

DUNBLANE PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held 30th May 2023

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (14th March 2023) and matters arising
3. Head Teacher Report
4. Treasurer Update
5. Fundraising Group Update
6. Rotary Grant
7. Book Bags
8. Spring Clean
9. Amphitheatre / Daily Mile track estimates
10. Volunteers to meet with The Dunblane Community Council
11. Dates of Future Meetings

1. Welcome & Apologies

Present:

David Williams (Chair)	Lorraine Slabbert (Head)
Andrew Buchanan (Vice Chair)	Shirley Gallivan (Depute)
Lynsey Matthew (Secretary)	Ruth Allan (Depute)
Bob Charlesworth (Treasurer)	Ewan Kinnear
Lauren Freckleton (Member)	Mhairi Bowley

Alison Webster (Member)	Nicola Bonham
Nicola Black	Anneli Spence (Member)

Apologies from; Morag Sorbie

2.Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (14th March 2023) and matters arising

Minutes approved by David; seconded by Bob and no matters arising.

3. Headteacher Report:

See Appendix 1

David on behalf of the parent body wanted to thank all the staff for their efforts during the recent HMIE Inspection.

Lorraine reiterated that it was a positive experience and that they are looking forward to reading the published report.

Pupil Equity Funding:

Lorraine discussed the school's proposal for the PEF monies, outlining their intention to continue with their membership of Emotion Works, a resource for staff to use universally to support mental health and well-being of children within school. It is also the intention of the school to spend most of the funds on a support for learning assistant who will target children who are in our school who potentially have their attainment and achievement affected by poverty.

The consensus from the Parent Council was that these proposals seem to strike a balance between universal support, through the Emotion Works resource and a more targeted support, through the employment of an SFL Assistant.

4.Treasurer's Update

See Appendix 2

Main focus of discussions was related to the up-and-coming summer school fete and the logistics of handling large sums of cash and how best to ensure that the terms of the insurance policy are adhered to.

Where possible the Fundraising group have and will continue to encourage cashless transactions, by using the Sum Up machines and utilising the online store that Lauren has created so things link raffle tickets etc, can be purchased online via a link that is sent out to parents.

5. Fundraising Group Update:

Lauren Freckleton will be standing down from the Fundraising Group at the end of this session. David wanted to thank Lauren on behalf of the parent body for all her incredible hard work over the last seven years. She has undoubtedly been monumental in helping to raise a huge amount of money for the school which has in turn benefited so many children.

Lauren has been working with members of the fundraising group to break down the jobs within her role in preparation for passing them on.

6. Rotary Grant:

The money from the Rotary Grant has now been deposited into the school funds and has been successfully spent to help purchase equipment to be used in the playground and stored in the new outside container.

7. Book Bags:

As in previous years the Parent Council have purchased book bags for the new P1's. As there are 48 of them, the total cost plus VAT is £288. The Parent Council will honour this once again for the coming session.

8. Spring Clean:

The April spring clean was well attended and it has been felt that off the back of its success that it would be an idea to make it more of a regular thing. Discussion continued regarding the format used by Bridge of Allan Primary, where volunteers from the wider community come on a regular basis to tend to the grounds of the school. Lorraine is happy to email the Head Teacher at Bridge of Allan Primary to gain further information and we will revisit this next session.

9. Amphitheatre and Daily Mile tracks:

Estimates have been obtained by the school from the Council contractor Gilchrist. The Amphitheatre works would include removing the existing wooden structure on the hill opposite the P1/2 playground and replacing it. This is coming in at roughly £3000. In addition, estimates were obtained for removing the bridge on the daily mile track because of ongoing maintenance costs and replacing it with a track. This is coming in at around £6000.

The Fundraising group have sent out word to the parent body that our focus for fundraising at the school summer fete this year will be to continue to raise funds for enhancing the outdoor space, with the above two projects in mind.

10. Volunteers to meet with the Dunblane Community Council:

See Appendix 3

The Dunblane Community Council is trying to develop a Local Place Plan which would be a community-based vision for the development and use of land in Dunblane. To carry this out the DCC needs to get as many community groups as possible to give their views. Examples of topics for the school would be how to improve access to DPS or how to use the school grounds more efficiently. If this is something that you would like to be involved in, please contact the Pupil Council Secretary directly and they will pass on your details to the DCC.

11. Dates of Future Meetings:

Thursday 14th September

Tuesday 3rd October AGM

AOB:

P7 Photographs – Ruth spoke about the possibility of organising a graduation gift for the p7 leavers. She approached Whyler photos who have said that an individual photograph would usually be £12 but they have said they could do a deal for £5.50 each. This would total £400 for all P7 leavers. It was felt by the Parent Council that such a graduation gift would be a lovely record of the children’s time at DPS and as it would be gifted the costs would not be on the families. Motion carried.

Action - Bob will get the cheques raised.

School Trips – there was a discussion regarding school trips. Since covid the school have not participated in any external school trips and the Parent Council were looking to gain some feedback as to why this is the case. Lorraine has said that the decision to not facilitate any school trips this session has been financially driven. Due to the rising costs of buses, costing around £450 per coach and rising costs for families in general it has been felt that running school trips at this time is not doable. This is something that will be revisited again next session. The Parent Council are also keen to assist in any way they can, either by adding to the Hardship fund to cover costs or by subsidising transport.

Parent Pay – due to the move to become a cashless school, it was raised that often payments remain outstanding on Parent pay. There are obviously many reasons that a family have not made requested payments, but it was also felt that on many occasions such requests have been missed by families, and it was discussed if there was some method of enabling a notification of some kind to remind families.

Sports Day – this session the school are please to be able to invite families to attend Sports Day for the first time in three years. It was raised that unlike models in previous years, parents will be invited to attend the potted sports part of the day and “competitive races” will be carried out by class teachers at other points during the school day. It was raised by the Parent Council that going forward it would be good to have a discussion on the format of the day and whether families may be able to attend the “races” element as they have done in the past.

