



Minutes of the Dunrossness Parent Council Meeting

16th January 2024

Dunrossness Primary School



Present

Sam Adamson (Chair)
Louise Leslie (Acting Head Teacher)
Brenda Smith
Catherine Puxley
Judith Fenton (Secretary)
Sarah Greene
Kath Lomax

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies – Jolene Johnson

2. Approved Minutes of Last Meeting

Sam approved minute, Cath seconded.

Discussion on sharing and storage of minutes in the absence of a clerk. Minutes from today will be emailed to Brenda, Louise and PC members by Judiht Fenton ahead of the next meeting.

ACTION: Louise to try to locate the missing minutes from March 2023 (Honor did these ahead of going on Mat Leave).

3. Matters Arising

See table of actions below.

Constitution – pushed back to next meeting as redraft not yest circulated – Sam to progress.

4. Resignations and Vacancies

Vice Chair – not sure we have to have a vice chair, decided to leave vacant for now.

Treasurer – Richard Lomax has agreed to stay on until someone else is found, and to finish accounts for 2022/23.

Bank accounts to be sorted – agreed that Jolene and Sam should be the named people.

Sarah Greene joined the Parent Council.

ACTION: PC to put out an ask for a treasurer, explaining what the role involves.



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5. Head Teacher Report

See attached.

Chole Kerr is current QIO / Link Officer for us as Leanne Moss is acting head at another school until August 2024.

Other updates:

- Maternity leave cover for nursery – preferred candidate for place
- 3 applicants for janitor job next week, 14 hours per week.
- Louise – acting head extended until end of Easter holidays.
- Catherine Moar continues as backfill for P6/7. Also doing music. She is brilliant!
- Kim Wells and Lana Smith covering ASN roles.

Louise remarked that at the moment, Feels we have a happy school, bairns that feel supported and safe. We have glitches feel we have made quite good progress in moving back to folk popping along or just getting in touch.

6. Chair's Report

Most is covered within agenda.

Sam gave a recap on efforts to date. Have done Sunday Teas, purchased a speaker for the playground, assisted with purchasing boxes, and wrapping for parties, put up Christmas decorations. Everything in the budget is allocated so we need to look at making more money for the next period, so a discussion on fundraising would be helpful.

Discussion on the Christmas Concert – suggestion that the PC could help with mulled wine and mince pies, to make it more of an occasion and perhaps just do one show.

Nursery Christmas stay and play: feedback was that this was cramped so potentially extend into the foyer another year.

7. Secret Room

Keen to do it again next year.

A bigger space next year would be helpful – was quite cramped for nursery.

Suggestion not to have crafts for all ages. Just have gifts kids can pick and wrap.

Bairns loved it ☺

P7's could come and help another year.

8. Parental engagement and support for the Parent Council



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Links to vacancies we currently have. Need to raise awareness as to who is on the parent council and letting people know that if we don't get more parents we won't have a parent council. Risk that we are not quorate.

Need to demonstrate that it is worthwhile having a parent council. PC needs to be more visible.

Sarah suggested that some general information about the parent council would be helpful. Things like: roles and responsibilities, frequency of meetings and what the parent council does.

Suggestion we could have members and 'friends of', the latter would be folk who are able to support fundraising activities and events.

Sam explained cycle of meetings – termly formal meeting, informal meetings in between times. Advised we are all quite new and inexperienced and learning as we go.

Kath Lomax reflected that since COVID, lots of committees are struggling in attracting new members, people realise it is difficult to be on lots of meetings. We need to highlight that the ask is not onerous and meetings are not that frequent.

9. Outdoor Space at School

Funding application underway to Viking Energy Fund for polycrubs. Funding opportunities being sought for money towards contents of crubs (planting, messy play, sandpits etc).

ACITON: Sam to progress

ACTION: Judith to email Ewen for written confirmation of acceptance of reallocation of CASE donation

10. Fundraising Plans for the Year

Quiz Night – Boddam Hall

- Agree to progress this, potentially March.

Summer Gala / Summer Fete:

- Boddam sports pitches and the hall – bouncy castle, bbq, games, stalls sponsored by the teachers. Low key fun and entertaining. Currently looking at 1st weekend in June 2024.
- Ideas: Sports races, cake baking, farming – competitions or show and tell opportunities. Members ask to provide ideas.
- Want to avoid the Bigton Regatta first weekend in July
- Going forward we could come together with Sandwick to do a joint one.



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Fireworks / Community Bonfire Night:

- Boating Club – did fireworks display for 2024.
- Nothing in south mainland.
- Given regulations, not something PC could take on itself.
- Could have community bonfire and mulled in.
- Speak to Tingwall Hall to find out how they put on in line with regulations for managing and storing fireworks.

SMUHA:

- Jarl squad spending more time with school.
- Have boddam hall after that for the afternoon.
- Have teas and coffees at that, a community café
- SMUHA Art –display it at the boddam hall. Parents come along. Afternoon tea or lunches served by PC.

Outdoor Event:

- Sponsored walk or cycle – outdoors thing.

Day of Action:

- paint fences, tidy up bits in the playground – outdoors.
- Spread the word – date in the diary.
- Cuppa and a roll.
- Baptist Kirk may be able to support teas and coffees

ACTION: PC to meet again to develop these ideas ahead of next formal meeting in April.

11. Amendments to Constitution

Postponed to next meeting.

12. AOCB

- Facebook group – agreed Louise Leslie will do approvals, unless the individual is known to the Parent Council.
- Blog and parent council – need to make use of this, it is out of date
- Google docs – intention to create a folder for parent council linked to mailbox so that everything is stored virtually in one place.
- Thanks from Brenda Smith for all we do.

13. Date of Next Meeting

14th April 2024 – school or Teams