

Stow Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 12th November 2025

Present: Niome Lucjan, Jess Day, Magda Robertson, Victoria Stirling, Katy Birchall, Alex Cornes, Kimberley O'May, Eleanor Deardon, Julie Wood & Kat Custard.

Apologies: Bob Reid & Marion Healy-Smith

	Actions	Responsibility
Welcome		
JD welcomes everyone to the meeting.		
Review of previous minutes		
Everyone present is happy with previous minutes.		
House Captains update		
MR gave an update on behalf of the House Captains. Time capsule event – opened capsule previously buried and re buried with our own items. Bikeability. rugby and netball tournaments this term. St Andrew's day Scottish Country dancing competition for some pupils coming up. Big sing event in Gala was a great success. Brass music tuition started for some pupils. Great War learning with Mary Craig. This was a great help with P6 assembly. Lorraine from Tesco was in the school teaching about food sustainability. Created fruit salad and bird feeders. She also led Halloween craft with all pupils. 10 th Dec Christmas Concert and Carol singing in Tesco on the 4 th and 11 th .		
Head Teacher update – Magda Robertson		
3 members of staff in nursery with 23 pupils on busiest days.		

<p>Job advert for PSA for 20 hours will be coming out soon.</p> <p>Carol singing in Tesco on 4th and 11th of December. Funds raised will go towards travel to/from events.</p> <p>12th December open morning where parents can come in.</p> <p>18th of December is the Christmas dinner.</p> <p>P7 transition to S1 has started. They have already visited the High School for remembrance assembly. Head teams visiting schools may be slightly different this year, hopefully with new parents and children visiting school in January.</p>		
Kids club update – Katy Birchall		
<p>Going well. Occupancy - 85% booked.</p> <p>Breakfast club funding application was submitted around 6 weeks ago and is pending. Should find out at the end of next week. Katy will provide details when available. Currently only applied for funding to end of school year as need to see how things go before applying for funding for longer term.</p> <p>Also applied for funding to reduce fees on weekdays for 3 years.</p> <p>Bookings for February club now open and have had good uptake so far.</p> <p>Fundraising – Would like to work together with parent council so we are not competing for fundraising opportunities. Kids club funds had been wound down as the club was going to be taken over, however this fell through and now need to increase funds again.</p> <p>KB asks MR if details of the club can be included on the school website. KB will send over details to MR to publish on website.</p> <p>JD raised that Bob Reid is now treasurer of Kids Club (as well as Parent Council). She feels that there is no conflict of interest but asks if anyone present considers it might be. All present agree that no conflict of interest exists with Bob being treasurer for both Kids Club and Parent Council.</p> <p>ED asking about other funding opportunities. KB has reached out to several other</p>		

<p>opportunities.</p> <p>NL suggests separate meeting to discuss joint fundraising opportunities.</p> <p>KO – Asking if ELC 3 children can join Kids Club. Unfortunately ELC 3 cannot be accommodated at the moment due to the increased needs of this age group. If numbers increase may be able to reconsider this. KB will speak to Schools Out (company who leads Kids Club) to see if this could happen.</p> <p>KB asking MR about nappy changing facilities. New disabled toilet should be able to accommodate this but is not completely finished yet. MR will chase this up.</p> <p>KO states that several parents of ELC 3 children have been asking about inclusion in Kids Club.</p>		
<p>Defibrillator</p>		
<p>This has been an on-going issue for some time. Davie Mack has approached the Disrupters who have put a proposal in place to use the funds. Asking if we can transfer the funds to them so they can take this forward.</p> <p>All present agreed for funds to go to Disrupters.</p>		
<p>Play equipment update</p>		
<p>NL has met with suppliers to discuss location and equipment choice.</p> <p>Single child play equipment, which can be supplied in batches was suggested. Noted that this can be very inclusive and allows children to play side by side.</p> <p>Coco melon swing - Large swing, which can accommodate up to 6 children, voted for by pupils.</p> <p>Also 2 medium items to be purchased.</p> <p>£20 000 budget. Supplier is confident that they can get the quote in under this.</p> <p>Funding application to Longpark and Toddleburn will be submitted with decision in January and the aim to install equipment in the Easter holidays.</p> <p>KB notes that Kids Club will be running Easter club in 2026 – Mon-Thurs for the 2 weeks of holiday and possibly the Friday. NL and KB will coordinate on this.</p>		

