

# FOVP Parent Council Minutes

28th November 2024

## Attendees

Laura, Anna, Jo, Christine, Vee, Murray, Sally and Lauren.

Leeanne- Acting Depute Head Teacher.

Joanne Devine- South Lanarkshire Council.

Apologies- Kirsty- Head Teacher, Seonaid, Amy and Kerry.

## Minutes of Meeting

- **Local Development Plan Consultation-** Joanne Devine from the SLC attended the meeting today with a copy of the local development plan to ask everyone to give their insights as part of the carers/parents community of Victoria Park and also wider local area community. The idea is to get feedback on the quality of services offered. A document was sent beforehand that included 17 topics that could be discussed at the meeting.
- Some of the issues that we covered were parks/ facilities/leisure centre and pools and how we would like more access and classes for ASN children and families.
- The fact that Clydesdale as an area is majorly lacking in transport and facilities and leisure activities for ASN children and families.
- At the moment there is no council sensory room available in Clydesdale or if there is it cannot be accessed as it is Keir Campus controlled. Private facilities are available for hydrotherapy pools but to counter that there is also the cost of hiring these out and the travel to get there.
- There needs to be something in local area that is appropriate for all ages. There has been equipment removed from facilities which has had an adverse effect on Inclusion.
- There is also the aspect off health and safety and more council leisure centre staff should be put forward for appropriate ASN training.
- Lanark Race Course- an update on what is planned for this site would be appreciated. There had been some talk of a riding school for ASN children, hopefully more information will be available soon.
- ASN Transport within the council have major issues which parents/ carers find very difficult to be able to resolve in their communications with said Transport Team.

Once consultation by Joanne Devine was complete, she then left the School and FOVP continued with regular meeting.

## Staffing

- Members raised concerns over the level of staff currently within the school. There are worries about consistency for our children, who is taking part in our children's

personal and intimate care, staff from other schools within Victoria Park without warning and there being not much communication on staff changes. All issues mentioned above were discussed. Chair of the Parent Council Laura, contacted Liz Burns with concerns regarding staffing. The council advised that they would be looking to recruit more Support Assistants to cover staff absences.

- It was agreed that SLC would be contacted in writing regarding these issues and concerns by the FOVP as a whole.

### Treasury

- Treasurer Anna reported that the FOVP Parent Council books have all been completed and are up to date and have been checked by an independent accountant.

### Gala Day

- The theme for our 2025 Gala Day entry will be decided after Christmas.
- Sensory boxes will be made-up for all of the children with our 3 short listed themes in order to take a vote/find the majority preference.
- Following a suggestion put forward by a Gala Maids parent, Leeanne, Acting Depute Head agreed that the Victoria Park green space/school garden will be decorated for our 2 Gala Maids Sia and Lanna!
- A suggestion was made that we reach out to the local community in terms of fund raising and supplies they may be able to offer in regards to this.

### Communication

- Several points were raised regarding communication issues within the School and Friends of Victoria Park.
- School Diaries- some parents had relayed that they would like more information in the School Diaries and they feel that the notes home are getting less and less descriptive about what their child has been up to during the day.
- Items of Clothes were all raised as a problem. Items not being sent home, sent home with different children, lack of direct communication regarding this etc.
- There were some comments made by members regarding clarification on FOVP Parent Council purchases, using funds and feeling out of the loop regarding decisions. We reinforced to work together as a group going forward
- Some members felt that the FOVP Minutes of Meetings were posted too late. The Minutes are posted on the school website by the Head Teacher Kirsty McKellar, who passed on her apologies that last months Minutes were late. As per the FOVP Constitution, 4 different people who attended the meeting need to agree with the final minutes before they are posted by HT Kirsty McKellar. There is no set time frame for Minutes, only that they're posted and can be added to the School website which can be accessed by everyone before the next meeting.
- Going forward HT Kirsty McKellar will set up an e-mail address Inbox where any issues and queries can be sent to and Chair Laura will check messages and pass on before the next FOVP meeting.

### Photographs

- A few parents have requested whether we could have a professional photography company take school pictures.
- Other avenues could be investigated such as Instant Images or Dave Taylor however we must take into consideration the needs of the children and the environment in which the photographs will get taken.

### **Christmas Trip/Grotto**

- The School Christmas trip will be on **Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> of December**. A final phone call to Gouldings shall be made by Anna confirming numbers. The School will send out a reminder to all parents/carers that you have to meet at Valley View Family Park at 11:00 AM.
- Santa's Grotto will take place on **Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December** from **10:00 AM to 2:00 PM** within the School. The Santa will be from the Clyde Valley Family Park. The Parent Council will be building the Grotto the night before, Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> ready for Santa to arrive on the Wednesday.
- Per Council Guidelines there will be no Raffle at Santas Grotto, however there will be a Guess the Bears Birthday. All donations going towards FOVP Funds!

### **AOB**

- A member brought up the idea that we could purchase a Christmas tree to plant in the green space. If we cultivated the tree all year, it may survive and become the School's annual Christmas tree in the Garden. School are going to speak with Sheena McPhail who is a member of Staff that is on the gardening committee and it will be looked into.

The next FOVP meeting will be on the **30th of January at 1pm!**

See you all there!