



ST JOHN BOSCO PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT ST JOHN BOSCO PRIMARY SCHOOL, ERSKINE

ON THURSDAY 31 AUGUST 2023 AT 18:00

Present: Mrs Gardyne (LG)
Mrs Kennedy (CK)
Christine Combe (CC) - Chair
Gordon Brown (GB) - Treasurer
Beth Mackay (BM) – Minutes
Claire Harkins
Donna Thorburn
Sharon MacDonald
Laura Mullen

In Attendance: Julie Calder – Renfrewshire Council (JC)

Apologies: Claire Booth (CB)
Suzanne Banks (SB)

Open Actions from previous meeting

None

Matters Arising

Park Mains High School – Julie Calder

JC there have been a few questions about denominational provision.

No changes from the previous discussions. We will come back in November once we have the roll numbers.

Secondary provision, extending Park Mains 1,591 to 2,000 roll. Still a lot of questions on this from Dargavel around an additional secondary school. Projections show that this could go above 2,000 roll based on placing requests and denominational requests (e.g. SJB or St Annes who choose not to go to Trinity) this measure is not taking place now and won't be for next session but just highlighting that this could be restricted in the future

Capacity of Trinity is 1,000, current roll is 960. JC seeing the projection numbers going down and the Council can expand the capacity if required.

Noting causing concern now however we will continue to monitor along with the estate condition.

Trinity estate is B status, JC will confirm and advised if this is not correct. School estate management plan due 2024, the Council are carrying our estate surveys currently.



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CC stated that there are always St Annes and SJB pupils who choose to go to Park Mains, who would potentially now have to go to Trinity so surely that will affect the Trinity projections.

JC advised that there are also placement requests for Trinity that would have to be managed.

CC asked about the impact on the Dargavel Primary School cap at 75 on SJB, based on current roll that will be 50 children who would potentially be forced to come to SJB and then would not be eligible for Park Mains as their secondary school, this could cause issues. JC advised that this would not be forced.

GB asked what the current P7 St Annes and SJB numbers applying for Park Mains. LG advised that it varied. There tends to be less from St Annes, previous year SJB was 50:50 split.

If you live within the catchment and you chose to go to Park Mains this is not currently a placing request however this could change.

JC confirmed that we will not be bussing children to wherever there is capacity within Renfrewshire, and acknowledged the comms on this could have been clearer.

CH suggested as a School, we should make it clearer to parents when enrolling their children in P1 that Trinity is the feeder school.

DT asked whether this is deemed discriminatory if you go to a catholic primary school you must go to a catholic high school. JC advised that there are other instances of this across Scotland and it has not been an issued.

CH raised her concern is around the facilities at Trinity as they are already struggling with space, the school is crammed and they do not have space for the children at lunch and break time.

GB added that he is shocked at how many older schools there are in Renfrewshire in comparison to other local council areas.

JC added that we need to consider all children and estates and investments as part of the estate's strategy. There are space planners reviewing this now and she will update when she is able to do so.

CH advised that Trinity PC are fundraising for social seating as pupils don't have anywhere to be during break and lunch at the school per above, which seems unbalanced when you consider the facilities at other schools.

Intake at Trinity has increased year on year 190 this year.



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CC summarised that some parents are anxious about whether they will be able to send their child to Park Mains.

CC asked when the peak is expected, JC advised 2033/34.

GB asked whether the Council consider school capacity when granting planning permission for new builds, JC advised yes and much more so now.

JC suggested attending again after we have the November intake numbers. LG advised the next meeting after this will be 18th January, JC agreed to attend this meeting.

Action – JC to be invited to attend the SJB PC meeting on 18th January 2024. LG/CC

- **Events for this year/Planned fundraising**

Covered below, we will include in survey to get feedback on what events parents would like.

- **Christmas**

Christmas event requested from parents however they are not willing to get involved in setting it up. CC proposed, Christmas fayre/afternoon tea and craft afternoon. LG raised concern on reflection in asking for donations then and for easter. Suggested that we just do an afternoon tea and craft for sale.

CH advised we could do this in a smaller scale. Keep it the same format as the spring Fayre.

Let is in for Friday 1st December, note: we are off on the 30th November.

Do we need to still share this with Nursery. LG advised no, as they are fundraising separately.

Action – Christine to prepare parent survey for which they would prefer Christmas or Spring fayre.

- **PC Newsletter**

Snapshot of what the SJB Parent Council have done over the last year to hopefully encourage new members and volunteers.

CH suggested targeting new P1 parents and reassuring you will not be asked to do anything in the first year.

Strategies for getting new members were discussed.

