

East Linton Primary School – Parent Council

Annual General Meeting

Thursday 3rd June, 2021, 7pm online

Use this link to access the meeting online:
meet.google.com/cnz-objr-azx

AGENDA

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of EGM November 2020 minutes
3. Report from Chair
4. Report from Treasurer
5. Appointment of Office Bearers
6. Appointment of Independent Examiner
7. Appointment of Class Reps & Office Bearers
8. AOB

East Linton Primary School Parent Council

Minutes (draft) of Parent Council Extraordinary General Meeting

held 7pm, 19th November, 2020

Present: Lyn Jardine (Chair), Jane Perkins (Treasurer), Becca Bell (P1), Kirsty MacFarlane (P1/2), Tara Wright (P2/3), Evie Thomas (P3), Kathryn Neill (P4), Leigh Pleasance (P5), Kirsteen Roberts (P7), Gill Gardner (Head Teacher), Margaret McKay (Principal Teacher/P6), Heather McDonald (P7), Lucy Hutchison (P1), Anna Lockhart (P3).

Apologies: None received.

1) Welcome and introductions

As the Parent Council had been dormant since January 2019, and the existing chair was not available, Gill Gardner welcomed everyone and opened the meeting to explain the key purpose of the evening was to reinstate a parent council to run for the remainder of the school year. The meeting was chaired by Gill until the new Chair was appointed.

2) Approval of Minutes of AGM 2019

The minutes of the AGM held on 11th June 2019 were approved.

3) Appointment of Office Bearers

Lyn Jardine agreed to Chair the Parent Council for the remainder of the school year and Jane Perkins agreed to continue as Treasurer. There were no further Office Bearers appointed at this time.

4) Appointment of Class Representatives

The following people either agreed in person that they would continue on the Parent Council or had indicated via another member they would be willing to become a member:

Becca Bell (P1),	Kirsty McFarlane (P1/2),
Deborah Stitt (P2/3),	Evie Thomas (P3),
Kathryn Neill (P4),	Leigh Pleasance (P5),
Kirsteen Roberts (P7).	

P6 and Nursery reps remained to be decided.

6) Any other business - There was no further business.

East Linton Primary School Parent Council**Annual Report from Chairperson**

3rd June 2021

What a year (and a half)!

There are loads of poems/performance art around what we have all experienced, but I want to share a quote that sums up the very different but shared experiences during 2020/21.

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.”

— **Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities**

Acknowledgement and thanks

Understandably in the ensuing hectic response to the global pandemic, parent council meetings were not held as planned. Not until the schools had returned for winter term was there an opportunity to restart things. At that point the past Chair, Trace Ward, was relocating and I want to recognise her efforts in leading the Parent Council over the preceding year and for her tenacity in tackling the issues around the school’s development in particular. I wish to also acknowledge that she was ably assisted by Tara Wright as Deputy Chair, Jane Perkins as Treasurer and Hazel Reid as Clerk. Parent Council is a real team effort, and all the class representatives also play an extremely important role in sub-groups as well as representing the concerns and views of individual classes. Thank you all!

A massive thanks go to the staff team at the school. Throughout the pandemic, I’m sure we all gained a huge sense of appreciation for everything that the school and staff provide for us as families and community. I can’t begin to understand how difficult this all was for the team, whose mission is to be with children to facilitate their learning and growth as human beings. There was a massive learning curve for everyone and I’m sure we will all do whatever is necessary to avoid a return to lockdown and learning entirely at home.

And I want to give a special note of thanks to Gill Gardner, Head Teacher, who, given the breakdown in the Parent Council’s ability to meet, was steering the ship with all our best interests at heart, with little support from us. I want to thank Gill too, for supporting me in getting us up and running again in November. As we continue to navigate restrictions, it is incredibly important that we strive to keep the Parent Council functioning to try to maintain as many of the ‘as normal as possible’ activities of the school.

Finally, in this section of my report, I want to wish every single person associated with the school, a very restful, joyful and fun filled summer holiday. We need it!!

Parent Council fundraising and activities

Clearly Covid restrictions have meant it has been impossible to meet for events. Since November, our fundraising team have been considering how we can host online events or raise funds through alternative means. Our current project of the recipe book will mark a specific period of time for the school and we hope to raise some additional funding towards activities for pupils.

