

STONEYHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2018

MINUTES

Attendees: Lynsey Melville (Chair); Gayle Durham; Lois Taylor (Treasurer); Mia Glissov (Staff Representative); Claire Duffy; Fiona Macartney (Head Teacher); Rebecca Stanton; Laidlaw; Stephanie Davidson; Lesley Coyle; Katie Hislop (Clerk)

Apologies: Julie Durie; Fiona Scott; Cllr John Williamson; Cllr Katie Mackie; Susanne Gibson (Vice Chair)

parentcouncil@stoneyhill.elcschool.org.uk

Item	Discussion	Action for
1	L.Melville welcomed the group and circulated a list of apologies.	
2	The minutes of the last parent council meeting, 3 October 2018, were approved.	
3	Treasurer's Report: L.Taylor reported recent expenditure and profit, including the Halloween disco. A number of purchases have been made for the Playpod, including storage, other play items and materials to encourage play around the outside of the pod as well as its contents. Action: F.Macartney will provide an update on recent expenditure to the Musselburgh Area Partnership. On the subject of the Playpod: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• there will be an opportunity to donate items on the first Friday of each month• once all the new additions are in place, photos of pupils using the pod can be posted on the Parent Council facebook page, to highlight the pod and its benefits to our pupils• There may be a future "come and play" event for parents to visit, further highlighting the purpose and benefits.	FM
4	Matters Arising / Parent Council Business: L.Melville updated the group on the following matters: Parking and Road Safety around the school area: Further to the discussion at the last meeting, F.Macartney reported that the presence of cones in front of the school gates seem to be working well. K.Hislop read out an email update provided by J.Williamson. Parent Council Training Dates: L.Melville circulated a list of upcoming training courses.	

	<p>Children in Need: F.Macartney confirmed that the school will be marking Children in Need and details are in the November newsletter.</p> <p>Children's University: F.Macartney notified the group that, in place of the Children's University, Mrs Colville is working with cluster school representatives on a whole-cluster approach to recognising pupil's achievements. Details to follow.</p> <p>5 <u>Fundraising and Events</u></p> <p>2019 School Calendar: Class photos have been taken. G.Durham offered to help L.Melville upload the photos and to complete the order.</p> <p>Beetle Drive, 08/11: All arrangements are in place.</p> <p>School Lottery: Further to a discussion at the last meeting, L.Melville informed the group that this initiative may involve much less work than first thought. It was agreed to trial the Lottery from January to March 2019, then gather views.</p> <p>Action: L.Melville to set up for January</p> <p>Christmas Hampers: L.Coyle provided an update. D.Sudron is putting together the hampers and L.Taylor is co-ordinating the request slips and raffle tickets. L.Taylor will liaise with G.Melrose, with the intention that slips and tickets can go into schoolbags in the next couple of weeks. Last year, extra donations were given to the East Lothian Foodbank and it was suggested that a special hamper could be donated. It was agreed that all extra items would be donated, but would not be collected via additional requests. A future collection for the Foodbank may be revisited.</p> <p>Santa Run: It was agreed that there was no natural fit for this event in the few weeks remaining before the Christmas break. To revisit this when planning 2019 fundraising.</p> <p>Christmas Items made by pupils: It was agreed not to pursue this this year.</p> <p>Boot Camp: J.Robertson and C.Colville are working together to construct a family event, to be run on a Fitness Friday (date tbc). Update to be provided at a future meeting.</p> <p>School Fayre, 18/05/19: L.Melville informed the group that a Fayre-dedicated sub group has been put together, and anyone who would like to join the group would be very welcome. A beach party theme has been agreed and the group are making early bookings of large items e.g. inflatables.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p><u>Supporting the School / Teacher Requests</u></p> <p>School App: There have been around 150 downloads of this app and early</p>	

feedback from parents is very positive. As agreed, the Parent Council are paying for the app, and L.Taylor is arranging payment.

Outdoor Learning / P1 and Nursery Garden: C.Duffy will be working with Mrs Banks in nursery to prepare the nursery garden for the winter, and will meet with Mrs Colville soon to discuss plans for the wider school outdoor area. G.Durham suggested that as some organisations offer a volunteer day to staff, perhaps some parents' employers would be willing to allow them and their colleagues to volunteer to work on improvements in the school.

Climbing Wall: F.Macartney suggested making use of the side of the Playpod by creating a climbing wall. She is currently looking at the associated health and safety requirements of this and will report back to a future meeting. In principle it was agreed that the Parent Council would be pleased to financially support this.

AOB

L.Melville invited any additional items. The following points were discussed:

Christmas Panto visit to school: L.Melville raised an issue on behalf of some parents who had expressed surprise at the cost of the Christmas panto visit to school (£1000), suggesting that they might prefer an all-school visit to the local panto at the Brunton Theatre.

The group discussed that the £1000 price, which has remained the same for the last four years, equates to approximately £4 per child. This compares very favourably to the cost of a child's ticket at the Brunton which costs £16.50, aside from any costs for travel or snacks.

The Panto visit to school means that every child in school and nursery gets to see a professional pantomime, without cost to their parents or the need for permission to attend. For some children who may not have the opportunity to attend a panto with their family, the visit ensures they get to see one. Paying for panto tickets may be particularly expensive for families with multiple children and at a busy and expensive time of year, it is an additional support to parents to provide this performance for pupils for free.

The visit also means that if any child becomes upset for any reason during the performance, they can easily return to the quiet of their classroom for some time to relax. This would not be possible at an external venue, without disruption to the whole group.

Uniform Bank – G.Durham explained that she is no longer able to run or store the bank of surplus uniform and asked for a volunteer to take it over. L.Laidlaw said that she would be pleased to take this on, with support from L.Melville. L.Laidlaw also made a suggestion of a uniform "shop" running just before the beginning of terms.

Action: L.Laidlaw and L.Melville to discuss this, and to arrange pick up of stocks from G.Durham.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 5 December, 19:00** in the **meeting room in school**. All welcome.

Katie Hislop
November 2018

L. Melillo. 05/12/18.