

Fossoway School and Nursery
Parent Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 7th September 2016

Present: Christina Smith (Chair), Mrs. Forster, Mrs Clemmie, Laura Smith, Sadie Watson, Katherine Wallace, Lauren Bate, Chris Conlon, Sean O'Reilly

1. Apologies: Adelaide Carlow, Jim Pritchard, Mrs. Brown

2. Minutes of previous meeting – true record.

Proposed: Laura Smith, Seconded: Christina Smith

3. Matters arising

Sadie Watson will liaise with MF regarding Alastair Davidson at Keep Scotland Beautiful and any Eco opportunities there may be with him.

PC agreed that as this meeting has not been fully advertised as an AGM the October meeting will be the AGM.

4. Head Teacher's Input

Staffing –

Mrs Walker in nursery,
Miss Miller in P4/5,
Ophelie Guiroy – French assistant – Wednesday and Thursday 3 hour sessions.

School roll – increase in numbers across the school

1 + 2

French (2) French is being taught throughout school and is now being introduced to nursery. We use the Language Platform to support and staff have had focused input from PKC. Staff are confident and able to support each other.

Spanish or German to be language (3). Probably in 3 - 6 week blocks. The resources are already on the Language Platform for both languages. We are still in discussion with KHS. At present the pupils will be introduced or continue learning German language in P5 - P7.

Parent workshops for Literacy will be held before the end of term. More information to follow.

Committees - different format – 3 groups with 2 teachers. Litter, biodiversity and School grounds. All parents are invited to become involved.

Parentzone – Education Scotland and National Parent Forum For Scotland very interesting information for parents regarding Scottish Education.

New documentation from Scottish Government, Delivering excellence and equity in Scottish Education Benchmarks – in Literacy and Numeracy (draft documents)

Please see attached for example from website.

5. Letter from Kinross Primary School Parent Council

Jonathan Bryson has written to the PC asking if Fossoway Parent Council are interested in joining a group of schools in having one charitable body so that each individual school can access charitable status and grants with shared 'bureaucracy'.

ACTION: CS notify Johnathan Bryson that we are interested and would like to learn more, but not committed at this stage.

6. PTA

Discussion around potential suggestion that PTA and PC merge, as the PTA are struggling to find Chair and Secretary. Consensus that both organisations are valuable in their own right, and on balance not in the interests of the PC to merge. However, the PTA is extremely valuable and MF underlined the importance of the funding they raise and the 'community spirit' the activities create. Discussion re possibility of Chair's role being reduced further with individuals taking on events in their entirety – this may lead to reduced activity for a year or two but may also enable the structure to continue and allow for growth in the future.

ACTION: KW and MF to explore this possibility with resigning Chair, Elaine Melville

7. AOB

PC emailing list.

ACTION: MF to email new parents explaining that their emails will be added to the PC list unless they reply that they refuse consent.

PC Treasurer.

Chris Conlan notified the PC of his intention to stand down as Treasurer at the AGM due to increased work commitments. Chris will have the books ready for handover, and said it is not an onerous amount of work. PC thanked Chris for his contribution over several years.

School Notice Board Information re PC.

KW raised that as the School has grown so much it would be helpful to have the noticeboard with each member's children's updated classes – including that Adelaide Carlow now has a child in Nursery.

ACTION: MF to consider whether to do this immediately or following the AGM.

Rumbling Bridge Community Hydro Opening.

Friday 28th October at 3.45pm, TBC. KW discussed this as an opportunity for the School, including: tours of the weir/ turbine house, possible fundraising and publicity opportunity. The project is owned by a Co-Operative, and should generate money for the Community,

some of which is ring-fenced for Fossoway and District, for 20 years. It also fits with the School's focus on Eco Committees and working towards a Green Flag this year.

ACTION: KW and MF to liaise about possible opportunities at the opening.

Parent Surveys

Discussion around possibility of parent surveys re PTA and for feedback on developments in Nursery including full day provision.

AGM.

ACTION: AGM: MF send all parents an email notifying them of an AGM, explaining post holders will be voted on and members elected/ re-elected. Inviting interested parents to put themselves forward for the Council and as post holders, in particular seeking a Treasurer as Chris Conlon stepping down after kindly taking the role for several years.

Date of next meeting

5th October 2016: AGM.