

Date 18/1/21

Time 18.00

Location Microsoft Teams virtual meeting

Type of meeting Spring term meeting

Attendees Jackie Maclean (Head Teacher), Chloe Macintyre (Secretary), Santa Charles (Treasurer), Kirsty McFadyen (Vice Chair), Eve Bolton (Chair), Blair Reid, Paul Gibb (local councillor), Geva Blackett (local councillor).

Apologies Fiona Lawrence (Early Years Lead Practitioner), Leigh Reid, Hannah Johnston

Facilitator Eve Bolton

Note taker Chloe Macintyre

Time Keeper Blair Reid

Relevant documents attached with agenda for discussion at the meeting

Item 1 Parent Council member information

Item 2 Meeting minutes 5/10/20

Item 5 Treasurer's report

Item 6 Braemar Hydro application for community funding

Item 7 CONNECT pdf documents on 'Role of PCs' and 'Impact of COVID in Marr area'

| Item no. | Item | Action |
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| 1 | Welcome Eve welcomed all those present to the meeting and welcomed the new council members Blair Reid and Leigh Reid with thanks for getting involved. Leigh, Hannah and Fiona had given their apologies. | |
| 2 | Review of meeting minutes from 5/10/20 and update on progress on action points to date: Minutes could not be formally agreed and signed off, as these were accidentally deleted shortly after the last meeting. However, the 5/10 agenda shows that any matters arising from that meeting will be covered in the items listed at this one. <u>School jumpers</u> Chloe - Next step is being sent a sample. This will hopefully be up and running for orders when we're back at school and the school will make money from each order. (The company are busy making PPE just now.) | Eve and Chloe to confirm more robust way to record minutes for this and future meetings. Chloe to keep council informed on progress re school jumpers. |

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| <p>3</p> | <p>Head teacher update All positive! The school is open this lockdown as a mini hub for a few local kids. Mrs MacLean is in school all week (and teaching remotely) and Mr McKenzie (new P4-7 teacher) is working remotely. A PSA and Mrs Nixon are in when the children are in (as well as teaching remotely!). Microsoft Teams is working well and keeping everyone connected with Mrs MacLean able to have an overview and help where needed. Feedback has been positive from families, especially of Teams. All spare school devices have been loaned out (set up with Teams etc) and some funding has been used from Connecting Scotland to provide iPads. One family has decided to use no digital but everyone else has the devices they need to take part with online learning. There is huge engagement from families already. Teaching this way takes a huge amount of time but the enthusiasm from the kids and feedback from meetings everyday has been very positive. This is really appreciated and as well as caring for the pupils Jackie MacLean is very aware of not overwhelming the teachers immediately, as remote learning could go on for a while.</p> | |
| <p>4</p> | <p>Braemar Community Housing logo design ideas proposal Geva Blackett asked for this to be added to the agenda with a view to getting more families involved. Discussion between the Community Housing architect and Jackie MacLean has already taken place and it has been decided that the logo design is going to be incorporated into the school curriculum, as it will provide an opportunity for a broader range of learning to take place. It will form part of a larger lesson plan with the older class.</p> | |
| <p>5</p> | <p>Treasurer's report Santa reported that the council has £815.64 at present, including monies received recently from the council, which is to cover legitimate running costs of the parent council if required. The parent council need to account for how this money is spent and report back to the Council as required. Santa also presented the Treasurer's report covering the time between AGMs of 2019-2020. Eve suggested that this might also include dates of transactions. The accounts now need to be audited.</p> | <p>Santa to update Treasurer's report and send to parent council, to send out to parents with these minutes.</p> <p>Santa to liaise with Gillian Metcalfe, to audit the accounts.</p> |
| <p>6</p> | <p>Fundraising update Chloe - Our Just Giving fundraiser for an outdoor learning shelter is set up with banking so we can continue fundraising. We have over £2000 already! It has been extended until end June also. Chloe - if school needed money desperately however for something else, esp. due to pandemic, then the money should go to that instead for now. Jackie MacLean - School doing ok just now. Few things to upgrade once back in school but can cover with school funds. Eve - Hydro funding may be available, deadline Feb 28 - Eve to apply but needs the pdf to be converted. Chloe - keen to not be asking for money from parents/families who might be struggling but just for 'shares on Facebook etc' with ideas of how to carry it on.</p> | <p>Santa to send Eve Hydro application in Word format.</p> <p>Eve to apply for Hydro funding and look for further funding sources to apply for.</p> |
| <p>7</p> | <p>CONNECT online training/information sessions for parent councils and parents. Feedback: Role of PCs – Kirsty attended. It's really easy, no mic/camera on you. Notes attached afterwards so no notes needed. Role of Parent Councils, esp. in COVID times:</p> | <p>Santa to attend CONNECT training session for treasurers.</p> |

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| | <p>Partnership with parents/school/community, supporting parents/families. Fundraising is a side-shoot. Parents in general engaging more when meetings are online, not at school - fits around family better. Communication (e.g., Pinecone club Facebook page)/ campaigning (e.g., road crossing)/ inclusion/learning and teaching - helping with home-schooling - sharing resources etc../social/wellbeing e.g., virtual coffee morning/quiz (not fundraising).</p> <p>Impact of COVID – Eve attended. Marr area specific. Eye-opening about effects of COVID/amount of people struggling with debt/unemployment. Since COVID unemployment dramatically up and incomes of families down. 75% more on universal credit, 85% increase in using food banks.</p> <p>Main concerns people have are; no childcare so difficulty working from home, paying for more home heating, isolation, digital exclusion, mental health decline.</p> <p>How can parent council help? Share info with parents about support services and help lines. Share few relevant strands rather than bombard with lists and lists. Use Facebook to highlight useful places to get help.</p> <p>Geva – has experience of working with hardship and offered support if needed.</p> | <p>Chloe to attend session on fundraising.</p> |
| <p>8</p> | <p>AOB</p> <p>Santa raised the issue of the lack of snowploughing of the road beyond Inverey to Linn of Dee, Mar Lodge and beyond for Nursery, Primary and Secondary children, 9 children in total. Dangerous to children and bus drivers. It is currently not a priority road. There used to be a local agreement with the Council but this is no longer in place. Aboyne parent council could be asked to add their weight to a joint letter to the Council.</p> <p>Jackie MacLean wanted to formally say Thank you to all families for the first week back, for everybody's involvement and effort! All the school staff know it is not easy for families at home - heartfelt thanks go from them to all parents!</p> | <p>Santa to draft a letter and save it on the parent council email.</p> <p>Eve to email the Aboyne pc to ask for their support.</p> <p>Eve to send joint letter to councillors to be forwarded to Council.</p> |