

# Fintry Primary School Parent Council Minutes



9th November 2023  
6:45pm, Fintry Primary School

Present:  
Richard Burrell, Emma Parry, Lynsey Laidlaw, Amy Kennedy, Jamie Turner, Mairead Cameron, Mrs Gibb, Mrs Beattie

Topic	Presenter
<p><b>Welcome &amp; apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies: Jennifer Campbell, Louise Macmillan, Kirsty Jackson, Tilly Klein, Ruth James, Laura Hansom, Mhairi Robertson, Stephen Robertson, Claire Kennedy, Mim Emerton, Pauline Mayo, Julie Flisch</p>	Richard Burrell
<p><b>Chair's update</b></p> <p><b>Halloween Disco</b> - great event - almost full turnout from pupils. Thanks to Amy for organising a fantastic disco.</p> <p><b>Scarecrow trail</b> - 37 scarecrows - really good show. Awaiting update on amounts raised. Mrs Gibb asked if the school could do their scarecrow next year.</p> <p><b>School improvements group</b> - A group of parents have said that they are interested in supporting with school improvements. Names will be passed onto Mrs Gibb.</p> <p>Need to encourage as many families and community members to complete the Stirling Council survey about cuts - some ideas to save costs include shortening the primary school week and reducing ASN support.</p> <p><b>Reviewing Actions from last meeting</b></p> <p>Discussion around <b>Daily Mile path</b> and the need to add additional costs to be held back in funding to cover yearly costs for this.</p> <p><b>Childrens' proposals</b> were raised (discussed in previous meeting). The most likely option is to add picnic benches outside for children to eat packed</p>	Richard Burrell

<p>lunches outside, so school will be looking for financial support to pay for benches. Approximate cost - £200/bench.</p> <p><b>Outdoor chill/reading area</b> - idea to choose an area and put some waterproof cushions etc. Approximate cost - £500</p> <p><b>ACTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Parent Council to put message out to parents/carers/community to see if any links with getting good costs on picnic benches/items for chill out area</b></li> <li>● <b>Ask Lynne to send out Stirling Council survey about proposed cuts to all parents/carers to encourage them to fill it out</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/stirling-council-budget">https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/stirling-council-budget</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Treasurer's update</b></p> <p>£6,328.70 in account</p> <p>£5,078.70 in account (taking off money for daily mile being held back)</p> <p>£507.44 inflatable course</p> <p>£61 made from Halloween disco - minimal cost due to donations</p> <p>Scarecrow trail - awaiting amount fundraised</p> <p>Expenditure - £20 gambling license</p> <p>£35.54 tennis balls</p>	<p>Lynsey Laidlaw</p>
<p><b>Fundraising update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reminder to families to use Easy Fundraising app/website for Christmas shopping if possible as this is an easy way to raise additional funds for school</li> <li>● Pizza pop-up idea: Wait for Spring 2024 for this. Do this on an order in advance basis - when weather improves.</li> <li>● Xmas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Amy will need to ask for volunteers for ticket selling</li> <li>○ Jot form has an expense attached to it but a lot of online ticket sales through this so we need the premium costs (approx £40/month upgrade). Amy will try and re-use last year's jot form</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Amy Kennedy</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Amy has contacted local businesses for prizes for this year's raffle</li> <li>○ Santa visit on 17th Dec to the village</li> <li>○ Could do raffle draw after to give more time to sell tickets - towards end of term 22nd Dec</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Xmas movie night possibility - Mrs Gibb said it would be hard to have staff here at that time of year. Possibility if Lisa is prepared to lock up then school staff would not need to be here. Discussion that it might be too late to organise for this Xmas - maybe try and organise for next year. Possible £1 donation from children attending.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Put a request out to whole school for raffle prizes - even small items that can be grouped into a hamper</b></li> <li>● <b>Lynne to send reminder to parents in weekly update to send reminder to try and use Easy Fundraising update</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>School funding requests</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Transport to Christmas pantomime: £200 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ £10 per ticket for pantomime</li> <li>○ Children will be asked to bring packed lunches with them</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Education City subscription:£455 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ School has looked at using other apps but they weren't available for school Chromebooks.</li> <li>○ Discussion about whether we should pay for 3 years and see if this saves money.</li> <li>○ 3 years is 25% discount (£1462.50 for four years) which is £366/year over 4 years</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>ACTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Parent council will pay £200 for transport costs</b></li> <li>● <b>Mrs Gibb will look into Education City subscription costs for 3 years and let FPC know the costs so council can decide.</b></li> </ul>	Mrs Gibb
<p><b>Headteacher's update</b></p> <p><b>School improvement plan</b> - self evaluation happening in the school at the moment. Fintry PS will be having self evaluations validated by other Head Teachers in March 2024. Evidence gathering to back up 'very good' self</p>	Mrs Gibb

evaluation. Fintry PS looking at vision, values and aims - poster that is sent out to families. These need reviewing every 4 years. At parents' evening values will be asked about when people are coming to parent consultations. Parent/carer/pupil focus groups will be required as part of evaluation process around 11/12 March 2024. It is likely the school will have an inspection early next year.

