**Kildrum Primary School Parent Council**

2019



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 14th of November, 1.30pm

**Present**:

**PC Representatives**

Jennie McGregor, Gemma Acreman, Pamela Alexander, Katie McDade, Ali Winters, Donna Singh, Bob Aird, Debbie Johnson.

**School Representatives**

Kate Watt, Head teacher.

**Guests in Attendance**

Colin Bruce.

**Apologies:**

Gillian Studsrud, Katie Healy, Jemma Carlton.

Welcome, introductions. The minutes from the October meeting have been read and approved.

**Parent Council Update**

Grants, re. Funding to help with school trips. This is still with Louise, who has contacted Kildrum Community Council. No update at present. Jennie will follow up with Louise regarding any progress.

Road Safety. Nothing to update following Irene Thorburn’s email to Paul Mahoney, re. Inspecting the roads around the school and the 20’s Plenty signage. Jennie/Kate to chase with a follow up email. Colin Bruce has asked to be CC’d into this correspondence going forward.

Halloween Disco. Excellent turn out and as requested the DJ had turned the volume down. This can be turned down further if required and requested at a later date. DJ has mentioned how much he enjoys this disco as the kids are very engaged and the kids like to get involved!

**School Update**

Today the school has 5 members of staff off sick.

The school is currently .6 of a non-class contact teacher down. A new member of staff will be joining on Wednesday, 4th of December.

This year’s Christmas Fayre will take place on Thursday, 5th of December from 6 – 8pm. Stall are available at £20 per stall. Katie McD raised a concern that the cost of the stalls were too expensive for parents – that other local school were only costing £10/15. Kate said that they researched into the cost of stalls last year and found that, in general, that stalls were more expensive elsewhere, approx. £30/40 each. Price to stay at £20.

There will be free entry to the fayre and visits with Santa Claus will remain free – giving more children a chance to meet with him. Santa visits will require a timeslot via a booking system, similar to the one at parent’s night.

Set up for the fayre should run smoothly due to plans and the work put in last year, re. props and decorations.

As well as previous games and activities, Kate is considering games like ‘name the Teddy Bear’ and ‘How many Smarties in the Jar’ to increase chance of raising more funds.

VSE (Validated Self Evaluation) two day visit recently took place. A document had to be provided beforehand and assessments were made during the visit. They visitors met with groups of children, staff as well as small parent focus group. There were very small points of improvement given but the informal feedback was very positive and they were ‘delighted’. The school was above the North Lanarkshire average, with only Maths below.

**School Pitch**

Colin Bruce introduced himself – he is part of the NL Community Partnership Team, working on the Capacity Building Team, covering areas over Cumbernauld and Kilsyth. Ross Dunn had reached out to him regarding the issues surrounding the pitch and general outside area.

He visited the school last week and believes the area has potential for great outdoor learning and play. Whilst he says he can’t work miracles he is committed to possible extending the school fence line and cleaning up the forest area.

He believes there may be the potential for up to £40k from the FCC Environmental (Communities Foundation) who promote community wellbeing.

Round 1 for the online application for funding closes on Wednesday, 27th of November – which is a tight deadline but possible achievable. We would apply under the Biodiversity category due to our forest area.

Conditions for the funding are that the council are on board with this, that the facilities are available for public usage and that they would require a 3rd Party Payment.

We need to provide evidence, reports and possible student/parent forum surveys.

If we are unable to make this deadline, Round 2 opens from March 18th – June 3rd, 2020.

We currently have plans on site, from Judy Legg, which would require around £60k/70k to complete to the work. Colin has requested a scanned copy of these be sent to him to review.

Kate noted that, authority wise, the school has not had much spent on it them doing their best to enhance the school themselves.

Other options, would be looking at local contractors – who have a corporate responsibility to enhance the community. On site work from local contractors would bring down overall costs of the plans.

Lotto – Awards for All is another option. (Need to clarify with Louise if this is the funding recommended by KCC.) Both the school and the parent’s council can apply for this separately.

Colin mentioned the External Funding Alert – which Kate is currently set up to receive. He advised any or all members of the parent’s council can be added to this alert. Jennie to send email regarding this.

Colin has agreed to keep us up to date, make contact with Judy Legg and Ross Dunn and liaise with Kate, re. online application. He will also keep the school in mind if he is contacted by local companies, re. donations of selections boxes for the children, etc.

He had also looked at the funding possibility with Suez Community Trust. However, they do not work with school sites.

Colin exited the meeting.

**Christmas Raffle**

Jennie listed items already donated.

It has been suggested an email is sent out to parent’s with a request for donations for the raffle.

**Training**

Jennie, and 3 other members attended a very informative Parent’s Council Training session on Tuesday, provided by a company called Connect through NL funding. Jennie noted this was brilliant and informative training and it has highlighted adjustments required within the current parent’s council which will be introduced over the following months to bring us in line with our Constitution.

We will be implementing a Suggestion Box, possibly at the main entrance, for parents who have questions or queries they may not want to discuss with the council in person. Any questions brought to be member can be directed to the suggestion box.

A Facebook subcommittee will be formed to help support Jemma will online updates, etc.

There will be a AGM meeting in April.

Kate to look into member of the parent’s council being PVG checked.

**Any Other Business**

Bank Account will be requiring additional signatories. With Bob leaving at the end of the year we will be looking for someone to step up to the position of Treasurer. This will be put to a vote and this person will shadow Bob for the remainder of this year and take over at the beginning of the new term.

**Accounts**

Current balance: £2427.19

Disco raised £563.15

DJ: - £125

Decorations: - £16.00

Total = £422.15

Tasks following meeting:

Volunteers required for Christmas Fayre – Jennie to email.

Applicants for Treasurer Position – open to all.

Discussion regarding current/new member who are to be voting member or non-voting member of the parent forum instead – open to all to discuss.

Audit will be required before April – Bob.

Next Meeting Planned – Thursday, 16th of January, 2020.

G Acreman