**Burra Parent Council**

**Minutes of Meeting of Burra Parent Council held at Hamnavoe Primary School on Thursday 14 November 2024 at 7pm.**

**Present:** Jennifer Nicolson (Chairperson)

Joanna Goodier (Parent)

Ellyn Hutchison (Parent)

Jill Irvine (Parent)

Amy Williamson (Parent)

**In Attendance:** Suzanne Inkster (Clerk)

Helen Robertson (Head Teacher)

**Notice of Meeting**

Jennifer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Brian Goddard and Denise Duncan.

**Approve Minutes**

Some changes were made to the minutes of 27 August 2024. The meeting on Thursday 30th January was changed to Tuesday 4th February at 7pm. Minutes were then approved by Jennifer, seconded by Helen.

**Christmas Fundraiser**

The proceeds from the Christmas concert will this year be put towards Outdoor Learning Equipment. The parent council will sell raffle tickets for the class hampers. Suzanne to check in with Caroline to see if more raffle tickets require to be purchased.

**Family Engagement Night – Feb 2025**

The date for our Family Engagement Night is Tuesday 18th February from 6-8pm. The theme will be Health & Wellbeing. Discussion was held around possible activities and a list is as follows:

* Yoga/dance with Kathryn Gordon (Helen)
* Games by Active Schools (Helen)
* Healthy Cooking/Nutrition – (Suzanne to ask Neil)
* Mindfulness/meditation with Wendy Hatrick (Helen)
* Drumming with Joy (Helen)
* Anchor
* School Dentist (Amy)
* Mind your head (Jennifer)
* HENRY/Bruce Family Centre (Jo)
* Bruce McCulloch – Body & Feet (Helen)
* Paramedics for first aid (Helen will ask Kayleigh)
* Dogs against drugs
* Carol Smith for internet safety (Helen)
* Health packed lunches – (Amy to ask Morag Mouat at the dentist)
* Parent council to do teas/coffees

Forms with choices will be sent out in advance and should be returned to the school by 11th February. On Friday 14th February Ellyn, Jill and Helen will get together to sort the chosen options.

**Outside Education Plans**

Kate Hookim came to school recently to do den building and beach shelters with pupils. It was great fun and very enjoyable for the bairns. The school garage is now being converted into a workshop and Kate has given a list of what is required. Nicola our play supervisor has completed training on shelter building and wood work.

**Packed Lunch v School Dinners**

There is increasing concern from parents and staff around school dinners. Discussion was held and the main points of concern are:

* Significant increase in pupils taking packed lunches from home.
* Repetitive menus eg soup and sandwich on Friday and then the same again on Monday.
* What is considered acceptable as a main meal eg not beans on toast.
* Meals have to be prepared in line with ‘healthy eating’ guidance and as a result do not taste as nice.
* Having to preselect meals removes the child being able to decide on the day what they would like to try.
* The cost of staff meals (£7.50) has seen a decline in staff eating meals together with pupils.
* Unhealthy foods are being consumed by pupils in packed lunches.

Jennifer said it is important to acknowledge that this is not a reflection on our canteen staff, this is an issue that is emerging across other schools in Shetland and is as a result of decisions made higher up the tree.

It was suggested that parents/pupils could be surveyed to look at current menu options and look for alternative suggestions. This information could be fed back to Neil Beattie.

Helen will find out if there is any guidance on school staff removing unhealthy snacks from home packed lunches.

**Staffing**

The school is fully staffed at the moment.

**Maths Attainment**

Pupils are showing good attainment in maths across the school.

**School fund**

The school fund balance is currently £3830.12

**Parent Comments**

Parents have raised concerns over school meals and has been noted above.

**AOCB**

It is Anti-Bullying week next week. There will be an assembly for this and a new awards system for best behaviour. This will ensure our well behaved pupils are not being overlooked.

The ASN room has been done up as a base for more pupils to use, since there is less need for it to be used for complex needs.

**Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 4th February at 7pm.