



Oxgangs Primary School – Parent Community Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 15th May 2018, 7.00 – 9.00 pm, Staff Room

Present: Richard Imlach – Chair (RI), Tracy Brown – Vice Chair (TJB), Ewan Stewart – Treasurer (ES), Patricia Rudolf von Rohr – Secretary (PRvR), Liz Walshe – Head (LW), Louise Mercer – Teacher Rep (LM), Scott Arthur – Councillor (SA), Lauren McKay – Fundraising & Events (LMcK), Laura Calder (LC), Crerar Christie (CC), Calley Thomson (CT), Aristides Kiprakis (AK), Maggie Mazoleka (MM), Rado Rzezwicki (RR)

Apologies: Gordon Robert (GR), Kat Girdler – Co-Chair Fundraising & Event (KG),

1. Welcome

RI opened with a welcome to everyone. It was noted that Sam Haston is standing down from the PCC due to work and private commitments.

2. Approval of previous minutes (6th March 2018)

LMcK and LC approved the minutes.

3. Review of existing actions from the action tracker

Done – see details on the tracker.

4. Update reports

4 a. Head teacher report (LW)

Staffing – Miss Crole is back as the Deputy Head. The staffing is stable for next school year. The classes will not change. The new teachers will be advised over the next two weeks. This will include one probationer.

The NSPCC have held workshops with parents as well as all classes.

P6 have enjoyed going to the Bonaly Scout Camp. P7 are heavily involved in transition work. The P7 Party preparations are going well, and LW thanked the organisers for their considerate approach and involvement of the school. P6 and P7 are also preparing for the Interscholastics competitions. P5 have been involved in a woodlands clear-up. P6 have also completed their Bikeability.

Dance Videos have been shared on Twitter to encourage donations to the PDG. They will be shared via ParentMail as well.

The recent 'May the 4th be with You' raised £189 for the PDG. And £900 have been raised across the school for Kira from Firrhill High School to undergo cancer treatment in New York.

LW also confirmed that she had met with ESP (Edinburgh School Partnerships) and Council Representatives. ESP provided an apology and, following LW's request, they offered to meet with parents in order to rebuild relationships and discuss how to move forward. LW will look into sharing the email (including apology) received from ESP. PCC to consider the offer of meeting with ESP.

4 b. Fundraising & Events (LMcK)

LMcK provided the following update:

- Roles in the F&E Group have changed. Lauren McKay has taken over as the chair, Calley Thomson as Vice Chair and Kat Girdler as Secretary.
- A massive thanks to all the work that Ali Haines, Gill Christie and Amanda Roberts have done over the last years!
- The Mayfair will take place on Saturday 26th May 2018. The banners are already out. The Firrhill Community Council, under Heather Levy, will have a stall at the Mayfair. They are funding the 'Balloon Guy' on the day.
- Sports Days will be Monday 18th June 2018 for P1-P7 and Tuesday 26th June 2018 for the Nursery. The F&E Group will provide ice lollies to P1-P7 and a £30 donation for the nursery.
- P1 Meet and Greet will take place on Wednesday 20th June 2018. KG has already finalised the P1 Sheets and they have been issued.
- There will be a Halloween Party on Friday 26th October 2018, 15h-16h, for P1-P7. The Nursery will get subsidised with a donation if they wish for this day.
- The Tuck Shops are planned for Friday/Thursday 1st/2nd November and Friday/Thursday 8th/9th November 2018.
- Christmas Parties will as usual be in Decembers. Dates are to be confirmed.
- A collection with Smarties Tubes is planned for February 2019.
- A Bunny Bingo, instead of the Quiz Night, will take place in March/April 2019. This is a family event.
- Funding request for £1,000 for new strips for School Sports Teams or other events when pupils represent the school.
- Another request for £1,000 to be given from the F&E Group to the PDG Fundraising.

Both expenditures were approved by the PCC.

4 c. (Road) Safety Group (TJB)

TJB had provided the following update prior to the meeting:

- The new SCP person (Lollipop Lady) started on Tuesday 17th April 2018. Her name is Fatima and she is very approachable. The presence of the SCP seems to have had a positive effect on the parking in that area.
- CEC sent round a survey on school crossing patrols to assess whether the provision in place was effective or not.

RR raised concerns around inappropriate parking around the school. He had contacted Mark Simon at Edinburgh Council, who confirmed to him that Parking & Crossings on Oxbgangs Road North is due to be reviewed this Autumn. It has not been reviewed for three years.

