**DRAFT MINUTES**

**HAPPYHANSEL PARENT COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th September 2019 at

Happyhansel Primary School – 7.00pm

**Present:** Emma Chittick (Chair)
 Laura Johnson (Vice Chair)

 Becca Lees (Clerk)

 Theo Smith (SIC Councillor)
 Emma Webb (PC Member)

 Leona Drakeford (PC Member)
 Leona Leslie (PC Member)

 Jacqueline Brown (PC Member)

 Roger Atkinson (PC Member)

 Marianne Wishart (PC Member)

 Sylvia Goodlad (PC Member)

 Sue King (Head Teacher)

**Apologies:** Steven Coutts (SIC Councillor), Catherine Hughson (SIC Councillor), Helen Fleck (PC Member)

 **1. Chair's Welcome**

Emma welcomed everyone to this meeting of Happyhansel Parent Council.

 **2. Apologies**

 Apologies were noted as above.

 **3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting 20th February, 2018**

 Jacqui approved the minutes. Emma W. seconded.

 **4 Matters Arising**

Multicourt – Someone is coming up from south to look at all 22 multicourts in Shetland. Should be a decision by November-ish. Emma will mention to Hayfield House when she is in tomorrow. We need a careful balance, reporting accidents to show it’s necessary to replace; but without it being declared unsafe for purpose as there is no other space we can use

 **5. Early Learning and Childcare Location**

Everything is now sorted and working well. No more to report so will take this item off the agenda from here on.

**6. Parental Engagement**

Emma will devise a ‘tick box’ questionnaire to ask parents what topics they are interested in for future family learning events. Discussed examples included
Health – inc. epipen knowledge, growth mindset, dogs v drugs
Internet/tech safety
Arts and crafts

**7. Facebook**

The Facebook group is Very helpful, especially if folk forget to read emails. Emma will do a simple poll on the page to check if users are happy.
There was discussion of utilizing a ‘Class Dojo’ type software to connect teachers and parents digitally (currently use homework diaries or jotters). Most were happy with the current paper system and don’t want to overload teachers with more things to keep up to date. But can see benefits of Dojo.

**8. Garden**

A small group looked at the grounds and Helen has drawn up a plan of what is envisaged. Looking at a 2-3 year timescale to implement everything.

Driveway – pebbles on top of wall so no long grass. This has been checked with Andrea who owns neighbourly land and she is happy.
Trees out so no roots through wall.
Border by office – plant herbs or evergreens.
Compost bins between multicourt and fence.
Planned equipment to go in polytunnel.
Clean and repaint beds.
Top of steps – (where the concrete numbers and hopscotch are) – move storage bench here and fill with toys eg ropes and hoops.

Bottletop murals in slices of salmon pipe to create tiles. Could make a path? Add to as new children join school.

Paint fence – get ideas from bairns as to colours/designs? Eg. Shetland animals and dialect names. Ask Young Offenders?

Wood – fairy doors, Gruffalo trail

Back of gym wall – traverse wall (horizontal climbing)

Old mural – update. Add music walls.
Long term – drop kerb at disabled parking spot and add path joining to the multicourt.
Long term – story corner with storytelling chair and mushrooms, chalkboards.
Long term – mud kitchen.

Everyone is invited to join in with making a start, weeding etc. for next 4 Sunday afternoons til Oct holidays.

**8. Fundraising**Sunday Teas next week, 2-5pm including bric-a-brac stalls and raffle. Cake donations please.
Ad in paper for £30.

Takeaway night was suggested.

Bingo Nov 22nd. Sylvia reminded us we can use Germatwatt Centre if Hall or School are unavailable.

Bairns to hold a Christmas present shop.

Use fundraising to buy new reading books for school to boost choice. It was clarified this would supplement, not replace, the reading scheme. Adding current and modern books. We can offer the money and let teachers choose the actual books.

Petty cash account sitting at £721.69
minus £215.49+£4.49 for boombox
Equals £506.20 . £150 of this is ringfenced for Edinburgh trip.

A bank account is being set up to hold this.

Please pass suggestions of companies we could contact for donations to Leona Leslie, then bairns can write letters to request funds.

There was discussion of adding trip payments to ParentPay for paying in installments. However, this would complicate refunding parents when some of the cost is covered by fundraising. Recognition that this would be a huge change and would need investigating further first.

**9. Prizegiving**A number of parents are feeling that the current end of year ‘Prizegiving’ isn’t fair on all bairns, especially regarding allocation of special trophies which only go to P7s, and often to the same few kids, leaving others with nothing to show for their time at school.
Also, the citizenship award voted for by the children just ends up a popularity contest.

The parents would like to propose changes as follows:
Stop trophies.
Introduce ‘leaving’ certificate for P7s.

Keep endeavour award, and FRED Ted (Focus, Resilience, Endeavour and Drive), but make sure anyone of any age is eligible for any of these.
Keep a ‘show’ as part of the event, but to showcase more wider achievements than just music; or at least find a way to include anybody who wishes to to take part, eg. those than learn an instrument outside of school.
We will suggest these changes to Mrs King and welcome her thoughts.

**10. Head Teacher’s Report**

 As attached.

**11. Correspondence**

None.

**12. AOCB**

School logo – asked Fiona Sinclair to redesign this.

Reminder about the 20 limit zone. Report lights as half the bulbs are out.

**12. Date of next meeting**