



## Comhairle nam Pàrant - Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pàirce

Meeting minutes - 20 January 2020

### 1. **Welcome:**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairs

### **Apologies:**

Caitriona McCormack, Angela Porteous, Orla Hobson, Andy May

### 2. **Minutes of the previous meeting & matters arising:**

Communicate with the parents about the work of Pupil Voice and with respective parent groups	Iona Brown	<b>Ongoing</b>
Run online safety training	Anne McPhail	<b>Complete</b>
Check with staff that all C4s have seen and signed the mobile phone agreement	Anne McPhail	<b>Ongoing</b>
New bin for the playground	Katie Wight	<b>NLW to follow up</b>
Playground consultation with parents <b>Initial meeting: Friday 24th January 11.40 in the dining room</b>	Katie Wight	<b>Ongoing</b>
Appeal for volunteers for traffic survey work	Andy May	<b>NLW to follow up</b>
Correction for minutes re acoustics and the rooms to be addressed	Seamus Spencer	<b>Complete</b>
Acoustics follow up	Seamus Spencer	<b>Complete</b>
Research a Just Giving alternative	Andy May	<b>NLW to follow up</b>
Consider making the PC bank details public for donations	Laura Irvine	<b>Complete</b>
Investigate Gaelic evening classes for parents	Ann Patterson	<b>Ongoing</b>
Circulate more information on composite classing <b>A survey went out from the Council (a consultation will follow &amp; inform their new policy)</b>	Anne McPhail	<b>Ongoing</b>



### 3. Overview of the year:

3.1 The Chairs gave the highlights of the years activity as detailed in the AGM Report which is available on the PC website: <http://www.parantantaobhnapairce.org.uk/documents--sgrigraveobhainnean>

3.2 **Acoustics:** There was discussion about the progress with acoustics improvements in the school - particularly the outstanding sound panel installation in the C7 room. SS advised that the Chairs had issued a letter today to the CEC Executive Director for Communities and Families copied to Councillors (represented at GIG meetings), Scottish Government and Bord na Gaidhlig. Pulling together the significant body of work to date on acoustics by Rebecca and Julie, the letter underlined the frustrations of the parent body, teachers and pupils to the delays. The letter referenced acoustic issues in the four large spaces at the school and the scope for a wider acoustic survey of the estate.

The Chairs thanked Rebecca and Julie for their work over the years on this issue. The Chairs will follow up the formal response from the Council in the event of any delay and keep the parent forum updated on progress.

**Action - SS to forward the letter to Ann McClusky (CEC Development Officer)**

### 4. Treasurer's Report:

4.1 Laura Irvine delivered the Finance Report which detailed money raised and spent last year. The finance report is available as part of the AGM report on the PC website. It was agreed a Second Small Sums scheme will run this year after Term 2 midterm. It was agreed that for the next academic year we would run one scheme and open it in September to garner more interest and enable the delivery of projects in the same AY.

Gordon Tainton was accepted as a suitable auditor for the PC accounts.

**Action - Run second Small Sums Scheme this academic year**

### 5. GME developments:

5.1 CEC is to present a proposal with options for a GME secondary school in Edinburgh to parents at TnP. CnP commissioned research on best practice in co-location education, considering the relative merits of standalone and co-located models. This research was presented to the GIG group in December and should be considered by CEC in determining their proposal for a GME Secondary.

5.2 CNP provided some input on co-location education. There is a very important meeting on Wednesday 22nd January 20- where CEC officials will discuss options for a GME secondary, parents and carers are encouraged to attend.

Nothing is set in stone. So the more people engage, the stronger we are.

**Action - To promote attendance at Wednesday 22 January meeting with Council Officials - 6pm at TnP**

5.3 BT pointed out an error in the AGM report – Alison Dickie chairs GIG and is the Vice-Chair of the Education Committee, Ian Perry is the Chair of the Education Committee.



## **Action - SS to correct**

### **6. PC Communications:**

6.1 The chairs proposed to delete the parent council group email address following this meeting. In coming to this decision, the Chairs noted that;

- ParentMail is now the preferred contact medium for the school and the PC. Messages are also reposted on the PC facebook page
- Parents often email this address instead of chairs@... when trying to reach the Chairs, at times with personal and private issues
- The email addresses have no names associated with them and don't constitute a record of parent council members- records have not been updated as children leave the school
- The current list isn't simple to maintain and it's not immediately clear which addresses can be cleared

This was agreed. To be included on the committee email list, please email:

[chairs@parantantaobhnairce.org.uk](mailto:chairs@parantantaobhnairce.org.uk) with your full name, the year you joined the PC and the classes that your children are in.

### **Action - NLW to retire the group address**

6.2 The chairs proposed a public-facing PC Facebook page for the promotion of events and GME initiatives to keep families that have left TnP in the loop, to keep extended family members of TnP families, past and present, connect; and to play a part in furthering connections between GME and the wider community. The closed group would continue for families at TnP, as support to ParentMail and for photos and matters not for public concern. This was agreed. The admins and moderators of the secret page will be invited to administrate and moderate the public page.

### **Action - NLW to review the potential for TnP PC Public Facebook page and consider alternative platforms eg website, twitter**

### **7. Headteacher's update:**

7.1 Staff used their recent in-service days to focus on health and wellbeing. They will share their discoveries with parents in the consultations in March.

7.2 Anti-bullying training is complete and what was learned will inform the new anti-bullying policy at the school. The school is looking for 2 or 3 parent/career volunteers to help create the new policy. Volunteers would need to be able to commit to three end of day sessions in which you would be reviewing the current national model of good practice and editing the Council anti-bullying template to meet the needs of TnP. Anyone able to help should contact HT directly, or through the office.

HT will share the new resources for delivery of *Relationships, Sexual health and Parenthood* ( Health and Wellbeing curriculum) with parents at the Parent Consultations in March. These are from Education Scotland.

### **Action - Staff and the PC to put out a call for volunteers**

7.3 Mrs Grigor has created a new Gaelic Language framework that is being piloted in all classes this session.

7.4 A new PSA has joined the team. Darcy Riach has come through GME.

7.5 It was confirmed that the 1140 hours at sgoil-àraich will be delivered through a term-time model. The 1140 switchover means that there will be 40 f/t places at the school rather than 80. The school is working with the Council to address the issue of capacity. The solution may include Òganan.

**Action - The school continue to address the planning and capacity of Early Years GME provision with CEC and Òganan.**

7.6 C6 visited JGHS.

7.7 Draft classing plan for session 2020-21 has been submitted, with a plan for 17 classes. This includes a c3/4 composite class. It is likely however that this plan will change, once numbers for c1 are finalised. In addition, the City of Edinburgh Council is currently consulting on composite classes and this may lead to changes to the current policy.

## **8. Elections:**

8.1 The Co-Chairs were proposed and agreed to serve for another year. The Treasurer is to stand down after four years and the secretaries stood down as expected. The Chairs thanked Laura, Caitriona and Angela for their unfailing and necessary support and called for volunteers for both Committee roles - Treasurer and Secretary. There is also a role for a fundraiser open.

No one volunteered for the Committee roles at the meeting. If you can spare a couple of hours a month to support the PC and would be interested in either role, please email the Chairs:

[chairs@parantantaobhnairce.org.uk](mailto:chairs@parantantaobhnairce.org.uk)

**Action - Co-Chairs to follow up and promote the Committee roles of Treasurer and Secretary to parents**

## **9. Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 19:15 with a follow-up meeting on Friday 13th at 11.30 in the dining room.

Thank you!