

**Minutes: Tynewater Primary School - Parent Council (PC) AGM**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 from 6.30pm – 7.30pm**

**Online Teams Meeting**

**\*Action point (\*AP)**

1) Welcome and apologies (6:30)

Apologies: Aurora Mancini AM (Treasurer), Nicky Faux, Matt Elliot, Laura Else, Sally Barlow  
Present: Emma Diffley ED (Chair), Julia Critchley JC (Secretary), Douglas Lawson DL, Isobel Leonard IL (P6 teacher), Nicola White NW, Jane Brown, Anna Davanna AD, Claire Lorimer CL, Mairi Milne MM, Stevie Blackwood SB, Christina Thompson, Vicky Watkins, Sana Malik, Fiona Hayes

2) Minutes of last meeting/Outstanding Actions (6:35)

- (1) The minutes of the previous minutes were accepted
- (2) Outstanding actions:
  - (a) No outstanding actions from previous meeting

3) Chairperson's Report (6:45)

- a. ED summarised the past 12 months as another strange year due to Covid and the resulting difficulties with arranging activities involving large gatherings. A formal report will follow which includes a summary of the activities that were able to go ahead.
- b. The PC is in progress of establishing a regular gardening group.
- c. There has been much deliberation regards how best to spend PC funds. Consideration of funding for outdoor playground markings, playground equipment is still on going. PC has funded new library bags and also a summer treat of ice creams for all the children. PC took the decision in the summer term to no longer contribute towards the cost of P7 uniforms.
- d. ED has been attending the Midlothian Council parent council chairs meetings. The meetings occur approximately 1-2x per term. ED really appreciates all feedback we can share with her as Tynewater PS parents/carers. Recent meetings have focussed on Scottish education reform of the curriculum for excellence.
- e. On behalf of the PC and in response to request from parents, ED had investigated options with the current ASC/breakfast clubs for Friday PM cover. Unfortunately so far this is not possible due to staffing constraints but will be revisited later in the school year.
- f. £350 raised by this years Xmas card designs. Big thanks to CL for organising this. New company is much better logistically and having the children do the designs in class has been a real boost. Thanks for the school for facilitating this.

4) Treasurer's Report (6:55)

- a. AM sent her apologies and Treasurer's report to follow

5) Membership (7:00)

- a. Sally Barlow, Kirstie Broadfoot and Annabel Kershaw have decided to step down. ED thanked them for all their hard work and contributions to the PC.
- b. Welcome to new members Mairi Milne and Stevie Blackwood. Also welcome to Sana Malik who recently joined the PC.
- c. Current Secretary (JC), treasurer (AM) and Chair (ED) are happy to continue in current roles and positions are uncontested.

6) Promotion of the Parent Council (7:15)

- a. ED invites the floor to suggest ways in which we can improve our profile.
- b. CL notes that the PC noticeboard is a great potential space to advertise/promote the PC. To clarify this noticeboard is next to the entrance/exit at the P4/5/6/7 end of the school building nearest the main playground gates.
- c. NW mentioned the recent PC social event at the Forrester's and wondered about having more friendly social events to encourage people to join. Specifically events in the playground at pick up as the evening events are not accessible to all.
- d. DL updated the PC that we are now allowed to meet in the school building. He highlighted the next parent pupil meetings that will be in February should be back to face-to-face. If so then we could have an event at those evenings. DL also suggested we could use the community room to have drop in coffee/tea sessions just before pick up.
- e. MM suggested that these drop in sessions might work better if there was a date planned in advance and there was a structure to them.
- f. JC suggested adding in bake sales to the proposed drop in sessions and the parent teacher meetings
- g. SB suggested Friday might be a good day to have drop in event as often a better day for working parents. Perhaps before pick up.
- h. ED notified that the PC is going to contribute to Pathhead Village Christmas fair and plans are underway. Fair will be 11 – 5 on Saturday 18/12/21
- i. ED asked DL when parents would be allowed back in to assembly. DL responded that uncertain but as soon as we are allowed. Staff and children all very keen for assembly back in the hall rather than on Teams.

13) Date of next meeting and close (1930)

1. ED asked DL if Friday am meetings in school would be possible for PC meetings in order that the 4 heads are allowed to attend the meetings. General consensus that this is a good idea. From next term then meetings will alternate Friday mornings and weekday evenings.

Next meeting: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 1830 – 1930 and will be online