

Comhairle nam Pàrant Taobh na Pàirce - Parent Council

Comhairle nam Pàrant - Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce

Meeting minutes

Date 13 November 2019

Agenda item	Detail	Decision	Action
Welcome and attendees	The meeting was called to order by the chairs (NLW and SS)		
Apologies	Heather McGibbon, James Eglinton		
Minutes of previous meeting	Approved by Laura Irvine & Anna Kinsella Matters arising from last meeting. Tash went through the actions and asked the associated group if the action was ongoing or had happened. Playground group - minor issues to be resolved and consultation- ongoing PC Website - ongoing Online Safety courses - happened Lost property policy - ongoing Mental Health group creation - happened Road Safety Group - lollypop person - ongoing		

	Events & Fundraising group creation - happened Lottery - ongoing		
Headteacher's update	• Pupil voice (PV) lona Brown (IB) gave a presentation on Pupil Voice which is part of a Scottish Government drive - How Good is OUR school? After discussion with the children, learners decided they were seeking greater input to school life. Each child from C1-C7 voted on their top 5 groups that they would like to be part of and this informed which group they would be part of.		
	The groups include: Green Team, STEM group, Road Safety group,Language and Culture group, Newspaper (Expressive arts,Library) and Sport and Food Group		
	Each group includes children from each year group and runs like a committee. PV helps with taking responsibility, managing time, working with others, solving problems, managing and being managed. The groups aim to meet twice a term.		
	Suggestion from a parent to advise parents which group their child is in to encourage dialogue was agreed. Iona would bring that forward.	Communicate to parents re Pupil Voice Groups	IB
Technology	Website - NLW confirmed that the new website has been created and populated. Final elements have been agreed on which should include a		

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	parent handbook. Should be ready by January. • Online Safety – Training courses for teachers to run next week by a parent.		
Policy and Governance	Phones are allowed in school but must be switched off and kept in bags or trays during the day. Smart watches also fall under this category. A parent suggested that iPhone Touch should also be included. There was a discussion about wifi and downloading i.e. children come to school with videos etc already downloaded. They are unable to access wifi at school. There was a discussion about how difficult it is to monitor this on the school bus. There was agreement that the contract that was sent home to C4-C7s regarding their use of electronic devices in school was gratefully received and was a good way to start a discussion at home about how this should work. Also, was a good chance to discuss the importance of signing a contract and what that meant etc. Some C4s have not received this form. To be checked with class teachers.		
ASN Support	Still looking for someone to take on a role as a co-ordinator. A parent suggested a self-support group for parents with children who have Additional Support Needs but someone would still be required to run this. Any concerns about ASN should be directed to pastoral care in the first instance.		

	This information was shared on parentmail but could be shared again.		
Reports from	Playground group		
working groups	Update from Katie Wight.		
	Lots of winter vegetable planting has happened along with some harvesting - a stir fry was made from the vegetables harvested!		
	Poppies were created for Remembrance Day.		
	Willow Dome may have to be relocated to give it a chance to grow.		
	There has been a noted increase in litter - possible to get a new bin?	New Litter bin	?
	Katie showed a document from the council 'A Vision for School Grounds'.		
	Re the playground and the funding available for use, there will be a consultation with staff, children & parents. Gardening group will have a consultation with classes first.		
	Consultation to be done before the christmas break, then will come the tendering phase. There is an unknown time frame for this. Ideally work would occur during the summer holidays.		
	Children will be asked to rate what is the most important thing for them in a new playground.		
	Open area, active area, enclosed area, sport area, gathering area, social area, growing area, loose parts and natural learning area are some suggestions.		

It was cleared up that the loose parts do continue to be used, they are usually taken out at lunchtimes and then tidied away afterwards.

Health, wellness & mental health

The group has been established. A question on how it can work best with the school and the Pupil Voice. Iona & Michelle to be put in contact together

Eco group

No specific update - The slogan for the eco cups to be decided shortly

Wraparound group

No specific update - Òganan now offer first aid classes

Lost Property

The new lost property group is working hard to try to contain the ever growing pile of lost property. There was a discussion of how long an unnamed item can be kept before given to charity. Roughly 3 weeks was suggested.

The lost property was on display at the parents consultations and the halloween party but not much was taken

How the named items should be dealt with was talked about. It was agreed that legible named items will go into a specific box, and every friday (once it has been sorted by the lost property team) the P7s will collect the box and redistribute the named items. Iona to speak to P7s and arrange a box. A

Co ordinate P7s and lost property ΙB

reiteration of how important it is that all items are named!

