



Date: Friday 9th December 2016

Place: Hillhead Primary School

PC Attendees: Gillian Anderson, Keith Thomson, Ruth Downes, Astrid Azurdia, Emma Benzie, Sandra Huettenbuegel, Kiki Kobatake, Andrea Fisher, Anne Hanson, Josh Reid, Naoimh Fleming, Julia Boswell.

Francis Donaghy

Apologies: Amanda Buchanan, Colin Tsang, M.Mitchell, Raz Cook, Andrew Robson

AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Accuracy of minutes
3. Dates for future meetings
4. International Night
5. Spring Fair
6. Discos
7. Action Areas
8. Uniform Storage/Tidy up and sales update
9. Head Teacher's update
10. AOB

MINUTES

1. Welcome and apologies

Gillian welcomed all present and apologies were given from Amanda Buchanan, Colin Tsang, M.Mitchell, Raz Cook and Andrew Robson

2. Accuracy of minutes (5 October 2016)

The minutes were accepted as accurate.

3. Dates for future meetings

Gillian will send out date options for two meetings next term, one in the evening in late January and one during the day in early March.

4. International Night

International Night was a great success and Astrid was thanked in particular for all her organising and effort. The food was excellent and plentiful, the atmosphere was great and it was very international both in terms of those attending and the acts and performances. The total raised, mainly from the raffle and tombola, was around £1,200. It was agreed that this would be split 50:50 between spending on the school and the children's charity Friends of Arbat which works with Syrian child refugees. It was also agreed that it would be better to avoid an overlap with the nursery Christmas event.

5. Spring Fair

It was agreed that the Spring Fair would be possible to do assuming that sufficient volunteers were identified to take part on the pre planning and organisation. **Gillian** will send out information on different activities which could be included in the Spring Fair in mid January and ask for volunteers to head up particular areas. This will be sent both to the Parent Council and also to the wider Parent Forum. A text will also be sent to P1-3 parents to try and encourage new people with children in the infant school to be involved. Francis Donaghy also indicated that it might be possible to have staff involvement in planning and organising. Further discussion on this will be held at the January PC meeting.

It was recognised that, as with International Night, part of the purpose of the Spring Fair was a school community event. It was also agreed to talk in more detail at the January meeting about more targeted fund raising events.

6. Discos

Dates are in place for the next two discos. It was noted that the chill out space at the P6/7 disco had worked well. It was also noted that it might be worth investigating a different DJ for the upper school disco for the next time.

7. Action Areas

- PC information letter
 - This was completed and sent out. A few responses were received expressing interest in supporting the work of the PC which Gillian replied to.

- Update on road safety

- Gillian, Ruth and Keith met with Council officials, Councillors and a representative from the police in October. A number of issues were discussed and Michael Grady of GCC had responded with follow up after the meeting. This follow up included:
 - The footways in Gibson Street will be added to our list of works to be undertaken in the financial year 2017/18.
 - The TWELAS signs have been inspected, however as explained the signs and mechanisms are obsolete, we are currently investigating if spare batteries can be ordered which may resolve the problem.
 - Kelvin Way will be included in any future planned mandatory 20mph zone.
 - The turned signage in the area has been inspected and rectified.
 - The signals have been checked and they are all currently set at maximum for the green phase and regrettably there is no scope to increase.
 - The louvre on the signals at Gibson Street and Bank Street is not appropriate solution according to our signals engineers.
 - My Road Safety Officer is investigating funding sources 2017/18 for further traffic calming measures in Otago Street and Westbank Quadrant.
 - The School will be invited to take part in a pilot to design non-statutory signs to advise drivers that children are travelling to school on their route.
 - It is important that children and parents use the Otago Street entrance to the school as opposed to walking on the road in Westbank Quadrant where, for reasons outwith our control, the footpath width is limited.

- It was agreed that Gillian would respond to Michael Grady, via Martha Wardrop, asking why the louvred option was not possible and pointing out that there were families resident on Westbank Quadrant who would not go to school via Gibson Street and Otago Street and that, given the difficulties of Gibson Street, Westbank Quad was likely to remain a route to school and that walking on the road was inevitable given the extreme narrowness of the pavement.

