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Movie Night – Thursday 5th December</u> 6pm till about 8pm • <u>Swimming Pool/Ice Rink Hire</u> - after the success of the last swimming pool hire in which the school had sole use of the pool in Elgin. It was decided to arrange another such event and also look into booking the Ice Rink for another event. Both of these events will be paid for by APPC funds. NM will look into the prices. It was agreed that the swimming would be arranged for Nov this year and the Ice Rink for 3rd weekend in Jan 2020. Parents will need to stay with their children for both activities. There may also be children that require transport to the events, in 	NM

	which case their parents would need to give permission to the volunteer driver.	
9	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Connect Forum</u> – these meetings are held by Moray Council and all parent council members are allowed to attend. There are 4 meetings a year. The next one is on 25th Sept at Elgin Academy 6.30 – 7.30pm and the topic being presented is Wellbeing. Please let NM if you would like to attend so she can advise the organisers. • <u>Fund raising Meeting – Thursday 3rd October 7pm</u> SN kindly offered, that he and his wife, Kerry, would host the meeting at Ardyge House. Future fund raising events will be discussed at this meeting (Feb disco, Beach party, Garden party) • <u>2nd Hand Uniform</u> – NM will check with LG to see how this is working out. Donations should still be put in the box in the school reception area outside Wendy's office. • <u>Forres Pipe Band Tuition</u> (FPB)– JMCL wanted to clarify the situation regarding free tuition that had been offered to P6/7 pupils. FPB had contacted Moray Council informing that they had funding in place for any P6/7 pupils interested in learning the chanter. The school agreed to it as they thought it was free. However, it now appears that the children are being asked to pay £6 for each lesson, so the school is not happy with this as it may not be accessible to all children and if tuition has to be paid for, it should be conducted outside of school hours. Contact will be made with FPB to clarify the situation. • <u>Next APPC meeting – Thursday 21st November 7pm</u> 	<p>ALL/NM</p> <p>SN</p> <p>NM</p> <p>JMCL</p>