Road Safety.

There is now a Travel & Road Safety group on the Parent Council Facebook page which can be joined. It was set up to share thoughts on initiatives for better road safety in the environs of the school and to draft and implement an Active Travel plan.

Anyone with experience in surveys is needed at the moment.

There will be a new bike rack at the front of the school shortly.

Frank Henderson could not attend this meeting- City wide services manager for school transport.

There was a question about busing - whether it was true that bus drivers are unwilling to change pick up points on their route.

Another parent mentioned they had had a similar issue and were told they could just flag down the bus. Contact information for the bus company would be shared between parents.

Acoustics group

Julie & Rebecca gave some background of the issue for new parents. The building acoustics make it challenging to hear properly, spaces do not meet WHO standards. The Council pilot scheme for adding in sound panels has been going on for 3 years and seems unlikely to happen now. There was uncertainty around the council's inaction on this matter. Rebecca has been working on this for the past 5 years and still no progress. If C7 room

Appeal for Volunteers for survey work

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is getting soundproofed, then the rest of the spaces should be too.		
Seamus thanked both for their work on this so far and recognised it as a priority.		
At the last GIG meeting, SS raised the issue of C7 sound proofing delay and the other 3 priority areas in schoolsgoil-àraich, dining hall and assembly hall. Subsequently the school and PC have received assurances that the C7 room will be soundproofed by the end of the calendar year. It was expedited, perhaps the rest could be too through the proper channels. Existing evidence will be pulled together into a propment and a communication sent to the council from the PC.	Create proposal document	SS/NLW
A point was made about ensuring that acoustics are not overlooked in the refurbishment of the Darroch annex at JGHS.	Follow up	SS/NLW
Fundraising & Events group		
Team is up and running - a call out for volunteers for Fèill Nollaig.		
Andy May is looking into JustGiving - if the parent council was a charity we could set that up with no fees. Andy is to look into more costed alternatives.	Investigate alternatives to JustGiving	
A suggestion was made to publish the bank account details of the PC if anyone wanted to donate some money.	Investigate publishing bank a/c details	
Lottery - projected to raise £1300 over the year if the numbers stay the same.		Andy May
Gaelic Implementation Group Update		<u>y</u>

	Calum Carlyle has had to step down as	SS/NLW
	PC representative on GIG. Seamus Spencer has replaced him.	
	Brian Thunder said that the planning application for the refurbishment for Darroch has gone in. This is refurbishment as a secondary school and will help with the overspill from JGHS. There are no science/tech labs in the planning.	
	Comann nam Pàrant has applied to BnG for funding for research into best practice of minority language in secondary school both internationally and abroad. This will include research into co-located secondary schools. This should be ready for the next GIG meeting on 3rd December. The various working groups have examined the different levels of GME and distilled info down into questions for the council. CnP have been pressing for answers since the last GIG meeting. Still hopeful for statutory consultation to start in Feb 2020 for a future secondary school in 2024. If the Feb deadline is not met, this will put pressure on November 2020. If that date is not met, this could mean everything slips by a year.	
Treasurer's Report	Cinema night raised £300 and the halloween party raised £500.	
	£7000 in bank - £4000 belongs to the Acoustics fund.	
	Some funds from the previous Small Sums Scheme have not been taken up.	
	A new scheme is now running. An extension of a week was agreed as	

	there was a delay in communication the original deadline. Next scheme, more publicity could be used.	Issue update on extension	LI
Outgoing committee members	A new Treasurer and Secretary will be needed at the AGM in January. Volunteers encouraged to come forward. Further information on roles available from Chairs.		
AOB	Some points raised at the recap meeting - A question was raised about using Gaelic at home for absolute beginners - Tash suggested the flash cards that are given out at Croileagan. There is a link to these on Gaelic4parents - this link will be added to New Parents Guide and FAQ doc in the next couple of weeks. A question whether songs, phrases sounds that are used in class could be shared on class blogs. There is info on GoGaelic site which will be shared by the PC first and foremost. Request for info on restarting evening beginners classes. Request for information on composite classes in the school	Tash will contact Ann McLuskey to see if she knows anyone who can run evening class. SS/ NLW to speak to Headteacher re composite classing.	
Dates of future meetings	Mon 20th January (7.15pm) - Parent Council AGM – Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce		