

Stow Parent Council Meeting

Monday 29th September 2025

Present: Robert Reid, Niome Lucjan, Eleanor Dreaden, Julie Wood, Jess Day, Finlay Hetherington, Sarah Cornes, Kat Custard, Magda Robertson, Victoria Stirling

Apologies: Ruth Leckie, Tracey Waddell and Marion Healey-Smith

	Actions	Responsibility
Welcome		
JD welcomes all		
Review of previous minutes		
All present happy to approve previous minutes		
Head Teacher update		
MR shared school SIP (School improvement plan) – Full document is 25 pages long. Points on the plan have been decided following feedback from parents, teachers and pupils. A summary document has been circulated via email to parents. SIP is focusing on numeracy, working on own toolkit for teaching learning and assessment, improving writing across 1 st and 2 nd level, improving digital literacy and expanding across the curriculum. Planning to apply for the digital wellbeing award. Staff training on LGBTQ+ for teachers and will be workshops for some pupils. Expand way of tracking wider achievements. All pupils from p3-7 have accounts with My World of Work, which tracks pupils' achievements. Links with meta skills. Leadership – Looking to encourage and improve leadership in children. Pupil council involved.		

Nursery – Applying for STEM nation award and working on STEM and literacy. Leaflet distributed via email from homeschooling cluster which offers support in a range of areas. £3675 PEF allocation this year, which will be used in a variety of ways, including improving attainment and Sumdog subscription. Pupil support assistant (formerly ANA) – Hours staying the same as last year. 39hours allocation. Mrs Collins and Mrs McBeath in place. Current vacancy of 15.5 hours, which is filled with supply hours. Currently not allowed to advertise post. Whole school end of year trip – whole school voted for Dynamic earth in June 2026. Cannot book with Dynamic Earth until January 2026.		
Treasurers report		
See AGM minutes		
Kids club update		
See AGM minutes		
Proposed social fundraising dates		
Disco 12Dec25 – NL proposed £100 from parent council (as last year) towards this. All present agreed. JD suggests creating a fundraising committee to help with the organisation of this event. Fundraising WhatsApp group already exists and details will be shared on this. Will need to do a shout out for new members of fundraising group. Valentines day race night. NL gave background on race nights she has seen previously which are great fundraising opportunities. Asked for feedback re date. No objections		

were raised to event being on valentines day evening. FH suggests poll to determine if this date would be desirable. JD concerned about lack of response to polls. ED suggests a poll on year group WhatsApp groups. MR proposed poll at parent's night. In her experience this is the best way to get feedback. Colour run in May? No specific date proposed yet. Cheese and wine proposed for June 2026. JD asks if there is enthusiasm for any other events. ED asks about Christmas activities. MR is planning to discuss with teachers. Suggests Fair at Christmas or Spring where people pay for their stalls to sell wares. JD advises that hampers last year were popular. ED asking about craft activities for children to make items which can be sold at a later date such as the Christmas concert. This has been successful in the past. Plan to discuss this further at a later date. JD has discussed with MR and parent council will organise Christmas cards with pupil artwork. Teachers are happy to facilitate this in school.		
Fundraising update		
NL - Fundraising through Parent council is ongoing to purchase new play equipment. Looking for around 2-4 pieces of equipment. Suitable pieces have been identified through SBC procurement. Potential location has been identified by MR and NL in the playground Plan for Complan to come out to advise if the location is suitable and to give a quote for full work. Plan to submit funding application to SSE (Toddleburn) and national lottery fund. This will be a two-staged approach. JW asks what type of play equipment. NL – Snake swing, benefit is that it can be used by many children at once. Accessible roundabout. Another spinning apparatus which is accessible. Long life span of this equipment (up to 20years) and long warranty with the		

products that have been selected. Previous play equipment had to be removed because it was unsafe. Some equipment still in the playground needs to be removed as it is damaged and area may need to be fenced off if it's not removed. Cost of removal not covered by SBC. MR waiting for someone to come out to give quote to remove broken equipment. Also large wooden spools currently inside tractor tyres are rotten and need to be replaced. JD looking into replacing spools but will need help to install new spools safely. ED suggests putting a shout out on FB. SC states that there are many tradesmen in Stow and sure that some would be happy to help. SC also asks about play equipment currently at Fountainhall. MR and NL state that this equipment cannot be utilised. Fountainhall is currently mothballed and may reopen so cannot use equipment from there. NL wondering if £500 from Yurt Garden could be used for outside table and chairs? Picnic bench. MR also suggested buddy bench, which has been successful in previous schools. ED suggests that this should be taken to teachers for their suggestion and to ask if a picnic bench would be the best use of the money. Will gain input from teachers prior to making alterations to outdoor learning space.		
Intergenerational project Borders Youth Theatre intergenerational project. Previously discussed in PC meeting but did not have capacity last year to take forward at that time. BYT have applied for funding for this project and parent council have provided letter of support. MR also happy for project to go ahead. This is proposed for 2026 if funding is successful with p5,6,7 pupils and would involve older members of the community. MR would also like to introduce an initiative where grandparents come in to support reading with nursery pupils.		

[illegible]