There was debate around teams versus in person meetings.



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CH and SM suggested a survey and reminding parents about the parent council.

Action – Parent Council Newsletter to be prepared and issued CC

- **New WhatsApp group**

Agreed to close the existing group and create new group

Action – create new Whatsapp group and close existing group CC

- **Parking**

CC updated that the parking situation was terrible again this morning with double parking, parking on corners, blocking visibility.

LG advise that the busses are full so it is not Dargavel/Bishopton parent dropping kids off.

JC advised that the Renfrewshire Council road team can work on an active transport campaign. LG & CK advised we are going to be doing beat the streets. This is coming to Erskine and Bishopton soon. This works by scanning between two fobs. CH suggested could we use house points to incentive this. Which was considered but thought this may not be fair to those kids who have to get the bus.

CH asked whether the disabled parking issue had got better. LG advised this has got better.

CH asked whether we stopped access to the playground by parents whether this would help with the parking issues, CC advise this is what Inverclyde do and it works well. LG will consider this.

Action – LG to consider access to playground by parents

- **Dargavel update**

Covered in Park Mains High School section above.

- **Design PC Logo**

Suggestion that the school pupils design a new PC Logo

Action – SJB pupils to design new PC Logo LG/CK

- **JOMA kit**

Football kit – half price kits negotiated by TM. This was approved from the parent council fund last year. Request to look at waterproofs too given price negotiated.



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Action – PC approved the purchase of waterproofs with the football kits, pricing to be provided to Treasurer. TM

- **Lollipop person**

SXP (School Crossing Patrol) vacancy update by LG – someone has been appointed and they are going through the recruitment process. Alan SFO (Senior Facilities Officer) has been covering this in the interim.

The talk of the pelican crossing has never materialised.

CH asked whether there was anything we can do as noted that Bishopton and Dargavel Primary schools have multiple new SXP's. LK requested that the Parent Council contact the council regarding this as we are without a Janitor while they are covering for this.

Action – PC to contact Renfrewshire Council to raise the issue of the SXP being covered by the Janitor. CC

- **Dargavel & Bishopton Bus**

There are more children getting the bus in the morning, 2 buses now in operation for Dargavel. CH advised that it is different every morning at the moment.

There was discussion around the P1 and P7 buddies getting on the bus first, which wasn't happening at a lot of stops.

There was debate around the best way to operate the 2 buses, should the stagger stops or should one follow and take any surplus.

CH asked whether the Wed/Fri issue was still there with Park Mains finishing early. LG advised this was creeping back in.

Positive feedback was given for the bus divers and the first week back was great this year with busses at the correct stops and on time.

Action – LG to contact the bus company to confirm our request is for buses to follow each other and to flag up that the bus running late consistently and ask for bus times.

CH asked if there was anything we can do to help, LG advised that she will contact in the first instance.

Updates requested to the bus charter regarding safety at bus stops and crossing the road. Suggested that parents are reminder that safety at the bus stop is their responsibility.



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Action – update to the bus charter to include safety at bus stops and crossing the road. Along with comms to parents reminding them that safety at the bus stop is their responsibility.

Treasurers Report & accounts update

GB updated that the PC accounts are now signed off.

£3,511 in account.

Head Teachers Report

School holiday consultation for 24/25 however this is not an option more a yes or no to proposal. Concerns raised about starting back on a Friday which did not work well for Inverclyde. Inservice days at the start rather than the end of holidays which the teachers would not prefer. We can only say yes and add comments.

School improvement plan, this will soon be published on school website.

- Raising attainment in literacy, talk for writing, accelerate reading app
- Raising and maintaining numeracy
- Rice – Renfrewshire inclusive classroom environment – quiet spaces within classrooms, not too many distractions,

Standards and qualities report –

Achievements

Recognition of excellence in digital literacy

Silver award in Reading schools

CH asked whether we could transfer some of this digital literacy to homework.

PEF – still same allocation as last year but because of wage increases this cannot fund as much:

2 rather than 3 PEF teachers

1 rather than 1.5 ASN

May ask for PC for additional funding for Quarriers as unlikely to be able to continue to fund Christine.

Funding requests:

Globetrotters fund – will be allocated across P5-7

Quarriers

Whole school trip

Playground equipment – pupil survey

Action – PC to consider funding requests



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Dates of Next Meetings

- Thursday 12th October 2023 [post meeting this was updated to Thursday 5th October 2023]
- Thursday 16th November 2023
- Thursday 18th January 2024
- Thursday 14th March 2024 [correction to previously issued dates]
- Thursday 16th May 2024