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| **Present** |  |
| Tracey Millar | Angela Reid |
| Ms Margaret McMillan (HT) |  |
| Andrew Sinclair |  |
| Lisa Sinclair |  |
| Linzie Ellis |  |

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| **Item** | **Subject** | **Action by** |
| 1. | The Chair welcomed those in attendance.  **Apologies:** None |  |
| 1a. | **Quorum:**  The revised constitution is now in force therefore a quorum is 3. As three people in attendance the meeting proceeded. |  |
| 2. | **Head Teachers Report:**  Presented by MM –  Children and staff have made a very positive return to school and settled in quickly. P1 have been particularly resilient given the procedures in place and the large class they have joined. Almost all have said that interaction with friends was what they missed most during lockdown.  HWB remains the primary focus in school and during this pandemic the guidance clearly states that health comes before comfort. The windows remain open in school and the children will be working and playing outside as much as possible. The school became very cold during in August and we requested that the heating was put back on earlier than planned and this was agreed centrally, the heating is controlled from Perth. We had some heavy rain showers when the children were outside. Some children took shelter and others chose to have fun in the rain and as a consequence some had an afternoon with wet clothes on, we have suggested that they might like to have a change of clothes/ shoes in their bags. The children will be outside at break/ lunch time unless there is extreme weather, e.g. high winds, and therefore need to be dressed appropriately. The hall is currently the P1/2/3 classroom and Room 1 is being used for small groups and individual working. Additional cleaning takes place in the hall, toilets, classrooms at lunch time and on touch points throughout the school. If necessary, classes will be relocated to the cloakrooms for this to take place if the children cannot go outside. The children in each class mix as little as possible indoors in order to minimise the risk of infection/ disruption to learning should an outbreak occur. Contingency planning is underway to support children isolating and/or support children’s learning during a future lockdown period.  As ever all procedures are constantly under review at national and school level. None of us have been here before, it’s new to us all and we need to continue to work together to achieve the best outcomes for the children.  The curriculum is very much focussed on HWB, Literacy and Numeracy this term and this will continue to be the case next term with some additional learning through contexts. We are not able to deliver indoor PE or aspects of Music and Drama at the moment.  The absence rate was high for a couple of days (11 children off) due mainly to colds, which was to be expected as we all came back together and was evident throughout Scotland. Thankfully testing for the children with Covid -19 symptoms was completed quickly and they returned to school. We had some staff absence last week however we managed to get supply cover for most of this.  Staffing throughout the school remains as it has been since the start of term however there may be some changes next term as we have some additional teaching hours at the moment which may be required elsewhere.  The P7 Transition trip to Nethybridge has been cancelled however we are looking as an LMG to put in place alternative activities.  Assemblies will continue virtually and end of term services. We are considering what we can achieve for Christmas celebrations, but we will not be going to the pantomime and there will not be a Christmas concert in the church this year.  Forest School has started with enhanced risk assessments, we hope this will continue for older year groups in the coming months.  There will be a hot meal choice on the School lunch menu after the holidays. Meals will continue to be bagged and eaten in the classrooms.  We are looking to develop our playground to enhance outdoor play and learning and will be applying for grants to support this.  We have received a donation of £500 from Nisa (Making a Difference Locally) through Zed at the Village Store and Highland Spring have donated 100 bottles of water to the school to support children who are not bringing in water from home. |  |
| 3. | **Covid update including future of parent council meeting**  It was agreed that moving forward parent council meetings would continue to be held via a Zoom platform.  It was also discussed how the parent council should work going forward and all agreed that it should continue to be as a supporting group and a sounding board.  Both TM and AS indicated their children would be leaving the school within the next 2 years and discussed how positions could be filled moving forward.  AS enquired whether it might be possible for all 4 members to take a turn of being the chairperson. TM will look into options and update at the AGM. | **TM** |
| 4. | **Treasurers Report**  Andrew Sinclair provided the following summary –  Current funds in bank - £2060.08  Everything has been paid that we had committed to and we paid for the P7 hoodies.  Blackford Shop Donation Box was collected in February and amounted to £91.12 and Easy Fundraising amounted to £16.13.  The Blackford Shop Donation is to be collected in the coming weeks and has sum of roughly £200.00  Fundraising going forward will be difficult with current situation.  MM has indicated that some Forest School sessions just before lockdown were not charged, so these will be charged through this term.  MM would like the parent council to fund forest school for all year groups. The cost for this will be roughly £1000 and was agreed.  AS will ask Highland Spring if they would consider donating something towards the forest school as they did donate £700 last year,  As there will be no school trips this year the money allocated for this can be used towards funding the forest school scheme.  MM also asked for support from the council to apply to Blackford Community Fund and the Community Investment Fund to get funding for improving the playground within the school. This will include painting lines, a multi-purpose court, numeracy and literacy activities to encourage outdoor play with the current climate. This can also be enjoyed by families after school time - a case to be made for developing that further. This was agreed by all.  AS chairs the Community Fund and advised he would speak to Foundation Scotland as there may be opportunity to secure a grant from them up to £1500.  MM also mentioned that the park has been a godsend and is being enjoyed by all children. It was questioned whether dogs were allowed into the park to which AS confirmed they are if they are under control on the grass area.  AS to place a reminder on the park facebook page to remind the local community that the school children are using the park and to be courteous at all times.  LE enquired as there would be no Halloween disco if the parent council could run a scary face/scary costume/pumpkin competition for the children. The parent council will work on this idea and have different age groups for prizes. Teachers will pick winners for each age group. | **AS**  **AS**  **ALL** |
| 5. | **Outstanding points from previous minutes**  None to note. |  |
| 6. | **Fundraising**  Due to current climate it was agreed that we cannot do fundraising at this time. We have the box from the shop, which is super, and we should promote people to use the Easy fundraising page as this is great way to help contribute.  TM to schedule posts on Facebook page and add to the school newsletter. | **TM** |
| 7. | **AOB**  Feedback given to MM on the Groupcall app. Overall, the key points were very positive from all parents. MM advised she cannot see what the app looks like, so TM will send MM some screen shots.  They hope to roll this out to the rest of the school after October holidays.  We touched on the parent council roles and TM will do a video advising other parents about the parent council. The majority of the P1 parents may not know about the parent council, so thought this would be an informative way of reaching out to them. | **TM**  **TM** |
| 8. | **Date of Next Meeting – AGM**  The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th November 2020 at 1800hrs. All are welcome to join via Zoom. |  |