- Update on Social Action
 - It was agreed that a food bank collection would be organised before the end of term and, with the closure of the Maryhill Food Bank, other options would be identified.
 - The option of doing present 'shoe boxes' or a similar initiative for Christmas was raised and Ruth agreed to take the lead on that next year!

- Bags/Teatowel fund raiser
 - Andrea has successfully organised the production of a P2-4 teatowel and Anne a P7 bag. They were thanked for their work in achieving this. It was noted that the company used was a good one and could be used in future.
 - It was agreed that the teatowels would be sold at the infant school show next week as well as in the P4 playground. The P7 pupils would be encouraged to take part in selling the bags with a text to go out to parents.

- Autism Awareness update
 - A café raising awareness on dyslexia was held with relatively small numbers attending but very good feedback. Fionnuala Featherstone was thanked for her effort in organising this.

- PC spending options
 - The PC has agreed to spend ca. £500 on cooking pots/utensils for the mobile kitchen.
 - The possibility of targeting a large spend to provide more effective staging was raised. This could be in the region of £10,000 but would benefit all children and allow the school to use proper staging more effectively. Astrid agreed to talk more to Francis Donaghy about options. Gillian will also write to GCC about the situation with the current stage which cannot be taken down for health and safety reasons - this is causing a problem in terms of reduced space for gym and dining room tables. The possibility of GCC providing match funding was also raised.
 - Colin Tsang is working with the school to provide options for better shelving for the storage of lost property and uniform.
 - The possibility of funding the purchase of goals for the football pitch was raised as the current ones have been broken. Sandra also agreed to talk to Woodlands Community Council about options
 - It was agreed that the PC would meet with the Pupil Council early in 2017 to find out what the pupils would like to see targeted for spending. Ruth will take the lead on this and Keith and possibly other PC members can attend once meeting arranged.

8. Uniform Storage/Tidy up and sales update

There is a significant amount of lost property in the school. Francis Donaghy noted the importance of parents naming the clothing as it is then much easier to return items to the children. It was requested that clearer information be given with regard to accessing lost property.

9. Head Teachers' Report

- Two new permanent support for learning assistants have been appointed to work with additional needs pupils
- The janitors strike is ongoing and looks likely to continue into 2017. It was noted that this is having a significant impact on Beatrice who has to cover janitorial duties on her own while strike action is ongoing. There are potential issues in particular for clearing the playground in the event of bad winter weather.

- The option of using Scotstoun centre (or the Emirates Stadium or Kelvin Hall) for sports day is being investigated. This would allow sports day to feel like more of an 'event' and provide space to allow competitive and team sports. The PC members supported this option.

10. AOB

- After school care
 - Work has been undertaken recently, including involvement by Gillian and Astrid, to see whether it might be possible to move after school care from the gym hall/dining room to the social space. This would have the advantage of increasing the number of children who could be offered places (potentially 10-15 additional places) and allowing the school to run clubs in the dining room/gym hall.
 - Assuming Care Commission approval can be gained, linked to finding solutions to a number of issues, this move looks possible and may happen in the first term of next year.
 - The option for holiday cover was also being discussed with providers following the PC survey which indicated that there would be strong demand for such provision.
- It was noted that the school is now aiming to provide newsletters electronically wherever possible with a text providing a link to each newsletter. It was noted that texts should be sent to all parents who provide their details rather than just a single parent per child. The school is also hoping to use Twitter more effectively to provide updates and information.
- A parent has raised concerns about the use of Glo sticks at disco and other events for environmental reasons. It was agreed that the current stock of Glo sticks would be exhausted and then a more environmentally friendly option identified.
- An update on the Buddy Bench system will be followed up at the next meeting.
- A parent had raised the option of a parent Eco Group - it was agreed that they would be put in touch with the teacher in charge of the Pupil Eco Committee to see what links could be made.
- A parent had raised concerns about the quality and quantity of the school lunches. It was agreed that they should be advised to take this matter up directly with Cordia. Should any other parent wish to contact Cordia, the best person to write to is Julia McCready.