

**Minutes of the meeting**  
**Humbie Parent Council**  
**4<sup>th</sup> June 2015**  
**Held at Humbie Primary School**

**Present:** Iain Lawrie (Chair), Sally Leighton (Head Teacher), Karen Prudence (Principal Teacher), Helen Rawlinson, Luke Dalrymple, Jill Yates, Pippa Murphy, Sally Heaphy (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Fiona Harvey, Tracy McCullagh, Tom Trotter (Cllr)

Iain welcomed everyone and Sally Leighton as our new Head Teacher and thanked all for coming to the meeting.

**HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT/SCHOOL MATTERS**

Sally Leighton thanked everyone for her warm welcome and was getting to know all the children and parents. SL thanked for the completed questionnaires and noted that there had been lots of nice things said about the school.

School Numbers

The school numbers were looking good for next year with 6 starting nursery and 4 joining through the year; 5-P1s; 4-P2s; 1-P3, 1-P4, 3-P5, 1-P6, 4-P7.

Taxis

Everybody who wants a place has one for next year.

Staffing

Mrs Prudence letter of resignation had to be acted on quickly with an advert going live on Friday (5<sup>th</sup> June) so if possible a teacher could be recruited for the beginning of next term. Funding has been granted for two teachers so KP can do a handover in the first 2 weeks of term. Interviews are due to take place by the end of term. SL has spoken with Richard Parker and is due to meet with him to discuss how the interviews will run and SL would like to have an observed lesson for the shortlisted candidates as part of the interview process.

The Parent Council agreed that Iain Lawrie would be the PC representative for the interviews for the new PT.

Mrs Leighton Actions

The first few weeks have been busy with meeting the local community including Al Beck from the Community Council.

SL wanted to share her initial thoughts on how the Nursery environment could be improved, as it was very crowded and some of the furniture was not appropriately sized. A meeting has been set up with Darrin Nightingale on 10<sup>th</sup> June to discuss how to implement an open door access that nursery should have in place to allow children to choose to be inside or outside for their learning. Possible funding streams discussed might come from 600 hours nursery funding but this would be a decision for Darrin. The idea of developing the quadrangle as an outside option with a more secure gate for Health and Safety was shared. It was also noted that one adult can't watch the primary children at the back and front playgrounds so access to the front has been restricted.

PTA Meeting

SL attended the PTA meeting and it was agreed the PTA would fund the new nursery furniture.

### Orchard Meeting

SL went to the meeting about the new orchard and was keen to develop the idea with regards to the school.

### School Information

SL wanted to introduce cursive handwriting throughout the school. A parent workshop would be held. More maths problem solving.

### Ross-Rocks

Take forward the Ross Rocks Reading idea to raise attainment with emphasis on author focus and literacy.

### One Plus Two

Scottish Government recommendation that school children should be taught one primary language and two secondary i.e. French and Spanish. There is a ½ day training on 18<sup>th</sup> August.

Iain suggested that someone from the community with language skills might be willing to come and help out. Luke suggested that secondary school teachers could come and help out. KP had been involved with this idea a science teacher and a maths teacher for Saltoun but staffing was a problem. SL was going to explore Language Leaders, older children 15 & 16 yr olds to come from the High School. A themed café was also suggested.

### SL's Main Priorities

- Planning Assessment, Reporting and Tracking
- More information on the school website
- Curriculum leaflets
- Redraft school report
- Review profiles parent involvement and feedback.

### Website Improvements

Discussed moving our website forward and meeting with David Gilmour. A subgroup was formed to implement the improvements. Helen Rawlinson and Pippa Murphy as PC members and Sally Heaphy as a parent volunteer – the Webinars

Changes to the Newsletter has been made so the children are now more involved in writing articles for it.

### PE Bid

KP thanked Grant Rawlinson for all his help with the bid but sadly Humbie were unsuccessful. But it was agreed that Humbie should seek feedback and reapply.

### Humbie Successes

Masie Rawlinson won an art competition and her artwork will be displayed in the National Gallery.

Struan and Sam came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Big Cook Little Cook competition

Sam 6<sup>th</sup> out of 19 in the Spelling Bee

### **ELAPCM MATTERS**

The May meeting was cancelled. Iain attended the March meeting with the following updates:

### ELC Budgets

These are similar to last year. Iain's suggestion that devolved budgets could use cheaper alternatives i.e. Amazon was agreed. PTA are allowed to gift.

HR reminded all that Easy Fundraising had been set up and could be used by anyone buying products online and a percentage would be given to Humble PTA. It was also noted that funds are received from the Charity Clothing Bin in the Hall car park.

#### Educational Psychologist

New appointed Principal Ed Psych, Lynne Binnie is looking to develop a leaflet for Parents and Carers and hopes to revamp the information on services currently held.

#### Catering

Any issues with regard to catering should be emailed to [schoolcatering@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:schoolcatering@eastlothian.gov.uk)

#### Parental Involvement Survey

The deadline for this is 15 June. It was agreed that Humble had strong parental involvement. SL suggested a 'Parent Twitter Board' or blogging on the website to communicate what parents have been getting involved in at the school.

#### Training Requests & First Aid

First Aid training is to be put on.

Iain looking into getting a medical bag for PTA to cover events.

Luke to find out information with regards to first aid training for kids and to liaise with Iain.

The Community outdoor Defib is going to be at the Hall or the Hub

#### New National Qualifications

Iain volunteered to hold a training/information evening at his house to explain to parents how the new national qualifications will work. Luck volunteered to help.

#### NPFS – GERFEC LIVE

An event is being held on 20<sup>th</sup> June in Glasgow for parents and carers to go along and learn more about it.

### **AREA PARTNERSHIP**

Iain has been attending meetings since the start up and is now hoping to resign. Pippa would be interested in talking to Iain further with regards to attending future meetings.

### **AOB**

An Open Day was proposed with a link with the toddler groups/nurseries in the area to showcase the school. Marketing at the Hub and Clover etc. Parents to be asked at the school gate to encourage their opinion. Open Morning could be linked with a Saturday morning Community Café. P7s could show people round. Proposed date Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 10-12.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND AGM**

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm

NB: There is a crèche available with Mrs Anderson, please ensure you inform her in good time of the meeting if you require her.