<p>MR has confirmed that the school's insurance will cover this equipment. Parent Council will need to organise monthly inspections of equipment. May need to ask teachers to help with this.</p> <p>ED asking if checks would be indefinite. NL advises that this would need to be discussed.</p> <p>JD advises that steel frame is guaranteed for 25years.</p> <p>A roundabout was discussed, as interest in this was expressed by the children. However, this is an expensive piece of equipment, which can be difficult for children to use independently without an adult.</p> <p>Individual spinners are being purchased.</p>		
Outdoor learning update		
<p>NL has had several meetings at the school with teachers to use the £500 from the yurt.</p> <p>The falling down fences have been removed and nettles cut back.</p> <p>NL has received a quote for the pathways to access the wooded area, which was requested by teachers. Quote is for £10 000 which is not feasible at the moment. Plan to concentrate on playground equipment first and then move on to establish paths. NL will look to secure funding for this after equipment project is complete.</p> <p>ED expresses support for this project.</p> <p>NL notes that the decking is very slippery and asks MR to consider what should be done with this. MR will discuss with KO. MR does not have budget available to fix this at present. NL states that she can arrange for it to be removed if this is wanted.</p>		
Christmas fundraising		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas raffle (hampers) <p>Positive feedback for hampers last year. Very popular. Agreed to do again this year. 4 hampers – one for each class.</p> <p>JD asking if themed or lucky dip. ED suggests lucky dip may be easier. Will go forward with lucky dip hampers and ask for donations to be handed in.</p>		

- **Mulled wine and goodies at Christmas show 10th December:**

Will be a dress rehearsal and the actual show and parents will be invited to both. Mulled wine suggested for actual performance. JD asking for volunteers to help with mulled wine. ED raised concern about the time of the performance (5pm) and is concerned that parents will not be able to make this time as this is much earlier than previously. MR has changed the time as it was previously too late for the teachers. NL thinks that mulled wine would not be appropriate this year with the earlier show time. KC agrees with this. ED suggests mince pies. Decided that we will do mince pies and raffle. JD will come in and set up.

KB asking about after school club as it will be running at same time as the show. MR had not considered this. KB states that she could cancel for this day as long as parents had enough notice. If all children are in the show then there may not be a need for it. Discussion if there is scope for kids club to provide some food and cover the gap between school finishing and the show starting and dependent on staffing could possibly accommodate more children than just those normally at the club.

MR advises that pupils will be asked to arrive at the school at 4.30pm on the night of the show. NL expresses concerns that this is a very tight turn around time for pupils getting back to school. After listening to the concerns raised, MR will discuss the time again with the teachers.

- **Christmas disco** – NL was made aware of a clash with a significant Disrupters event, which many pupils in the school are involved in. NL asking if the date can be moved to the 19th Dec. Also asking if it can start at 12 rather than 12.15. MR will look in to this and let NL know. AC suggesting an evening rather than straight after school. AC led the organisation last year and will need to check his availability for the 19th. Also looking into options for someone to run the disco and will need to check dates for this.

Small gifts were given last year but they unfortunately ran out so need to make sure that all kids (including nursery) receive the gift this year. MR advises that the

<p>total head count incl nursery is 88.</p> <p>JD asking if Santa is needed twice as there is a Santa visit to school and so may not also be needed for the disco. AC feels that it is a good finish to the disco and NL commented on how lovely it was.</p> <p>AC requests keeping food and drink out of hall during the disco, especially teas and coffees. Try to stagger children collecting snacks so they aren't all leaving and entering the hall en masse. Potentially could call up class by class. MR suggests approaching Tesco's Lorraine for food donations, AC also has a contact with ASDA.</p> <p>AC confirms that he is available to on the 19th of December to organise the disco. He will create a playlist as last year. AC asking that hall is empty on that morning to set up. MR advises that she can arrange this.</p> <p>JD would like to make sure that all parents are aware that they are responsible for their own children at this event as it is outwith school hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas cards etc – xmas4schools – uptake for ordering items has been good. 		
<p>AOB</p>		
<p>Books as Christmas gifts for pupils from PC Should this be continued this year? JD comments that some of the books last year were quite gendered and also that the Julia Donaldson books that were given to younger children some pupils already had. Cost £200 last year and is expected to be more this year. AC suggested note pads/pens/pencils. ED suggested small games/brain teasers. KO and ED suggested The Works as an option for purchasing, often have deals on. JD and NL will look in to ordering items.</p>		

[illegible]