There was a discussion around inappropriate parking and unsecure crossing, with all in agreement that this is a recurring issue.

SA confirmed that he will ask at the next Council Meeting to raise the priority of Oxfangs to high around traffic. He also explained that the Braidburn had just completed a Risk Assessment, which also looked at their school buses. They are currently considering possible solutions around Oxfangs Road North.

On 15th June 2018 Andrew Kerry, Chief Officer of the Council, will conduct a walk around of the ward. SA will ensure that he will highlight parking enforcement on this road.

It was agreed that PCC should also contact Andrew Kerr to highlight ongoing traffic issue/concerns on Oxfangs Road North (parking/lack of secure crossings) – to coincide with his ward walk around **[Action Ref. 2018/10]**.

4 d. Engagement & Communication (RI)

Engagement has been raised through the recent Building Issues. No further update.

RI will contact Ruth McGrath for an update re. Action Ref. 2018/09.

4 e. South West Neighbourhood Group (RI)

As the last meeting coincided with the Public Meeting around Oxfangs PS Building, no one from PCC attended the SWN Group.

5. Requested Items

5 a. Update on HMIE Actions (LW)

LW provided an update on the actions taken following the last HMIE Report. These centred around three areas:

- (1) Learning & Teaching
- (2) Assessment / Know themselves as learners
- (3) Health & Wellbeing

Around (3) Health & Wellbeing, the school has doubled the support for learning. Miss Fenton has taken on this role and there has been a lot of work done in the Playground to improve relationships there. The Behaviour Policy has been revamped, as communicated previously. It now follows Flow-Charts and is being regularly reviewed. Playtime Supervision is still being improved. All staff have completed Trauma Training to support children going through challenging situations. The Resilience Programme and Nurture Groups have been introduced. Support Assistants are getting trained on 'Emotion-Talk' and Friendship Circles. Next year all P6 will take part in the Prince William Award. 'Rocky Rockstar' will also come into the school next year.

Regarding (1) Learning & Teaching, teachers have completed lots of professional reading in groups, followed by application and discussions. There is a focus on more discussion in classes, including talking partners changing weekly. Staff will get trained on 'Forrest School' next year, while the Nursery staff are already using this. The teachers are also looking again at the current curriculum. For next year, the school has an Educational Consultant contract. Five teachers will go through detailed training on three occasions. This includes applying the training in class, being videoed and then assessed by the coach. The three sessions will cover Engage, Feedback as well as Question & Challenge. The school has also been conducting Attainment Meetings, where the class teachers discuss every pupil with LW.

In respect of (2) Assessment, there has been a lot of work gone into writing across the school. They are developing a holistic Maths assessment, providing an opportunity to apply different concepts. The Learning Conversations are continuing, concentrating on how the

children are as learners. P1, P4 and P7 have also completed the new Scottish Government test, which have just been introduced.

5 b. Playground Development (LC)

The total amount raised so far is £7,300 (including the Star Wars day and the donation from F&E. The House Captain Event is the next fundraiser, with details still to be confirmed. They will also have the usual stall at the Mayfair.

Storage Units have already arrived and some parents have volunteered to help build them. They will start with one unit at the front of the school building. The plan is to have this up and running as soon as possible. Leaflets will go out with the homework next week to ask for available small parts for the units.

The Cube is expected to be built during the summer holidays. They are currently awaiting two additional quotes as requested by the Council.

There was a discussion around donating funds from the PCC account to the PDG. RI asked LW to provide a list of what the school would like funding for otherwise **[Action Ref. 2018/11]**

PCC agreed to make £1,000 available for the PDG.

RI will also contact Amey regarding possible donations for PDG.

5 c. GDPR (RI)

RI had issued guidelines prior to this meeting. RI will find out in detail what data of parents is stored by the PCC and the sub-groups **[Action Ref. 2018/12]**. He will also update and publish them again with more details **[Action Ref. 2018/13]**.

5 d. School Building (RI)

In addition to the points discussed under 4a above, RI explained that he chased Peter Walton (Edinburgh Council) around monthly updates on the work programme including the possibility of getting visual evidence (before/after). He has not received a reply yet.

RI also thanked again the councillors Scott Arthur, Jason Rust and Gavin Corbett for all their support.

6. AOCB

LC enquired if there was another family hill walk planned. It was agreed that TB would investigate around another family walk, possibly not on another House Hill due to their difficult accessibility with public transport **[Action Ref. 2018/14]**.

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be the Parent Forum AGM in September 2018. Exact date to be confirmed.