

Cambusbarron Primary Parent Council Minutes

Thursday 21st November 2024 – Online Meeting

In Attendance: Farrah Bett (FB), Keiran Meiklejohn (KM), Alayne Finlay (AF), Mark Hill (MH), Jennifer Haggerty (JH), Claire Squires (CS), Laura Robertson (LR)

Apologies: Lisa Nicol, Claire Templeman, Danielle Smith

Agenda Item	
1.	<p>Amanda Stocks and Jane Cargill from Stirling Inclusion Support Services delivered a presentation on the Massage in Schools programme which has just started in the school.</p> <p>They outlined the background to the programme, how it is delivered (including a video showing the techniques) and the benefits of it.</p> <p>There was a Q&A session after the presentation for further discussion and MH also outlined how they were intending to utilise the techniques beyond the 5 week programme but said it would depend on the needs of the individual classes and they would monitor and review the impact it was having going forward.</p> <p>They are happy to provide further information or answer any other questions anyone might have.</p>
2.	<p>Minutes/Actions from last meeting</p> <p>Most of the previous actions were related to questions for Stirling Council which were hoped to be answered at the in-person meeting with them which was cancelled. They have the list of questions and considered best to get update on these at a meeting.</p> <p>CS requested confirmation that the nursery was covered in any plans for the developer funding and MH confirmed he believed it would.</p> <p>The presentation from the previous meeting had been shared by MH.</p> <p>ACTION: Mark Hill to go back to SC to request a meeting be scheduled for the first 2 weeks back in January</p> <p>Further action was for Danielle Smith to provide support to parents with home reading choices – discussed further under Parent Rep questions</p>
2.	<p>FREG Update (FB)</p> <p>FREG are continuing to get ready for the Christmas Fayre and communications have gone out about the fayre by email and on school Facebook page. Hampers have been made up using the donations from dress down day so thanks to all for contributing.</p> <p>Volunteers have been sent emails with info on how and when they will be helping on the day. Still looking for extra help the night before (6-8pm) at the community centre and on Saturday morning (9.30am) need some strong helpers to carry tables over from the church hall. If anyone is able to help with these roles, or also during</p>

	<p>the fayre more help would be welcome, then please email cambusbarronprimaryfreg@yahoo.com or complete the google form on the school Facebook page.</p> <p>Stall holders will be emailed final details next week.</p> <p>Raffle tickets are on sale – have sold 210 tickets as of Thursday 21st afternoon. They can be purchased online until midday Friday 29th and then again at the fayre from 11am – 1pm.</p> <p>Laura at the library has agreed to do song and storytelling session from 11:30-12 in the library – sign up via the email sent.</p> <p>Home baking donations are sought and can be handed in to the school office on Friday 29th before 3pm or taken to the community centre on Friday evening between 6 and 8pm.</p> <p>Looking to next year – some events in the planning but not yet finalised so will give further updates at the next meeting.</p>
4.	<p>Treasurers Report (KM)</p> <p>The current balance sits at £3562.12, which includes some money from the upcoming Christmas Fayre.</p> <p>Received a £500 grant from the Community Development Trust which should cover the request for money for app-based learning resource.</p> <p>Expenditures to be paid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2x Seesaw licenses • P1 Halloween party snacks need paid back and some other money for the Halloween discos • £400 allocation for PE equipment requested by the school <p>£421 will be left but will likely take in ~£4000 from the Xmas and Summer fayres based on previous years so will be healthy by next August starting.</p> <p>Need to plan ahead though, particularly if thinking about Panto for next year to ensure the monies are available.</p> <p>KM, FB and LN are all getting added as signatories for the account due to changes in office bearers since last year.</p> <p>JH noted that the micro-grants from Community Council can be applied for twice in a year so could look to apply again and could help towards e.g. Panto trip</p> <p>MH advised that P7 had written an email to PC to request funding for leavers goodies but he was going to wait until after fayre where they had some ongoing enterprises and see what else they could come up with first before requesting money. Hoodies have been ordered and deposit paid by school – no assumptions made on what PC will contribute. Last year’s yearbook was digital so no financial</p>

