



PARENT COUNCIL MEETING, 23 APRIL 2014

MINUTES

SPACE ISSUES

The next stage of the campaign to try and get more investment and space for the school was discussed. Over 350 letters were delivered to Maureen McKenna and also to local Councillors before the Easter holidays. An article published in the Evening Times and The Herald was circulated – it focused on the possible closure of the nursery and it was noted that the Parent Council had not commented or contributed to its content.

One suggestion for the next stage of any campaign could be postcards with quotes from the children to emphasise the personal experience of lack of space. While this could not be done as a school led activity, it would be possible for members of the Parent Council to contact parents to raise awareness and encourage their child's participation in this next phase of the campaign. Julia Boswell also suggested speaking directly to the Pupil Council on this particular issue. This next stage of the campaign could be targeted more at MSPs, MPs or, at the GCC level, the leader Gordon Mathieson and Education Convenor Stephen Curran.

Francis Donaghy had met with David McKeown and an architect to discuss options for the 2014 year. The media suite will now not be partitioned but will hold two classes, meaning that it can more easily be converted back to a large space as soon this becomes possible.

There followed much discussion of the only two remaining options for the creation of more much needed space without losing other space on the site, these being the purchase of the house or the use of the EYC rooms. As Glasgow City Council have consistently from the very start refused to buy the house, the only remaining option to alleviate the space problem would be the potential use of the EYC rooms. While the Parent Council fully sympathise with the needs and concerns of the Kelvin Park EYC parents, it was felt that from the school's point of view that the Council had left us no choice but to support this as the potential solution. It was agreed by the majority that the Parent Council would support the option of closure of the EYC.

Another meeting with Maureen McKenna and other Council officials is scheduled for 28 April. The exact course of action will be determined by the outcome of this meeting. A meeting with the wider Parent Forum will also be arranged before the end of the year.

PLAYGROUND

Colin Tsang has sourced some potential options for "astro-turf" type covering for the grassy knolls. Assuming sufficient drainage is possible, this would present an opportunity to keep the grassy knolls but make them useable which would be a very popular option with the children. The PC will continue to press the Council to consider doing this as an alternative to just making the playground

flat concrete and it was agreed that fund raising could be done if necessary if there was a price differential which could be met. Another option would be to use coloured artificial surface on flat ground to create interest and again fund raise for equipment to put on top. Much will depend on what the Council are prepared to spend.

The loose play materials that Andrea Fisher was hoping to collect from parents has been put on hold due to issues regarding storage and health and safety. Once storage solutions in particular have been sorted out, this can go ahead.

Francis told the meeting that someone had been contracted to refurbish the outdoor classroom space but that no feedback had been received so far. The school will contact the person in question and press either for action or the return of money paid out.

GIBSON STREET GALA

Julia Boswell reported on options for Parent Council led involvement with the Gibson Street Gala (Sunday 1 June). With regard to face painting, some concerns were expressed that this activity could be a lot of work and that realistic expectations of painting should be considered.

Julia is to follow up on the booking form for the school let as well as coordination with the Gala Committee. It was noted that the school will be allowed to fund raise this year and the most likely way of doing that would be a bake sale.

UNIFORMS

Susie Haigh updated on progress with getting uniform orders forms sorted out and options for second hand sales towards the end of term. She also explained that it's possible to add a small additional charge onto the cost of the uniform as a way of fund raising for the Parent Council. It was decided that this is a good idea as the online order costs will still be lower than the shop but money can be raised for use in the school.

AOB

Rachel Lowther highlighted the campaign relating to FGM and wondered about how the school could raise awareness. Following discussion, it was decided that it could be investigated as part of wider child protection issues.