

Minutes of the meeting of the Parent Council
Held at Abernyte Primary School
January 2024

Present: S Donoghue (Treasurer, Acting Chair), M Sierocinski King (Secretary), J Clarke (Head Teacher), C Irving, L Shanks, C Stein, E Strickland

In Attendance: Bailie A Bailey (Labour Councillor - Carse of Gowrie Ward), S Connor (PKC)

Apologies: G Clarke (Chair)

Minutes

Opening Items

1) Introductions, Apologies, and Minutes from previous meeting

S Donoghue (Treasurer) served as Chair of the meeting, in the absence of G Clarke (Chair).
The apologies were recorded as above.

Regular Updates

2) Head Teacher (including Pupil Council Minutes/interaction)

J Clarke (Head Teacher) gave the Head Teacher update, which included:

- The publication of Abernyte Primary School's Outdoor provision as a case study,
- Outdoor equipment development ideas at the upper end of the school through fundraising
- That the Pupil Council wanted a detailed plan of the provision for the top end of the school outdoor play area, along with ideas around planters and a polytunnel were also offered by the Pupil Council to the Parent Council
- To watch this space on what app the school will be using once the Seesaw period ends across PKC in March.
- Parents to be surveyed at the end of the year as to what interaction they are interested in from the School.
- Concerns raised by the Head Teacher with regards to lateness of pupils. The Parent Council discussed arrived times, and the Head Teacher clarified that pupils should not be on-site earlier than 08:50 each morning, and no later than 09:00 each morning.
- The Head Teacher raised the issue of parking at school with an expanded school roll forthcoming, with an additional 7 pupils are expected next academic year, an expected net rise of 6.

Action: The Head Teacher is to get a detailed list to C Irving on what equipment and resources for outdoor learning is needed for the School.

Action: Bailie A Bailey (Labour Councillor – Carse of Gowrie Ward) to provide the school with the Perth and Kinross Council property map to show which land belongs to whom around the school.

3) Playground Update

No further update on the progress of the installation of the new playground equipment was provided. C Irving offered his services for additional support for completion of the playground. S Donoghue (Treasurer, Acting Chair) spoke about the deadlines set by Tesco (20th Feb 2024) and the National Lottery, with photos, Invoices, and other details to be provided to the funders.

Action: G Clarke (Chair), J White and H White, liaise with T Foster regarding the installation of the playground.

4) Finance

The update was provided via correspondence from the Treasurer to the Secretary as follows:

- There is currently £2,492.54 in the account.
- Since the last meeting at the start of December:
 - £50 was given to the school to buy the children ice creams at the panto;
 - £8.50 was banked from the autumn fruit sale;
 - £16.20 was raised from the poppy appeal which was given to The Royal British Legion;
 - £36.45 was given to Jenni Shanks to cover the cost of Santa gifts;
 - The bake sale and raffle at the community café/nativity play raised £412 (thanks to all who donated baking and/or prizes, and to L Shanks and the fundraising team for organising).
 - Of this:
 - £100 was given to the cash for kids charity,
 - the remaining £312 has been kept in the parent council bank account.

Adhoc Items

5) Fundraising

This item was not discussed.

6) Promotion of the School

This item was not discussed.

7) After School Activity Club

This item was taken fourth item on the agenda. L Shanks gave a background on the development between J Shanks, L Shanks, and J Clark (Head Teacher). L Shanks presented her proposal on the after-school provision. Input was given by Parents, the Head Teacher, and S Connor (PKC). The information received from S Connor, included that the under 2 hours unregulated sessions are limited to 6 times per year. S Connor detailed the qualifications needed for regulated childcare provision and spoke about the challenges of regulations, childminder provisions, and legal ratios for regulated care, confirming that regulated rules apply up until 6pm each day. Discussion was focused on finding a solution to suit Abernyte Primary School's needs.

The Parents attending the Parent Council meeting found that the process to understand what possibilities were to establish such a solution that matched the needs of the school, while navigating the bureaucratic structures that S Connor conveyed to parents, was both conceptually challenging and cognitively taxing.

S Connor also spoke about the process of establishing a Childminder set up and the associated rules. She also spoke about the Safe Start option, and the funding for it.

Action: S Connor is to send the Parent Council the relevant information, and legislation regarding after school provisions.

Action: S Connor is to send the ticklist to L Shanks, and policies, and other information relevant to set up some form of out school provision.

Action: S Connor to look at the 6 days a year matter, and correspond with L Shanks on it, accordingly.

Action: L Shanks is to pursue the establishment of an activity provision at the Church and at/in the grounds of Chez Strickland/McGregor.

Action: L Shanks, C Stein, S Donoghue (Treasurer), and E Strickland are to form an Activity Provision Committee to develop this further and report back at the next meeting on the progress made.

8) School Travel Plan

This item was not discussed.

Concluding Items

9) Action Tracker update

This item was not discussed.

10) Any Other Business

Decision: A Tesco voucher of £100 is to be given to the School.

Action: S Donoghue (Treasurer) shall arrange for a Tesco voucher of £100 to be given to the School.

11) Date of Next Meeting

The Date of the next meeting is: 4th March 2024 at Aberynte Primary School