The Treasurers report covers what we have managed to support since November and also highlights the regular fundraising achieved through the 50:50 club. This is invaluable support for the Parent Council and School. By setting up a direct debit for £2 or more a month, each £1 generates a number and all numbers are entered into a monthly draw with 50% of contributions shared between the three numbers drawn and the other 50% going to Parent Council funds. If, like me, you are not currently a member but wish join, please contact Audrey for a form with all the details.

We are now on Twitter to raise the profile of parent and carer involvement. Please follow us @linton_ps

School development

East Lothian Council had designed and consulted on an extension to the school previously, but the level of expenditure was going to be excessive. Since then, due to the pandemic, further consideration has effectively been on hold until recently. The Council applied to Scottish Government for the funding for a new school, but as a site, and therefore cost appraisal, had not been conducted, the application was turned down.

More recently East Lothian Council has started a review of the entire learning estate. Hopefully everyone took the opportunity to take part in the survey which will help to inform, along with conditions surveys etc, where the Council needs to invest in school infrastructure. Consultations were due to be conducted during May, but we've been advised, following a meeting with the Councillors and Community Council to discuss our concerns, that a report is going to Education Committee on 3rd June and there will be consultation sessions across the county at the start of the next school year.

Part of the concerns we raised with Councillors was the proximity and access of the planned new rail station. As part of that discussion, it became apparent that a new school building for East Linton is being further considered. We await information, and specific consultation, and will keep everyone informed as best as possible.

Looking forward

The forthcoming year will be particularly interesting as we seek to get re-engaged in fundraising activities and also keep up engagement with the Council and Community Council to ensure that the best possible outcome for the children is achieved, in as sensible a timescale as possible.

Even if you don't have much time, it would be great if we could get some more people engaged in pushing forward our collaboration with staff and the education authority to achieve great things for our kids.

Lyn Jardine

Chairperson

East Linton Parent Council – 2020-2021 Treasurer’s Report

This year’s accounts will shortly be sent to an independent auditor for review.

This year’s accounts run from 1st May 2020 to 30th April 2021.

Parent Council funds started the year in May 2020 at £2,427.94 and ended the year in April 2021 at £3,371.36, representing a £943.42 profit for the year. There is a significant amount of uncashed cheques for the 50/50 club and school support as Covid prevented cheque distribution but after accounting for these there still remains a healthy bank balance as we go into the next school year.

Liabilities stand at £1,030.97 from uncashed 50:50 winnings (£639.00) and monies owed to the school for P7 camp deposit and xmas parties (£391.97), as Covid prevented cheque signing and distribution until recently.

The balance allowing for these liabilities would be £2,340.39.

Fundraising & other Events

- Due to Covid no fundraising or other events were held in this financial year.

50-50 Club

The 50:50 club continues to be a steady source of income. This reduced to £818 payment this year, down from £966 in 2020, and at end April there was 25 members using 61 numbers. £411 of this was paid in winnings.

A monthly membership of £2 gives you two numbers in the monthly draw where three prize winners share 50% of the money collected.

Contributions to the School

This year the parent council contributed to the school for various activities. £391.97 was contributed to the school as follows:

- P7 trip deposits - £235.20
- Xmas party food and crackers - £156.77

Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

Jane Perkins

East Linton Parent Council Treasurer

Balance Sheet as at 30 April 2021

	£	£
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	3,371.36	2,427.94
TOTAL ASSETS	3,371.36	2,427.94
REPRESENTED BY:		
Profit brought forward	2,427.94	3,196.89
Profit/loss for year	943.42	-768.95
	3,371.36	2,427.94

Income and Expenditure for the year ended 30 April 2021

INCOME	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
50:50 club	818.00		966.00	
January Quizes	-		1,789.26	
School discos	-		99.20	
Misc income	150.00		-	
Bank interest	-		1.88	
Grants	1.42		-	
Donations	-		-	
Other	-		-	
	-		-	
Total Income	969.42		2,856.34	
EXPENDITURE				
Payments to school	-		3,068.94	
50:50 club	26.00		338.00	
January Quiz	-		203.86	
School discos	-		14.49	
Gifts	-		-	
Miscellaneous	-		-	
Total Expenditure	26.00		3,625.29	
Net profit/loss in year	<u>943.42</u>		<u>-768.95</u>	