

Chair: Gemma Boggs
Vice Chair: Angela Hughes



Secretary: Deborah Bruce
Treasurer: Robin Bell

**MINUTES - Monday 4th September 2023
TEAMS @ 7 PM**

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Present - Shona Fisher, Lisa Murray, Gemma Boggs, Angela Hughes, Andy Fairchild, Charlotte McKinstry, Chris Blair, Debs Bruce, Robin Bell, William Watson, Fiona Gunn, Amanda Currie, Kirsty and Matthew Quinn

Apologies - Alison McFarlane, Funmi Sanusi and Dave Slater

2. MINUTES & ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- The issue of blinds has been mentioned again; will discuss under parent feedback.

3. 2023/24 ADMIN

- Gemma explained the PC roles, how we work, the WhatsApp group chats etc. for AC, KQ and MQ.
- The AGM will be in October. As there are more classes this year, should we have more members on PC; YES. GB will arrange for communication to be sent out to see who would be interested in joining the PC. GB will speak to FS to see if she wishes to continue on the PC. WW will take a place. That leaves 2 or 3 vacancies.
- It has been proposed to have a PC session every 4 weeks; 1 with school via Teams, next with just PC, either Teams or F2F, then next again with school and so on. School meetings therefore 8-week gaps.

4. TREASURER REPORT

There's around £2871 in the bank account and RB has £120 cash for petty cash and floats. Is the school still owed anything from class trips as seems quite high balance. RB checked with VS and was told nothing due. SF will triple check. We will need to get the accounts signed off. AC is doing Glenmannon accounts so could ask for someone from Glenmannon to do ours in return. RB will do a year-end review of the finances as a summary report is required for the accounts to be signed off.

5. FUNDRAISING UPDATE

- Easyfundraising has brought in £1671, the community lottery is £676 and £223 from Co-op.
- AC mentioned My Nametags as a possible source of fundraising as they give 24% back to the school. Glenmannon PC also buy ties from Customique at a discounted price to then sell to parents. They also

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have a weekly bonus ball although we'd need to get a license for that. AH previously looked in to this and it's not that expensive so worth considering.

6. 2023/24 FUNDRAISING FOCUS

- CB suggested PC and school work together so that we don't do the same fundraising events as parents are more likely to donate more to school than PC especially given the cost of living crisis and not expecting parents to contribute to both at similar time.
- SF said school plan on having a Halloween theme day in October. The reading event done well last year but don't want to do the same thing. A p7 pupil is doing a danceathon to fundraise for The Miracle Foundation. We'd love to help her; ideas on how, welcome given we will be asking parents to help fundraise school and PC events as well.
- GB asked if the school can have a think of what they will want us to contribute to in this school year and we will have it on the agenda to discuss at the AGM.
- AC mentioned matched fundraising where employers donate to employee causes. May be worthwhile asking parents if any of their employers are in this scheme.

7. CO-OP COMMUNITY FUND

Our application is in. There will be a celebrations day in November where we get our cheque. AH thinks it will be £1000 towards the Eco/biodiversity fund. She will double check.

8. CHRISTMAS CARDS

CM advised that we get a better commission rate the earlier we order the Christmas cards. SF stated the feedback was that parents would prefer to help the child complete these at home than be done in school. CM will drop packs in to the school if school can get them out to parents with aim to be back with CM by end September and sent away by 11th October.

9. HEADTEACHER UPDATE

- Getting new hut was a lot of work but they look great, very spacious. The toilets have been challenging. There are only 2 toilets, which isn't ideal.
- Classes are 1a, 1b, 1/2, 2/3, 3, 4a, 4b, 5, 5/6, 6 and 7 so 11 classes.
- Photographer was in school today, they were in and out by lunchtime. They'll be back 9th October for anyone that was missed and also the class photos. All years getting class photos this year as per parent feedback.
- The p7 House Captain videos are in process; voting takes place on Friday.
- It's been a good start to the year; the playground is busier but ok, it's not as hectic as thought.

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- A lot of toys currently at school are done. Lisa Murray is starting a 'toy committee' who will come up with a plan of what the school could be doing with and this could be something PC helps contribute towards.
- Meet the teacher is next week on 14th September 3:15 to 4:15; gives parents chance to see children's classrooms and the new hut. Some parents seen it already at tea and tissues.
- The daily mile walk is gone now as we don't have the playground space.
- The class role this year is 261 compared to 243 last year.