**Technology** - Is there any scope to having one new iPad for each class? School has 10 iPads which are quite old now so could do with an updated iPad. The iPad has additional benefits over the Google Chromebooks. These would need to be purchased via Stirling Council (approx £350/iPad). Discussion that we could possibly do a targeted fundraiser for this - to raise money specifically for the iPads.

**Budget update:**

Small budget from Stirling Council/year to fund learning resources. Need to keep budget for 'response repairs' e.g. when CCTV camera needs fixing, broken doors etc. No IT budget and not a great deal of budget available at the moment.

**Talk for writing** - all staff have had training on this and using this approach with children.

Mrs Gibb thanked the FPC for supporting schools with funds.

**Need new/more books in school library** - Discussion about whether people in the village could be asked to contribute books for the school library.

**Telephone Tree** - trying to put this in place again. Contacting families if school is closed/some sort of emergency.

**Community involvement** - made Xmas cards for the community that invites them to the dress rehearsal for Xmas pantomime. Gifts will be given at Xmas lunch in the community. Will ask parents for support with this on Tuesday 12th Dec.

**Nursery update:** Nursery is again on the list for budget cuts by Stirling Council. Nursery is almost full at the moment in terms of sessions used.

**Meeting on 15th Nov at Balfron High** - Mairead will attend this meeting. Issue has been raised with Councillor again. Proposal is for 9am to 3pm. Possibility for 2 year old places. Need to see around enrolment time how many children planning on enrolling. Laura Hansom is organising a promotional video for the nursery - possibly January 2024 to promote nursery more widely. Mairead suggested an Open Evening for the nursery to help parents/carers decide. Mrs Gibb will discuss with nursery. Need to let parents/carers know that Balfron nursery will bridge the gap in Summer.

**Woodland** - Mrs Gibb spoke to Fintry Development Trust about taking over the land. Kate needs more info on the space, what school would be using it for. Idea to re-brand the space as an outdoor classroom. Mrs Gibb sent onto Stirling Council and they have asked for another meeting to discuss further. Might be possibility for parent representatives to go to this meeting. FDT would potentially take on tree maintenance costs. Stirling Council have done some maintenance for trees near to school.

**Activities club** - Parent council need to keep this on the agenda for next term meeting. Provision is fine until June 2024, but we need to consider what happens after this time. Need to make sure we are future-proofing the activities club after school. Need to have some guarantee/consistency for parents/carers. Idea of having a satellite club linked to Killlearn was discussed.

**Intake** - 11 potential intake for P1 next year to FPS.

### **ACTION**

- **FPC will fund the Education City subscription for 4 years**
- **Amy to explore fundraising opportunities specifically for iPads (possibly Xmas raffle to be used to raise money for this)**
- **Explore grant applications for outdoor picnic benches**
- **Ask Lynne to put a box for book donations from families (Maired will put comms out on Fintry Buddies about this)**
- **Explore if it's possible to do Amazon wish list for books/school supplies (teachers do a wishlist for their class) in future**
- **Maired on the book drive - asking on Fintry Buddies if anyone has any books for nursery/P1-7 in good condition**
- **Lynne will be contacting parents to get permission to take part in the telephone tree**
- **See if any parents can help in dress rehearsal on 12th Dec in daytime (Mrs Gibb will put out request).**
- **Mrs Gibb will report back after Stirling Council meeting at end of November about Outdoor Classroom woodland.**
- **Revisit activities club in the next meeting next term (discuss getting working group together to sort this)**

<p><b>General Q &amp; A</b></p> <p><b>-School uniform supplier</b></p> <p>Amy discussed that a number of parents have said that quality isn't as good this year from BE Uniforms and service has been very poor. Do we need to use this supplier or can we move elsewhere? Mrs Gibb said they use a different supplier in Bychlavie and Richard's school use Scot Crest, so there may be other suppliers to explore.</p> <p><b>-Multi court surface</b></p> <p>Mrs Gibb has chased up Stirling Council for getting a new skin for this and will chase up again.</p> <p><b>Xmas show</b></p> <p>Request from families for details about any costumes needed to be sent out from school to families with as much notice as possible. Mrs Gibb said this will be sent to parents in next 2 weeks.</p> <p><b>ACTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs Gibb to find out suppliers for Bychlavie and ask for costs and samples</li> <li>• Richard to find out about Scot Crest supplier</li> <li>• Once a term to put out pre-loved uniform - e.g. at parent teacher evening/concert. Donation box for optional donations. Mrs Gibb to discuss when best for this to happen and see if P7 can support. School will need parent volunteers for this.</li> <li>• Mrs Gibb will chase up Council about multi-court re-skin.</li> </ul>	All
<p>Next meeting details</p> <p><b>ACTION</b></p> <p>Ask families if they want to attend online or in-person for next meeting</p>	<p>8th Feb 2024</p> <p>6:45pm</p> <p>Online or</p> <p>In-person TBC</p>

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