



STENTON PARENT COUNCIL

Approved minutes of the Stenton Parent Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th April 2021 at 8pm via Google Meet

Present: Anna Ross (Chair) Vicki Whetton, Susan Wilson, Guido Bicocchi, Jennie Barugh, Rhian Hastie, Phil Hooker, Ciaran MacKechnie, Joanne Legge (Head Teacher) and Suzanne Wilson (Clerk).

Anna opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Michelle Mallen, Brian & Babs Boyd,

2. **Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the Parent Council meeting held on 2nd February were approved.

3. **Matters arising from minutes**

Readathon

It was agreed that in light of the recent fire incident, this would be best arranged for after the summer holidays. Guido confirmed that Trudi was happy to help with this once a date has been agreed.

50:50 Club

This was discussed further and it was agreed to follow-up after the summer.

4. **Chair's Report**

Anna said that there wasn't much for her to report. She wasn't able to attend the latest ELPACM meeting but the discussion was mainly around alternative certification relating to secondary schools. If anyone is interested in reading more on this, Anna offered to forward the information she has.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

The current balance on the account is £2,249.06.

The last Nathan's Waste payment for the Rag Bag scheme was £49.20.

The Easy Fundraising scheme has raised £20 since the last meeting.

6. **HT Report**

A copy of the HT report has been emailed to all parents prior to the meeting.

Fire incident

Jo wanted to thank everyone for all their support after the recent fire incident at school, which happened at the beginning of the Easter holidays. The children have shown amazing resilience since they have returned and we are very grateful that the council have been very efficient in completing remedial work in the affected classroom. We are hoping to be back in the new classroom next week. All the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed being able to use the village hall as a temporary school - having the woods and the playground for outdoor learning proved very beneficial and gave us many ideas for future learning opportunities.

Jo reported that the cause of the fire has not yet been confirmed but it is thought to have possibly been a redundant electrical socket that was behind trunking. The schools electrical system will be thoroughly checked over the summer holidays but an immediate safety check has shown that it is safe to be back in the building. We are hopeful that the school will benefit from new heaters throughout at some point in the future.

Self-evaluation tool

Jo will be sending out a questionnaire to parents, which will focus on Family Learning & Partnerships. If there is enough interest, she will set up Google Meets with parents to discuss these areas further and continue to expand parental involvement.

Resources

The children have been consulted regarding resources that they feel are required in school. The following suggestions have been made:

- Gardening items such as bird feeders, seeds & bedding plants
- A new basketball hoop for the playground.
- Various books - the children voted for their favourite books during World Book Week.

Jo said that the school is very well resourced already so did not want to buy items unless they were necessary. Parents also suggested various purchases including paying for specialists to visit school (eg science), clamps for tarpaulin or a swing.

There then followed a discussion about the Parent Council helping to fund the use of the village hall on a more regular basis which would enable the school to make more use of the woods, the playground and the playing fields whilst having the hall for the facilities. Jo agreed to contact the hall committee to see if we can agree a special daily rate for regular use.

Repairs

Jo has mentioned in the latest newsletter that there are various "jobs" in the school playground that we need help with such as gardening, repairing the play hut roof, repairing some of the picnic benches, repairing the water butt on the greenhouse and some gardening. Some of the parents at the meeting kindly offered to help with the gardening and the timber repairs that are required.

7. Any other competent business

Thank you

Guido and Jennie both thanked Jo and the staff for the smooth transition back to school and the level of communication following the fire incident at school.

There is to be a visit from the Fire Service on Thursday 6th May to carry out an audit following the fire. Parents requested that the school arrange a visit from the Fire Service to speak to the children to help alleviate any concerns the children may have.

8. Date and Time of Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 10th June at 8pm.