

BARGARRAN PRIMARY PARENT COUNCIL

FORMAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER, 2019 – 7PM

Item	Action
<p>1. <u>IN ATTENDANCE</u> – Nicola Pinkerton (Chair), Gillian Mills (Minutes), Claire Harwood, Sharon Stalker, Laura Pearson, Louise Provan, Jean Jowers (from 7.10pm), Sheena Wain (from 7.10pm)</p> <p><u>APOLOGIES</u> - Alastair Lyle (Head Teacher), Lynsey McCrae, Lynette Earl, Joanne Hammond, Michelle O'Neill</p>	
<p>2. <u>MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No outstanding actions.	
<p>3. <u>HEAD TEACHERS REPORT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Lyle nominated Nicola to read the Head Teachers report in his absence.• School roll currently 225 pupils.• Mrs Druce and Mrs McGhee are now on maternity leave. <p><u>School Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awards Celebration Day 26.09.19 – Thank you to the Parent Council Fundraising for their donation towards the cost of the day.• P6 pupils enjoyed the outdoor experience at Castle Semple (JASS Awards) on 25.10.19.• Community Café organised by P6 (JASS Awards) on 25.10.19 was well supported.• Pupil council has met 3 times on 23.09.19, 08.10.19 and 22.10.19.• Pupil parliaments met on 01.11.19 and are due to meet 15.11.19.• The children enjoyed the Hallowe'en afternoon on 31.10.19.• P7 Remembrance Assembly 08.11.19 – The assembly was well supported and the senior school pupils were a credit to the school as they performed a very moving assembly. <p><u>Pupil Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P7 have played on match beating Langbank primary 7 -3. The team have a match against St. John Bosco 14.11.19.• Mr Davies and Miss Sinclair have started a school newspaper group. The new school newspaper will be called 'The Bargarran Bulletin' and should be available before Christmas. There was a significant level of interest from pupils who wanted to join the group and a ballot was taken to allocate places.	

- Homework club started on 23.10.19 and will meet on a Wednesday evening during the winter months. The school have received a good response and the club is now full.
- Mrs Hunter will continue to run the netball club on a Thursday evening after school.
- Active schools club are currently offering dance, gymnastics, basketball, mini kickers, cheerleading and dodgeball. The clubs are organised out with the school and the co-ordinator Tammy Johnson can be contacted through the school office.

Local Authority

- Right for Renfrewshire – The Renfrewshire Council is preparing to roll out the new transformation programme ‘Right for Renfrewshire’ which commenced in September 2019 for a period of 3 years. It will change the operational functionality of the council to ensure that they are sustainable and dynamic in the future. Renfrewshire Council will review its assets, processes, systems, technology, information sharing and ways of working. Every service under the remit of Renfrewshire Council will be included in the change over the next 3 years.

Year 1 projects do not include Children’s Services but will include council services that support schools and include Placeshaping, Community Protection, Facilities Management, Customer Transactions, Developing Communities and Early Protection and Interventions.

- School holidays 2020/21 – School holiday dates for this session have been issued.

General Election

- The shared campus is being used as polling station for the General Election on Thursday 12th December. The school will remain open to pupils on the day, although there will be changes to lunch time arrangements. These will be communicated to parents in due course.

As before, the lunch hall will be used for the polling booths. The election organisers will erect a temporary partition across the school foyer to ensure that the general public do not have access to the school. This format was successful at the European Elections in May.

- Part way through the meeting the Head Teachers report Jean and Sheena arrived for the meeting. Nicola explained that as per her previous email to Jean the Parent Council Constitution (2014) states that “3.3 Appointment of members shall take place at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).” and advised that they were welcome to join the Fundraising Parent Council, which was meeting at 7.30pm. Jean advised that it was her right to remain in attendance at the meeting and Sheena advised that as a member of the public she had a right to attend the meeting as per the Parental Involvement Act (2006). Nicola advised she would seek clarification on this matter.

Jean then requested that Nicola resigns from her post as Chair for giving mis-information. Nicola explained that she was giving the information as per the Parental Involvement Act (2006). Gillian explained that herself and

Michelle were voted onto the Formal Parent Council as per the Constitution at a previous AGM in September 2018. Jean then stated that the Parent Council is not functioning properly and suggested that Parent Council members would benefit from training. Jean also advised that she may seek to have the Parent Council dissolved.

Jean enquired as to why the agenda and minutes are not available prior to the start of the meeting. This is something that is being addressed as a result of the parents evening survey and is detailed in agenda item 4.

Jean enquired as to the running of the Parent Council meetings and asked if Mr Lyle dictates to the Parent Council the schools agenda with an expectation that the Parent Council will support this. Parent Council members explained that this is not the case and that Mr Lyle actively seeks views and opinions of the Parent Council on school matters.

- Throughout the meeting it was highlight at different times by various Parent Council members that Jean was being confrontational and passive-aggressive in her approach. Laura expressed her concern on the way the Parent Council were being spoken to and considered leaving the meeting.

4. **PARENTS EVENING SURVEY**

- A survey of membership of the Parent Council was undertaken at the Parents Appointments on 09.10.19, the results are as follows:

“If you are not a member of our Parent Council could you please tell us your reasons for not being a member.”

- Work commitments (multiple answers)
- Family commitments (multiple answers)

“If you are a member of the Parent Council could you please tell us your reasons for being a member.”

- Receive more information regarding the school
- Greater awareness of what Parent Council does to help my child
- Knowing where the money raised from the Parent Council is spent and how it benefits the children
- To give back to the school
- Getting to know other parents and staff members
- Feel that I am having a positive impact on my child’s school
- Enjoy being engaged with and supporting the school
- To benefit all the children who attend the school

“Do you have any suggestions how we could change the current format of the Parent Council meetings to encourage more parents to attend?”

- More on line and less formal face to face

- More on line information – details of minutes and meetings etc

The school have responded to the survey by developing our Parent Council section of the website to provide the information requested. This will continue over time.

5. **AOB**

- Jean raised the following issues:
 - The school should have commenced the teaching of 3 languages. Gillian advised that the school currently teach French and possibly Gaelic songs.
 - The school is not a nurturing environment and that the Nurture programme has not been implement. Sharon advised that the school are currently utilising the PATHs programme as are many schools in the Renfrewshire Council area. Multiple members of the Parent Council agreed that the school is nurturing and Sharon provided examples of this.
 - The school needs to consider transitioning of pupils from P6 to high school. Explanation provided that currently in all schools in the Erskine, Inchinnan, Langbank and Bishopton catchments areas this commences at the start of P7. Some of the Parent Council members were opposed to transitioning in P6.
 - Jean enquired as to the composition of the composite classes. Sharon explained that she had previously been informed that this is based on maths aptitude. Several Parent Council members advised that they have no concerns over the composite classes.
 - Socio-economic deprivation is not considered by the school and Jean detailed some of the costs of the school day and raised concerns regarding additional costs to parents including school discos and pantomimes. Parent Council members pointed out that a child has never been deprived of attending a school event or Parent Council event due to financial consideration and that there are mechanisms in place to aid with this.
- Parent council members unanimously agreed that the above issues were not representative of the views held by Parent Council members and that they could not be addressed by the Parent Council without a school representative present at the meeting.
- Sharon provided a summary of the accounts.

6. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 16th January 2020, 7pm