



Oxgangs Primary Parent Community Council
Minutes from PCC meeting held on Tue 14th May 2019

Oxgangs Primary School – Parent Community Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 14th May 2019, 6.30 – 8.05 pm, Staff Room

Present: Richard Imlach – Chair (RI), Ewan Stewart – Treasurer (ES), Kevin Brack – Acting Head Teacher (KB), Louise Mercer – Teacher Rep (LM), Tracey Brown – Deputy Chair (TB) Lauren McKay – Chair Fundraising & Events (LMcK), Aristides Kiprakis (AK), Laura Calder, Crerar Christie, Hannah Montgomery, Lucy Dalgliesh, Lesley Millan, Barbara Findlay.

Apologies: Jason Rust, Gavin Corbett, Scott Arthur, Patricia Rudolf Von Rohr, Gordon Roberts, Lesley Roarty, Michael McLeod

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies
2. Approval of previous minutes (4th March 2019)

LMcK approved the minutes- this was duly seconded.

3. Updates

- (i) Chair Report – Richard Imlach as attached.

RI stated that LMcK is stepping down from the PTA, if there are no volunteers the PTA will be disbanded and monies will remain with the Parent Council. All agreed.

RI confirmed that the adventure playground is open again with one remain obstacle to be repaired. CC asked for the playground gate to be opened again and a padlock for the shed to be replaced – LM to action.

RI stated that he will be stepping down along with ES and TB, anyone wishing to take on these roles would be elected at the AGM in September.

- (ii) Acting Head Teacher Update – Kevin Brack

KB thanked everyone for there warm welcome and reiterated that he will focus on bringing stability to the school. KB is learning pupil names and facts about Oxgangs primary which he will be tested on in assembly in the coming weeks by the P7's at `Test the Head`

KB has 3 key areas which he will work on -

1. Stability – He would like pupils and staff to feel valued and be positive and proud about Oxgangs Primary. He stated that the current situation has been tough for teachers but they have done remarkably well and deserve great credit. KBs door is always open for parents, staff and pupils.
2. Sense of Pride for children at this school, bring positive messages as there is lots to be proud of and this is a great school.
3. Have a simple plan for next year, looking at data and information to build on the schools improvement plan. This will be in conjunction with the pupils and staff and confirmed to all in the next academic year.

RI stated that he met with KB this week and is very encouraged by the improvement plan and the ways that KB plans to keep the parents and pupils engaged.

BF stated that LW has had the worst tenure and Edinburgh Council should support that, the trolling that she has is not acceptable and this should be fed back to the council. LW and the teachers should also be offered support.

RI stated that it is hard for the Parent Council as it is assumed that we are given information about situations within the school however this is not the case. There should be more effective acknowledgment from Edinburgh council when staffing issues arise, these should come from Edinburgh Council not the school office.

KB confirmed that he is not sure how long he will be here for and reiterated why the improvement plan is so important as whoever is in charge at the school will have this simple document to pick up and carry on working through.

LMcK asked if care plans have been read through and KB confirmed that care plans have been along with learning conversations, however this is an ongoing task.

KB confirmed that the news letter will still go out along with the `you said, we did`

Playground Development

An update is required on the playground and also the Library. Parents are wondering what and when monies have been spent on and what is the next step for the playground/Library.

Finance Update

ES stated that there is 47p interest in the account and we should receive £650 from the council shortly to add to the £4k already. LMcK thinks there is £5.5K in the PTA account however this remains to be audited.

Business Manager

This role has been supported by the council but has now been advertised. There is currently a breakfast club evaluation which will be fed back at the next meeting

4. AOB

Sun Protection – There is no school policy however advice will be issued in the next newsletter.

Minimum teaching hours – RI to give details to LM to contact parent direct.

OPPC Facebook page – PC members have up until now used their personal accounts to operate the page as this was felt to be more engaging with the school community. However, noting recent concerns, this will revert back to a generic account which will also help with the transition of new council members.

KB stated that Facebook for schools is problematic and only a small number of Edinburgh schools use this format, Twitter can be a more popular method.

RI thanked TB and AK for there science work that they have done with the school and hoped that we could get a good news story for the Evening News, KB agreed.

SA is to contact the council regarding the hedges in the local area.

5. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Tue 4th June 2019 from 6.30pm to 8pm in the school staff room.

RI closed the meeting at 8.05pm.