

**MINUTES of Carmondean Parent Council Meeting held on Wednesday,
4th March, 2020**

Present: Gillian Brunt/Laura Sneddon - Joint Chair
Matt Shanks - DHT
Claire Pringle - Acting PT
Aileen Jamieson - Class Teacher
Fiona Harding - PSW (Minutes)

INTRODUCTION

Gillian Brunt thanked everyone present for their attendance. Apology had been received from Headteacher.

UNIFORM UPDATE

GB fed back that the prospective new supplier from 13 Design had stated he was reluctant to take on any proposed embroidery work on our new logo, as he already works closely with our current supplier Borders. He would, however, be prepared to do any printing work required i.e. for book bags etc.

BIKE RACKS

No movement on this. The I Bike Officer has been contacted but so far nothing to report.

PARENTS AS PARTNERS

DHT shared a document on parental engagement outlining information from Education Scotland on Parents as Partners which highlights the purpose and role of the Parent Council. MS emphasised how important it is that people realise that PC meetings are mainly for the discussion of school policies and not, as some people assume, for the discussion of individual matters relating to pupils, families or school staff as all such matters should be referred to the Headteacher in the first instance. The deadline for Government consultation on parental engagement is 30th April. GB also shared a document from Bathgate Academy's Parent Council, showing how, by supporting the school's PC, parents can engage in their child's learning. She will liaise with her contact there to get further information for next meeting.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Question from GB on behalf of a parent wishing to know what time children from the Breakfast Club are sent outside in the morning and is there a member of staff out with them. School staff were able to clarify that most children who attend the club are allowed outside from 8.30, although there will always be latecomers and there is always a supervisor outside with them.

COFFEE MORNING

Scheduled for this coming Friday. Group call has been sent out as a reminder. These meetings would be the ideal time for parents to bring any individual matters to the fore. PC and PSA to publish a joint newsletter in May in the hope this engages more parental interest.

NEW APP

DHT shared a new app - School App for Parents - where all school information i.e. activities, trips, school calendar, school handbook, meetings, parent consultations etc., is stored and is accessible on this one App. It is linked to the Blog as well and was brought to the school's attention by a staff member who has access to similar information through having a child at DCHS. MS asked for views on taking this on and all agreed it would be beneficial to the parents/carers as all information is centralised in the one place. Grandparents and childminders can also access this site. The school has to make a decision before Friday and then Mrs Wotherspoon and Mrs McLean will undertake the admin work required. The fee is on a year to year basis.

PARKING PROBLEM

LS raised the point of a complaint on the Parents' FB Page about the misuse of parking areas within the surrounding community close to the school. Inconsiderate parking continues to be a problem and although we have sent out letters in the past, the school does not have authority to police parking in the area.