	<p>cost but needs significant time resource and MH going to find out whether teachers able to help.</p> <p>MH advised that £5/child for a trip/experience was usually allocated but didn't appear to have been factored in this time.</p> <p>JH and Ann Finlayson had managed to secure £13800 to cover the full costs of the improvement works to the MUGA given that it is also used by the wider community. Fantastic result and many thanks to them.</p> <p>JH outlined that FREG could possibly go for the next lot of funding (March) for things like wooden play equipment which had been mentioned as being wanted. Discussion over whether PC and FREG could both apply for the grants.</p> <p>Was mentioned that if there are any parents with skills/businesses which could help with things such as improvements to the wooden outdoor play equipment this would be appreciated. Other avenues for getting non-financial help was also discussed, including community payback (MH has a contact and going to look into it for things like outdoor painting).</p>
5.	<p>Parent Rep Feedback (MH)</p> <p>MH had a list of the questions raised by Parent Reps in advance</p> <p>Q1. From P3 – Who is replacing Mrs Pauline Smith? MH confirmed interviews were taking place Friday 22nd November with 6 strong candidates and expect appointment to be made that day. As have been able to go to supply/temp teaching list then shouldn't take such a long time to go through HR and would hope to have in post the week after Mrs Smith leaves on 2nd December. However, if the preferred candidate has other commitments, then agreed with Mrs Smith that she will stay on in a supply role as she is joining the supply list so no issues with cover. The post is temporary until summer as then will need to look at overall staffing needs depending on next year's intake etc.</p> <p>Q2. From P3 – What is being done about the drainage at the P3 classroom entrance? MH confirmed the janitor has investigated but solving the issue is more involved than initially thought. It's on the list of works to be done but is not a current priority. Teachers confirmed not causing an issue in class and everyone to look to support children on staying on the path. If it becomes more of an issue then can change to use the main doors.</p> <p>Q3 and 4. From P3 – What update is there on the provision of reading lists to support parents with home learning and could parents be updated regarding reading group level changes? MH confirmed that the school are currently gathering feedback from all stakeholders regarding homework, which includes reading, to review their approaches, and this is progressing as planned. MH does not wish to divert resources away from that work to make an interim change as we are focussed on the homework review at this time. The review should be completed by Dec and feedback shared in Jan 2025. MH wanted to better understand the purpose parents might seek to get from a reading groupings as the progression of reading is not linear. This means groups can change and be fluid. In some cases this will change because of the sound children are learning. Sometimes a 'simpler'</p>

	<p>text will be used to help build up pace and fluency. This means groups can change for a variety of reasons linked to the reading skills being planned, taught and assessed by the Teacher. A reading group is not an indicator of 'level' or progression for a child so group change information for parents would not support an understanding of progression. Reading is not measured by a child's group but is measured through their progress through the reading curriculum. So a change in group does not mean very much at all.</p> <p>Equally reading lists linked to school book levels would be difficult to maintain and update and would risk becoming too prescriptive. He is going to speak to Mrs Smith to review the purpose of a reading list as would like to encourage reading for pleasure at home rather than focus too much on levels. MH reiterated that reading at home should focus reading for pleasure, exploring texts that interest the children and enjoying reading time together. Fostering this love of reading and being read to is vital. There was a discussion on ideas for encouraging reading, and use of the library, booksellers and critically supporting children to explore texts and interests to foster the love of reading. MH reassured the meeting that any concerns around reading would be raised by the class Teacher and parents are welcome to contact their child's teacher directly if they wish to check in on reading progression.</p> <p>MH recognised that, as part of their work this year, the school will share how they deliver, track and support reading. As part of their Reading Framework development this year they are working to create a 'How we teach reading at Cambusbarrow' Guide for parents which will support understanding across the community.</p> <p>Q5. From P4 – Would the school be able to make parents aware of the music lessons offered in school? MH advised that any information received on music tuition had been circulated by email to parents previously although was not sure specifically on those offered within the school for P4 and up. He advised he would look into this further and ask the music tutor when they were next in but it might be that they didn't have spaces to take more on.</p> <p>A further observation was made in the meeting requesting MH to email round staff to remind them to ensure they were driving safely along Thompson Place. MH agreed he would do this.</p>
6.	<p>School Update (MH)</p> <p>Been working in school across a number of areas and looking to take feedback from pupils to find ways to improve their current set up e.g. recently been looking at Relationships (pupil/pupil and pupil/staff) and whilst most feedback has been positive there are some areas that needed improving, such as ensuring all pupils have trusted people to speak to so they've looked to improve this with further exercises the pupils have been doing. Going to continue this type of working in getting feedback and making required improvements.</p> <p>Homework surveys have been sent out to parents at parent evenings and reminder in newsletter with a reasonable response. Children and staff surveys also being completed with aim to finish these in December so can start looking at the feedback and implementing measures in response in January.</p>

	<p>Been really busy with activities in school – this week is Book Week (incl. treasure hunt, children/teachers moving classes to share stories, pre-loved bookwork). Last week was anti-bullying week where P2 and P4 ran assemblies.</p> <p>School estate – lights in the hall have been replaced which has made a big improvement, janitor removed stile from front garden as needing repaired and not much in use, leaves being cleared from grounds, paint purchased for the outdoor sheds.</p> <p>Noted again about the school mural which a grandparent of school child has offered to do and suggested this person contact the school to discuss.</p>
7.	<p>Nursery Update (CS)</p> <p>Been working to establish a family and community group with nursery and currently the children are working with Martin from ‘Wood Sticks’ to learn wood skills. Also been doing gardening skills and working with a community member to help do their garden for them. They are keen to make connections with other community groups – suggestions were made for Needle&Natter and also church coffee morning.</p> <p>Wheelie Wednesdays are being run for children to improve bike skills. Bike Doctor was in and serviced all the bikes but did identify that the helmets needed replacing so looking to fundraise to do this. Working with the janitor to make the bike shelter more accessible.</p>
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>None</p>
9.	<p>Dates of Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 6th February 2025</p>