



DUNBAR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 3 December 2009 in Dunbar Primary School at 7.30p.m.

Present: Morag Readman (Chair) - Haven
Heather Kilfara – Lighthouse; Susan Mowatt – Woodlands; Pippa Johnston – Harbour/Seashore a.m.; Janet McDougall Welch – Harbour/Seashore p.m.
Helen McLachlan P1A; Sarah Duguid P1B
Elsbeth Richards P2B; Sheena Richards P2D
Kirstin Welsh P3B
Victoria Shortt P4A; Sonya Lugton/Emma Fairbairn P4B;
Jenny McGlinchey P4C; Delphine Roques P4D
Isla Paterson P5C

Apologies: Karen Brougham; Dee Davison; Samantha Ball; Marie Savage;
Jackie Gourlay; Jennifer Goldie; Emma Hexley; Cath McPhillips;
Deborah Piner; Louise Colley; Stephanie Dover; Kirsty Parkin;
Gayle Pacitti; Liz Young; Gillian Ferguson; Laura Bullen; Diane King;
Sarah Watt; Sue Anderson; Sarah Laing; Susan Bald; Lorna Allan
Cllr. Jaqui Bell

Other Attendees: Helen Gillanders HT; Cllr. Paul McLennan

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1	<p>Minutes of last meeting & matters arising. <u>New School:</u> Cllr. McLennan reported that a meeting with the Developer had been held 2 weeks ago which was quite encouraging. The Planning Committee has formally passed the plans. He will advise as soon as possible what is happening next.</p> <p>Morag said that all parents had been given copies of the notes from the recent Public Meeting but, as yet, there had been no feedback.</p> <p>Morag also reported that the <u>Parent Council “Children in Need”</u> bake sale had raised over £200.</p> <p>Primary 5 Ceilidh to raise funds for York Trip had raised just under £300.</p>	P McL
2	<p>Head Teacher’s Report: Helen reported the following:-</p> <p>(i) The whole school <u>will not be allowed to close</u> at 2.50p.m. on 22 December 2009. Therefore, finishing times will be as normal.</p> <p>(ii) Congratulations to the 10 Pupils who had won the <u>“Enterprise Challenge”</u> which had been held in Glasgow.</p> <p>(iii) P7 Sports Athletic Team had come 2nd at the East Lothian Sportshall Athletics Competition & will represent East Lothian at Meadowbank in February. Many thanks to Mrs Lyall, PE Specialist and Mr Mackenzie, DHT.</p> <p>(iv) Apologies for the misunderstanding concerning <u>changing in the Nursery</u>. The status quo will prevail.</p> <p>(v) <u>Head Lice</u>. New ruling meant that teachers will be able to contact the parent of the child/children concerned but would be unable to advise other parents. It was deemed that parents should be responsible for checking their child’s head on a regular basis. Morag mentioned the “Bug Busting” week that had been held in the past and proposed that perhaps this could become a regular arrangement.</p> <p>(vi) <u>The After School Club</u> is looking for a temporary home whilst the new Community Centre is being built and the Primary School is being considered. The Care Commission will undertake a survey.</p> <p>(vii) <u>Additional activities:-</u></p> <p>P1 – Music workshops</p> <p>P2 – Poetic postcards drama</p> <p>P3 - Visits to Presmennan Woods and the beach</p> <p>P4 – Museum of Edinburgh – Roman Experience</p> <p>P5 – Rugby and Basketball Festival</p> <p>P6 – Orienteering and Highland Clearances Drama</p> <p>P7 – “Risk Factory” and geologist visitor – natural disasters.</p>	

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2.	<p><u>Head Teacher's Report cont'd.</u></p> <p>(viii) <u>The "Children in Need"</u> fund raising had raised £1,200.</p> <p>(ix) <u>Wear a Hat Day</u> for Help the Aged had been held on 4 December.</p> <p>(x) <u>Staffing.</u> Marie Howie in the Nursery will be taking Maternity Leave and will be replaced by Shona Ronan.</p> <p>(xi) <u>"Christmas Countdown"</u> had been issued to parents.</p> <p>(xii) <u>School Improvement Plan.</u> Helen continuing meetings with teachers. Write at Home Project.</p> <p>(xiii) New <u>Report format</u> had been issued and will be used in June 2010 to parents</p> <p>(xiv) <u>Listening & Talking</u> programme for P1 – P7.</p> <p>(xv) <u>Parent Helpers</u> required to assist with events. Helen will ask teachers on Friday for requests.</p> <p>Helen was asked about number of P1 classes and class sizes for next session and explained that this information was not yet available.</p>	HG
3	<p><u>East Lothian Budget Consultation:</u> Morag had gone along to Workshop. Only 24 people attended. A structured evening. Useful and well-meaning exercise. Deadline for comments is tomorrow and Morag encouraged everyone to participate as this was vital to children's education over the next few years. The East Lothian Association of Parent Council Members had been very vocal and proposed that the proportion of the overall budget allocated to education should remain and that parents should be kept in touch with what the Authority is doing.</p> <p>Cllr. McLennan said that the Budget should be published on 9 February 2010.</p> <p>He was asked about Trust Schools. He advised that currently there was insufficient information on this subject. However a Conference on this is being held in March next year.</p>	
4	<p><u>Sub-Committee Reports:</u></p> <p><u>Fundraising:</u> Morag reported that the calendars were selling very well and thanked everyone involved for their hard work. There will be no Christmas raffle this year as there is already one for the Bronwyn Fund.</p> <p>The next fundraising event will be the "Readathon" in March.</p> <p>School/</p>	

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4	<p><u>Sub-Committee Reports cont'd.</u> School Fair in June. Ladies Night in October. Nursery Toy Sale will be held on Friday 4 December at 11 a.m. in the school. Changes in the Licensing laws meant that it was necessary to apply 6 weeks in advance for an "occasional licence" <u>Parent Forum Volunteers.</u> There was an active list of helpers. Attempting to match up with requirements. <u>School Website.</u> Attempts were being made to link the Parent Council with the Primary School and a parent had volunteered assistance with Website design. <u>Healthy Living/School Environment.</u> The boat was in position in the school garden and now looking for the services of a joiner and painter. Helen said that Pam Clark DHT had been successful in getting a grant of £200 from "Grounds for Awareness". This will probably go towards the proposed raised beds. A lunchtime Garden Club for Primary 5 was also envisaged and the P7's were "digging for victory". <u>Communications.</u> Organising committee. <u>Quality & Library.</u> No reports. <u>Dining Hall.</u> Marie Savage had agreed to be co-ordinator for visits.</p>	
5	<p><u>Treasurer's Report.</u> Balance as at 23 November 2009 was £9,900. School was still to receive £3,200 and £1,900 for Readathon. Available funds approx. £4,600.</p>	
6	<p><u>Future PC Meetings.</u> A discussion took place on the frequency and structure of future meetings. A favoured option would be to have sub-committee meetings alternating with full Parent Council meetings. A format will be considered in January.</p>	
7	<p><u>Date of next meeting:</u> Thursday 7 January 2010 at 7.30p.m..</p>	

