



Bruntsfield Primary School Parent Council

Minutes

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING March 15th 2017

Draft until approved at next PC meeting

Present	David Urch (DU), Mark Roberts (MR), Carol Kyle (CK), , Barbora Skarabela (BS), Isobel Paul, Pauline Ah-Hot, Paul Kerr, Natalie Barrowman, Michelle Brown, Elizabeth Tennet, Bridget Kearney , Melanie Main (MM), David Rowley, Bill Dorman, Victoria Coates, Andrea Thomson, Sam Hart (SH)	
Item		Action
1	<p>Welcome and Chair's introductory comments MR welcomed Councillor Melanie Main to the meeting</p> <p>Apologies Sarah Cran, Sarah Macrae, Loukia Koutsoventi, Jonathan Pryce (JP), Holly Provan</p>	
2	<p>Approval Of Minutes from January 31st 2017 Approved</p>	
3	<p>Matters arising (not covered elsewhere in the agenda)</p> <p>School crossing review. There is still no update as yet, and it is therefore assumed that BPS will not be gaining any additional hours for School crossings.</p> <p>Homework The draft of the new homework policy is now on the web site https://bruntsfieldprimaryschool.com/school-policies/. CK would welcome feedback.</p>	
4	<p>New Boroughmuir High School The scale of issue regards roll for secondary schools is still present (School roll projections are available on the Council web site). The proposed Darroch Annexe solution (6th year "college" for both Boroughmuir High School and James Gillespie's High School) is proving to be more expensive than first thought, and there are concerns about moving 6th years away from the main school. Headteachers are currently trying to find alternative solutions. MM suggests that the PC actively seeks up-to-date information from the council. MR to write directly to the Executive Director for Children and Families for an accurate review of the current position and on-going</p>	MR

	<p>updates.</p> <p>JP requested additional support from the PC on New School Subgroup of Boroughmuir Parent Council. Anyone interested to contact MR or JP.</p> <p>Viewforth bridge It is likely that the council's next step towards reviewing use of Viewforth bridge will be an informal consultation, followed by a formal consultation, and will include traffic modelling to predict impact of the bridge closure. MR to raise PC's concerns about potential conflict between pupil footfall and traffic routes in the letter to Executive Director.</p>	MR
5	<p>Play ground update</p> <p>Pea gravel There have been some concerns with the pea gravel with regard to pupil safety and damage to clothing and shoes. CK listed the following strategies to reduce this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sonic cat repellents have been installed to keep the cats away from the area, and seem to be working well. • The school has purchased new 'industrial' sized shoe brushes with handles the pupils can hold onto, and pupils are welcome to bring in outdoor shoes and clothes if parents wish. • CK is applying to put a border around the pea gravel to help contain it in a discrete area. <p>If parents have any other ideas as to reduce the effect of playing in the pea gravel, please let CK know.</p> <p>CK confirmed that the pea gravel is the RoSPA preferred surface for playgrounds as it reduces children's speeds. Despite some isolated incidents, it appears to be working well for reducing injury in the playground (accidents and injuries are recorded and incidence has fallen in the playground since the new surface was introduced).</p> <p>There is some damage to the covered mounds, and CK will continue to pursue P1 (provider) to resolve this.</p>	CK
6	<p>Clubs update Change to door keeper arrangements. The previous door keeper left before the February half-term break. Kidzcare stepped in at very short notice to provide door keeping cover which is essential to allow PC-run clubs to continue to operate. Door keeping cover is now in place until the end of the summer. The PC is very grateful to Kidzcare for their help and support.</p> <p>The system in place is:- After a club finishes, the club tutor will take children to the door, and the door keeper will gather the children, and release them according to</p>	

	<p>whether they are listed to be; picked up by a parent, go to Kidzcare or allowed to walk home. To facilitate this, parents are asked to wait for children after clubs outside the school. This helps the school with managing the number and identity of people inside the school which is important from a fire perspective.</p> <p>This system is posing some occasional issues with monitoring the release of children. The club coordinators will remind tutors to bring children to the door, and request door keepers to double check the list as to whether children should be released without parents present. PC will also explore whether there is a need for more than one door keeper to cover busy changeover times, and we ask parents to be as punctual as possible for drop off and pick up.</p> <p>Clubs organisers will also review scheduling of clubs for the next (2017-18) school year.</p>	PK/SM
7	<p>Finance overview</p> <p>Events No events have taken place since the last meeting. There have been some additional expenses for the Winter Fair, but profit was still greater than last year.</p> <p>The forecast for July is currently £10,109 (dependent upon Fete income). We are very grateful for parents who have volunteered for key events roles to date. Please can parents make themselves known to the PC if they are happy to help out with the Fete.</p> <p>Quiz night is forthcoming (23rd March)</p> <p>Clubs The bank balance for the clubs at 12/3/17 was £41,076.75. Information for viability for the summer term will be provided at the next meeting as we do not know yet the actual income from the registrations or the new costs from Kidzcare.</p>	
8	<p>Communication review DU has convened a small working group (SWG) to look at PC communications. SWG to draft a short paper to present a strategy for streamlining, improving and publicising methods of communication. The group will work alongside BPC and share good practice with the School.</p>	DU
9	<p>Big Learning-Co CK has been trying to ascertain from the Council how to allow Big Learning-Co to come and demonstrate their programme (Big Learning-Co provide high quality technology training, content and innovation projects into the curriculum). This should be forthcoming.</p>	DU/CK

10	<p>Headteacher's report</p> <p>Heating Issues have been isolated and engineers are continuing to work on repairing the heating in the School. There are significant challenges to get air and water temperature correct at present for the swimming pool.</p> <p>School Showcases P2s have had their showcase, and P5 Easter show is forthcoming</p> <p>Homelearning The choice activities grid is being developed, and will provide continuity from P1-P7. This will be available on the web site.</p> <p>Attainment Challenge Equity Funding (see http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Education/Schools/Raisingeducationalattainment for information):</p> <p>£39,600 has been allocated to the School for this. A variety of approaches will be used depending on each individual's needs, but will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Group teaching by a teacher • Additional support from a pupil support assistant • H&WB support – may be a partnership provider, e.g. speech and language etc. • Resources: tailored to each child's needs • Building Resilience support for pupils, parents and carers <p>School office Amelia who works in the School office is leaving at Easter. A new School Administrator post will be advertised.</p> <p>Room updates The computer suite is being split into two classrooms. The computer suite will move to Room 1. This was the School's preferred option and will facilitate 3 P1 and 3 P2 classes on the ground floor. This completes the move to a 21 class, three stream school.</p>	
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>Protecting our pupils on social media Parents are asked to avoid putting photos and video taken during School events on social media sites, especially if there is any chance any other child other than their own is captured.</p> <p>French speaking BS asked if the PC would like to continue to support the French programme in the School. Informal feedback on the programme has been excellent. Priorities for future fundraising support will be discussed at the next and future meetings</p>	

	<p>P3 Ceilidh; more volunteers are needed</p> <p>Parent council email addresses. Please change all email contacts for the Parent Council from @bruntsfield.org to @gmail.com. Emails sent to @bruntsfield.org are no longer being received.</p>	
12	<p>Dates of next meetings (start time 19.00) :</p> <p>Wednesday 17th May 2017</p> <p>Wednesday 14th June 2017</p> <p>Wednesday 30th August 2017</p> <p>AGM Wednesday 20th September 2017</p>	