

Paradykes Parent Council

AGENDA for Meeting 06/10/21

Agenda 06/10/2021		
1	Welcome	RS
2	Attendance/Introductions	All
3	Apologies	All
4	Approval of minutes of previous meeting	RS
5	Updates on actions from previous meeting	RS
6	Treasurer's Report	FT
7	Head Teacher's Report including Attainment Information, Homework Consultation	HR/LS
8	Fundraising/Social Events	RS
9	School Lunches	RS
10	Nursey Learning Journals	NR
11	AOB – School Photos, Holiday Consultation, New High School, Parking	RS
12	Date of Next Meeting	RS

MINUTES from Meeting 06/10/2021

2.Attendees:	Ruth Smith (Co-chair), Alison Bowman, (Co-chair), Fiona Taylor (Co-treasurer), Jennifer Hurst (Co-treasurer), Fin Speedie (Secretary), Toni Denholm, Claire Moffat, Suzanne Connolly, Laura Hay, Emma Hay, Helen Reed (Acting Head Teacher), Jennifer Sommerville (Acting Depute Head Teacher), Lyndsey Stewart (Principal Teacher), Charlotte Roberts (Class Teacher), Kirsty MacKenzie (Class Teacher) , James Stirling (Class Teacher).
3.Apologies:	Ester Vizcay, Jacky Robertson, Laura Devlin, Gillian MacDonald, Nicola Robertson, Laura Collin
Minutes:	Fin Speedie
Distribution:	To all attendees, apologies & Mailing List.

06/10/21

- 1. Introductions** – Ruth introduced herself as one of the newly elected co-chairs and as the chair for this meeting. The other office bearers and school staff presented were also introduced.

4. **Approval of Minutes from previous meeting** – The minutes were approved by Alison Bowman and seconded by Fiona Taylor, with an amendment that the actions were for completion in 2021 rather than 2022.

5 **Update on Actions**

Action 1 – *Hoodie supplier* – To be carried forward and discussed in the Spring. **(Action 1)**

Action 2 – *Catch up swimming, skiing, bikeability sessions* – Swimming; no further info. Skiing; P6 in Nov, P7 in March, School session 2022/23 current P4 & P5 will be offered lessons. Bikeability; See below.

Action 3 – *Bikeability* - 3 parents have volunteered and are awaiting training dates. No need to purchase in classes now.

Action 4 – *Social Events Dates* – School have emailed dates for social events later in the year (Easter Party & Movie Night). Halloween event can't happen but an in-school scavenger hunt planned. School will look at an event for P3 & P4 who would usually attend this event.

Action 5 – *Attainment* – Added to this agenda (included in Head Teacher Report)

6 **Treasurer's Report**

Fiona presented her report as follows;

At the last meeting in August Jennifer advised the Annual report would be available at the next meeting. Should anyone wish to see it, this is available on request, by e-mailing the Parent Council. There hasn't been too much movement since our last meeting on the 24th August, however, payments are coming in fast for the IQ Christmas Cards.

As of 5th October we had £2,167.73 in the bank.

Incomings have been:

£32 from the school for the replacement P7 Hooded Jumpers

£98.70 from Bags to school for the clothes donations

£364.50 from parents/carers regarding the IQ Christmas card orders (BACS & Cheques banked via the app)

Outgoings since the AGM and over summer have been minimal with only the following:

· £32.00 to PPE for the replacement P7 Hooded Jumpers

I am expecting more payments in, by cash/Bacs/Cheque for the IQ Cards over the next week which will be reflected in the next meetings report. The invoice from IQ Cards was received at the start of December last year so the funds received for the Christmas Cards will not be touched until we know the invoice amount, when we receive this invoice we will be able to identify the amount Parent Council will receive from these orders and I will report on this at the meeting after I have the information.

Therefore, excluding the IQ Cards payments, the funds currently "available" are £1,803.23.

Thank you

Fiona

7. **Acting Head Teacher's Report –**

Helen presented her report as follows;

1. Attainment

PowerPoint

2. Homework (presented by Lyndsey)

PowerPoint

We are looking for a few parent volunteers to join our working party alongside a few teachers, in order to decide how to take home learning forward.

3. Residential

We are planning on taking our P7s to Benmore at the end of January - keep your fingers crossed! We are acutely aware of the short amount of time parents have to pay for the trip which is £325 this session. We are looking in to ways we can support our families who would struggle to pay this and the P7s will also carry out fundraising to pay for transport costs. If the Parent Council would be willing to pay half of the transport costs, as in previous years, we would be extremely grateful. We intend to have an information session before Christmas for P7 parents and then have a session for P6 parents after Christmas

4. Skiing

We have been in touch with Hillend about skiing. We have our usual slot in March and we also asked for more slots to 'catch up'. They have offered us a six week block in November. The plan is to take our P6s in November and our P7s in March. Then next session, we will take our current P5s and the new P5s (current P4s).

5. Bikeability

We have had 3 parent volunteers come forward for Bikeability. I have emailed Campbell Orr, who supports the programme, to ask if parents can take part in training and when the next training sessions will be.