10. EVENT SET UP (PVG's, First Aid, Insurance)

11. PL INSURANCE

- NLC public liability insurance only covers us for events within the school. School is too small for most of our events so need to use social club; we then aren't covered in any insurance.
- CB has looked around and Connect seems to be best value with cost of £130, covers Public Liability and has other benefits too. Will send out to PC.
- The Halloween disco is booked for 26th October so we need something in place by then.
- CM asked if all PC should be PVG registered, some are for other matters but should PC each have one. AC believes NLC covers the cost of PVG and First Aid, she is going to check.

12. DATES FOR CALENDAR

- The colour run has been put off as wouldn't have been prepared in time. Gives us more time to arrange PLI, PVG, First Aid etc. It's likely to be in Spring.
- Race night is still in discussion but no date set as yet.
- A lot of the new p1 parents are new to the school so likely to get involved in events to meet other parents.
- 2nd December has been reserved for the Christmas Fayre in school.
- 11th or 12th December has been set aside for Christmas shows but no further info yet.

13. PARENT FORUM FEEDBACK

a) SCOOTERS/BIKES

CM asked if there were any rules re scooters and bikes. SF confirmed yes, no bikes to be ridden in playground. Scooters were allowed but not just now because there is less playground space.

b) BLINDS FOR CLASSES

CM asked if there was anything further discussed on the requirement for blinds in classrooms. SF stated that NLC will not pay for anything new because of the new school. Seems unfair for kids to 'make-do' until new school is ready, especially if a child has sensitivity to light. SF informed they are looking at ways to help the light issue. They have already requested funding from Inclusion for one classroom and the sub committee could pick up on the rest of the classrooms.

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c) ENHANCED TRANSITIONS

Feedback from parents was that earlier information on classes, teachers etc. would have been better. A lot of frustration from parents. SF agrees and appreciates this wasn't ideal nor normal practice, this was all down to the new hut and everything being so rushed. Should not be like that again.

d) TOILETS IN NEW HUTS

DB stated there had been a lot of complaints from parents re the toilets in the new huts, dirty, mould growing, flooded etc. AMcF had previously said to advise parents that NLC had not agreed to additional hours for the cleaners to include the huts but feedback from parents was well when does this get sorted, how long do we wait for NLC to authorize additional hours and how is that fair to the kids to use dirty toilets as a lot of kids are being put off going to the toilet which is not healthy or right. SF confirmed they are speaking with the kids to try ensure they don't clog the toilets or cause flooding and also checking in with NLC regularly to try resolve the issue for the longer term.

e) APRONS WHILE PAINTING

A p6 parent had complained that their children's clothes were not surviving the school paints and could we provide aprons while doing painting activities. SF said the problem is that a lot of the kids, especially the older kids, refuse to use the aprons. It was suggested that kids could provide their own oversized t-shirts for use when painting; that could work.

f) RESIDENTIAL TRIP V STRATHCLYDE PARK

A p6 parent had asked if the school are likely to bring back the residential trips as they would rather pay money for a proper experience than the daily one at Strathclyde Park. SF confirmed school are looking in to having both. The Strathclyde Park experience is heavily discounted by NLC so would consider doing that in addition to the residential break.

g) TITANIC TRIP

AH asked if the Titanic trip was likely to happen again. This hasn't happened since before COVID and it's not been discussed although Miss White is doing this as a topic in class. This wasn't school funded and parents paid. Would parents be keen for this to happen?

h) HOMEWORK

P2 parents have brought up the issue of homework. There seems to be a big difference in the homework being given to the year group with the composite having more in amount and harder level. SF will look in to this but sounds like composite given wrong homework in error.

i) TWITTER

P1 parents have raised concerns about the use of Twitter as the main information sharing platform. The GPS Twitter page not being private and also some parents don't have Twitter. Could we use SeeSaw or Family instead? SF confirmed that those apps are banned by NLC due to security

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issues and the costs. Can the email be forwarded to SF and she will look in to and respond.

14. CROWWOOD GOLF CLUB

Lynsey Brown contacted PC to ask if any member of the PC would like to join a Networking Group with Crowwood Golf Club. This doesn't seem very beneficial to us and it's not a priority of ours just now.

15. ROAD SAFETY

- Police were out today in school. It's been reported that cars were doing 3 point turns on the zigzags. Police advised to take car registration number and they will have a chat to the driver.
- There seems to be a lot more cars at drop off and pick up. We will continue to promote walking to school and parking away from the school if needing to drive.
- It's been reported that some senior pupils were crossing the road before the railing and kids darting across the road without looking. SF said they will remind the kids in school re the dangers and the need to be careful/safe.

16. A.O.B

LM will get the Playground Committee to get a list to us soon re suggestions for new toys.

17. D.O.N.M

AGM Monday 2nd October @ 7pm via Teams