

**STONEYHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING, WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2022**

Attendees: Tina Warren (Chair); Jennifer Dickson (Treasurer); Kelly Vural (Vice Chair); Kate Whiteley (Head Teacher); Carol Colville (Deputy Head Teacher); Jennifer Watt; Shauna Cleary; Laura Laidlaw; Vicky Jack; Lois Taylor; Katie Hislop (Clerk); Lynsey Martin; Elaine Williamson;

Apologies: Denise Brown, Lisa Turner, Cllr Cher Cassini, Cllr Ruaridh Bennett, Cllr Andy Forrest

parentcouncil@stoneyhill.elcschool.org.uk

Agenda Item		Action for
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>T.Warren welcomed attendees to the meeting.</p>	
2	<p>Approval of minutes, 12 October meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved, subject to a name correction.</p>	
3	<p>Treasurer's Update</p> <p>Anticipated outgoings will be paid shortly, amounting to approx. £1,000, leaving a balance of approx. £4,000.</p>	
4	<p>Head Teacher's Update</p> <p>K.Whiteley provided the following update and invited questions or comments:</p> <p>Communication re school closure, 24/11: The school will be closed due to strike action on Thursday 24/11, unless of course a pay deal is agreed before then. Appreciate childcare implications of the closure. Confirmed school work will not be given to pupils for completion.</p> <p>Brunton panto visit, 24/11: The whole school were due to visit the Brunton Theatre on 24/11 to see the panto. This will now not be possible because of planned strike action, so has been scheduled to Wednesday 23 November.</p>	
5	<p>Parent Council Business</p> <p>Charitable Status application: K.Vural has submitted this application, an acknowledgement has been received and understand applications take around 3 months to be processed. K.Vural has a contact in the applications department so will check up on progress in the next few weeks, and will provide an update at the next meeting.</p> <p>Action: T.Warren note for January meeting agenda.</p>	KV/TW

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School Communications: K.Whiteley let the group know that Ms Brandon and Mr Cunningham are updating basic information on the school website and are planning other improvements. K.Whiteley will speak with Parent Council reps for their views soon.

L.Laidlaw asked how parents could receive copies of parent council meeting minutes. **Action: T.Warren to add a reminder post on the parent council facebook page** – anyone who would like to be added to the email distribution list should email the parent council email address on page 1 of these minutes.

Trim Trail: K.Whiteley provided an update. The equipment was inspected on 06/10 and some repairs were made. K.Whiteley has asked East Lothian Council for the inspection report for detail on i) what was repaired, ii) what was not and iii) what needs to be removed. K.Whiteley will update pupils on what can and can't be played with asap.

Playground upgrade update: L.Laidlaw has received a quote from a company (approx. £3,400 inc VAT) which could be covered with successful grant applications and existing funds if needed. This work would come with an approx. 10 year guarantee – could build in to a fundraising plan that future parent council members should seek to fundraise in approx. 8 years so that the work could be maintained well.

L.Laidlaw will provide photos of various areas of the playground where there is potential for upgrade with wall murals (e.g. values tree) and traditional games painted on the ground.

Various suggestions e.g. dance areas, numbers, letters etc which would support fitness, literacy and numeracy, and would also be good for orientation and direction around the playground. Agreed that pupils should be involved in this - get ideas via the pupil council, wider pupil body could vote.

Note that some areas will have restrictions around colouring e.g. the lip of steps has to be bright yellow for visibility

Potential to involve other organisations e.g. Graffiti Masters who created murals in Newhailes.

Once charitable status is secured, a B&Q garden grant would enhance the spaces further.

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	<p>School Christmas lunch, 14/12: K.Whiteley reminded the group that parents are to confirm if their child wants a Christmas lunch by 25/11. If pupils do not want the Christmas lunch they should bring a packed lunch that day.</p> <p>The parent council have provided crackers in past years, to accompany the Christmas lunch. Crackers have lost popularity for some and are not always environmentally friendly. K.Whiteley asked whether the parent council would provide Christmas decorations instead of crackers. Agreed that a communication will go out to parents asking for donations of unwanted, good condition decorations. Suggestion of making Christmas tree decorations from old magazines. K.Vural, S.Cleary and L.Laidlaw volunteered to help put up the decorations.</p> <p>Christmas parties: Agreed that the parent council will fund party food (crisps, chocolate, orange, and a capri sun (or alternatives to accommodate dietary needs) x 196 children). Discussed a volunteer to play Santa for the P1 and 2 parties.</p> <p>Christmas show: Pupils will be involved in a show at 11am and 5:30pm on Monday 19 December. Tickets will be distributed to parents at random and they are welcome to swap if they'd like. Details to be confirmed.</p>	
6	<p>Supporting the School / Fundraising</p> <p>Fundraising opportunities: K.Vural provided an update on various opportunities to seek grants towards the parent council's fundraising efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twinkl – this online educational tool offers grants. K.Vural to look into application criteria and get log in details from school office • Greggs community fund – K.Vural has made enquiries, understand grants available of up to £2,000. Will provide an update at a future meeting. • Common Good Fund - S.Davidson made application earlier this term. To get an update on this at the next meeting. • Poverty and Inequalities cost of living grant – K.Vural will make enquiries. 	

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- Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund – K.Vural to make enquiries and apply if the parent council fits the criteria.
- Previous Tesco community grant application was rejected because more information was needed. K.Vural has resubmitted and will update on the outcome at a future meeting.
- Easyfundraising – K.Vural has opened a new account and parents’ use of this has raised £56 in less than a week.

Action: Agreed that the school could help communicate this to parents – K.Vural to speak to school office to have posters printed for local shops, encouraging people to sign up. Easyfundraising are donating £1 per new sign-up before 25/11.

Action: K.Vural to consider making a short “how to” video

Next fundraising event: Santa Run, 02/12: Preparations for this event were discussed. Specific details as follows, actions in bold:

- Can access the dinner hall for set up at 09:00 once the breakfast club leave.
- **C.Colville / K.Whiteley to find out if the kitchen staff can make bacon rolls** – if not, agreed not to bother providing these, as will have home baking.
- Toy and book swap in gym hall or GP room. **S.Cleary to draft a communication asking for donations**, these can be brought to school reception and a bag box will be available to store them. Donations must be clean and in a condition that parents would happily gift to their own child. Request to be put on Google Classroom, Groupcall text and facebook.
- Classes will run one at a time (timetabled and weather dependant). D.Brown and S.Davidson will have a dry and wet weather plan.
- Message to go out asking for volunteers (**K.Vural to send to C.Colville for the school app**)
- **K.Vural to arrange cups, plates / napkins, bags, tea and coffee.**
- S.Davidson has arranged medals and stickers
- Children / Adults encouraged to wear Christmas fancy dress
- Optional £1 donation for each participant
- Pre-school age siblings can take part with a parent

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C.Colville to contact Sharlene Miller to borrow tombola • Teddy Tombola – L.Laidlaw is arranging, will decorate teddies. • Mindful that not everyone attending will have money to spend. • Possibility of Christmas Hampers – agreed that this needs more time to plan so Easter Hampers will be done instead. Note for January / February meeting. 	
7	<p>AOB</p> <p>None raised.</p>	
8	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 January. This will be an online meeting, to be held via Googlemeet. All welcome</p>	

Katie Hislop
December 2022