

**Parent Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January, Fossoway Primary School**

**Present:** Christina Smith (CS, Chair), Mrs. Forster (MF), Mrs. Brown (LB), Jim Pritchard (JP), Katherine Wallace (KW, Minutes), Susan Russell Darby (SRD), Adelaide Carlow (AC), Sheena Mitchell (SM), Laura Smith (LS).  
Visiting Parent: Barbara Cassell

**Apologies:** Rachael Charity (RC), Sadie Watson (SW)

**1. Minutes of previous meeting – true record**

Approved. Proposed SDR, Seconded CS

**2. Matters arising**

**Update on school field**

CS has had proposals from two companies, ranging from shock wave treatment for drainage across the main field at £500 (likely to be needed annually), a 200m green mesh path at £1950+VAT or a 200m wide dust footpath at £6050 +VAT. Given that the PC budget is £2000, none of these proposals fully meets the desire for a long term drainage/ full field path, thanked CS for the research and agreed to put on hold for now. Use of the PC funds could be discussed again once new Head Teacher in post.

Action: CS: email PC with details of quotes to date.

**Update on use of school field at lunchtime**

MF reported that the intention is still to have the field open for part of every lunch break (When two members of staff are on duty and for children who have appropriate clothing). The weather has made it difficult to track progress but the intention remains firm. Currently no requests for storage for wellies etc, however could be raised in future.

**Community council link**

Minutes not currently available for latest meeting, so dates and specifics not available, however discussion around issues at the moment included:

- Consultation by PKC re small rural schools, including Blairingone
- forthcoming consultation on traffic management of the A977 which could include traffic lights by County Fabrics
- forthcoming event at Loch Leven Community Campus re revised Development Plan, including revised proposals for housing/ commercial development on field adjacent to the Village Hall & A977.

**Sub-group (STEM)**

PC Sub-Group met and presented their ideas to teachers. Some of the proposed areas of work are already threading through Curriculum work, so awaiting feedback from teachers on their plans before deciding how to progress. MF & LB thanked the sub-group for the quality of their work.

Action: Teachers - respond to Sub-Group re which parts of the proposals are already being covered so Sub-Group can choose which areas to prioritise.

Action: Sub-Group – aim to move forward for term starting August 2018.

**3. After school club**

Parent has raised with CS if there is any potential for an After School Club at Fossoway. CS has followed up with both PKC and MF... There is currently no provision in the pipeline. The PKC Childcare Strategy Team may be able to support individuals/ committees or organisations with setting something up with incentives such as training/ advice, but there is no funding available. Training and support would also be available for Childminders. Open to anybody interested in pursuing the idea but not aware of any proposals at the moment.

#### **4. Provision of the Education (Scotland) Bill**

Discussion re the ongoing consultation which focuses on the powers of Head Teachers. PCs specifically asked to respond. SW is attending the information evening tonight. MF has already emailed parents information on the consultation.

Action – CS to consider response with SW by 30 01 18

#### **5. HT input**

Mrs. Sweeney is off for 4 weeks.

New families and pupils from within the catchment are joining the School this term.

#### **6. MF Leaving**

CS congratulated MF on her new job, acknowledging that whilst the PC are disappointed that she will be leaving, we are also hugely grateful for all that MF has done for the School. MF said that she is proud of the School and the journey we have travelled together.

Discussion that the School and Staff team are in a strong place for this process, and in a strong position for quality applicants. Discussion that the PC are keen to be as involved as possible/ appropriate, and that getting the right permanent solution is more important than rushing the process. CS has the contact details for Mark Neil (PKC Quality Improvement Manager for the School), and will be in contact with him regarding how the PC can be involved and support the process.

Discussion that some of the children and families in the School will remember a difficult period culminating in the previous Head Teacher, Miss Nicholson leaving. Whilst the School is in a different place now, it does mean that there may be some increased anxiety amongst some children/ families. MF explained that PKC are aware of the sensitivities, and taking due care.

Discussion that whilst some children have been informed by their parents, not all children are aware that MF is leaving – especially younger children who parents may feel it is more appropriate to tell nearer a confirmed departure date (no dates confirmed as yet – this is in the hands of PKC). Discussed that MF visit P5,6 & 7 classes to acknowledge that she is leaving, but wait for the younger children until the process is further on.

SW has raised whether there can be regular updates with the PC or with a Sub-Group of the PC, CS will look into this and feed back to the PC.

Process for appointing an Interim Head is already in process, with the need for experience as a Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher.

The PC expressed their support to the whole staff team during this process.

Action: CS contact Mark Neil when he is back from holiday.

Action: MF speak to P5,6 & 7 classes about her departure

#### **7. AOCB**

PC proposed vote of thanks to LB and the staff team for all the work that went into the Big Maths Night, Aladdin's in Trouble, Nativity and End of Term Service – all hugely successful and the Pantomime a particular unforgettable hit with both children and parents!

**Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Future PC meeting dates

7/2/18

16/5/18