6. Parent Consultations

We are really looking forward to our parent consultations next week. 84% of children have had an appointment arranged through the booking system which we are delighted with! The office have now begun to call parents who have not made an appointment to make sure that they are offered one.

7. Photographs

We have been in touch with Tempest about photographs. They have advised that they generally take class group ones in the Spring/Summer and are doing individual ones just now. Parents have a choice of digital images and prints packages string from £6.50 for a digital image to phone and £7.50 for desk and wallet prints, many more packs and framed products are available. The vista prints start at £16 for a print in a tube and class groups start at £12.50 for a 7x5 print in a display mount with many other options available.

8. Other bits and pieces!

Lunches will be ordered through ParentPay for our P1s – P4s. P5s – P7s who are entitled to a free school meal will continue to receive a payment from Midlothian for a packed lunch.

We now have two new disabled spaces at the back of the school.

The HT position will be advertised after the October break.

Discussion which followed included; Ruth thanked both Helen and Lyndsey for their informative powerpoint presentations. If parents are interested in joining the Homework working group they can email L.Stewart5@midlothian.education Helen made clear that the plan was to have some type of homework in place but the details have not been decided. P7 parents had expressed concern that children would move to high school without experience of homework.

It was decided to run a Survey Monkey to gauge interest in School Photographs this year and we will feed back to school **(Action 2)**

Questions arose around Benmore. Will families get their deposits back if restrictions change or if there's really bad weather? Helen said the school still have the deposits at the moment but she will confirm with Benmore about if restrictions were to chance. **(Action 3)** Benmore goes ahead in all weathers so no money back for bad weather. There is to be an information evening for P7 parents soon and one for P6s after Christmas to give them a much longer time to decide and pay up money. Parent Council agreed to fund half the cost of the bus with the rest paid for by fundraising. **(Action 4)**

8. **Fundraising/Social Events**

The possibility of an outdoor Christmas Fayre was discussed, but it was agreed that restrictions and weather might make this difficult. We discussed the idea of a class raffle with tickets being sent home with children to sell. This would require our small lottery licence to be updated and a parent agreed to fund the cost of this £20. **(Action 5)** We will confirm if this will go ahead at our next meeting once

	<p>we know more about restrictions. Other suggestions were 'Raisin' Money by sending home raisin boxes and asking for them back filled with coins. Mr Stirling suggested a group of parents working with children to fundraise. Sponsored events such as Iron7s can raise a considerable amount too. No firm decisions were made on what events to go ahead with and it was agreed that when we have a specific focus to our fundraising it's easier to promote.</p> <p>School asked if parent council would organise the Easter Party with teachers helping on the night. This was agreed. (Action 6)</p>
9.	<p>School Lunches</p> <p>Some questions from parents had arisen around lunches which Helen addressed. When will Parent Pay start for ordering? 1st Nov (gives a week back after the break). Why are children not using dining hall? It's working well in classes and they would have to face one way with the doors open. Will older children be able to get hot lunches over winter? Not yet, those entitled to free school meals are getting vouchers to cover cost of packed lunches.</p>
10.	<p>Nursery Learning Journals</p> <p>Jennifer was ready to update about Learning Journals but as time was running out and Nicola who had put item on agenda wasn't able to attend it was decided to carry forward to our next meeting. (Action 7)</p>
9.	<p>AOB</p> <p>School Photos Covered in Helen's report above.</p> <p>Holiday Consultation The feedback from PPS families has been sent in but no communication as yet. School will let families know as soon as they hear the result of the consultation.</p> <p>New High School Fin gave a brief outline on the history of the plans for the new high school which will become the new catchment high school for our school, as not everyone was aware. We had been represented at the original consultation in 2016 where it was decided to locate the school on the A701 corridor to serve Roslin, Bilston & Loanhead. There have been recent media reports that the location discussed then is not going ahead and a further away location has been purchased by the Council. Those parents with younger children in particular are concerned at the lack of information and it was agreed to invite our local cllrs to speak at our next meeting. (Action 8)</p> <p>Parking Can parents be reminded not to park next to the wee shops as this is not parking for the school. Helen will put in the next Paradykes Post. (Action 9)</p>
10	<p>Date of next meeting Tuesday 16th November, 7.30pm on Zoom</p>

Actions		Owner	Target Date
06/10/2021			
1	Discuss hoodie supplier/design for 2022/2023	JH/All	Mar 2022
2	Create Survey Monkey to gauge interest in school photographs this year	FS	Oct 2021
3	Confirm if families would get their money back from Benmore deposit if restrictions were to change.	HR	Nov 2021
4	Pay for half the cost of the Benmore Bus	FT/JH	Jan 2022
5	Update small lottery licence	RS	Dec 2021

6	Organise Easter Disco	All	Mar 2022
7	Put Nursery Learning Journals on the agenda for our next meeting	RS/AB/NR	Nov 2021
8	Invite Cllrs Parry, Winchester and Imrie to our next meeting to discuss new high school	FS	Nov 2021
9	Remind about appropriate parking in next Paradykes Post	HR	Oct 2021