



AVOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday

17th June 2019 7pm Avoch Primary School

No.	Item	Action
1	<p>In Attendance: Kate Lackie (Chair) Julie Davidson (Secretary) Asia Kuchararczyk (Treasurer) Lorna Sim (Head), Katie Munro (Principal), Inga Ballantyne, Claire Weaver, Carlyne Simpson, Lynsay Smith</p> <p>Apologies: Phoebe Dickinson, Karen Patience, Wanda Clark</p>	
2	<p>Review of last meeting's minutes and update on actions:</p> <p>Car Park Lighting: no update, ongoing</p> <p>After School Club - yes viable and running, vacancies advertised with closing date 1st July, though uncertain when interviews will be held, however there are staff to run it after the holidays.</p> <p>Playground: on agenda</p> <p>Spring Clean Day feedback: Weather was good, we had a good turn out,,12 bags waste collected, walls painted, paths cleared, hedge not cut as it's too young. Photos taken of areas in Woodland path that needs some work. Lorna to find out how to access the £300 from ACC</p> <p>Tea Party - cancelled. Offer of help for an alternative end of term celebration received in e-mail, Kate to reply.</p> <p>Sports Day oranges feedback: children all very happy, all agreed to continue with oranges in coming years. Kate now has the plastic boxes we bought for the cut oranges at home.</p> <p>Sports Day - children were asked if they wanted to wear House Colour t-shirt or band: children chose coloured t-shirts.</p> <p>Bikeability - Parent (sorry totally forgotten your name) spoke to me on the in Fortrose. Please e-mail me as discussed, as she is trying to resolve lack of Bikeability training.</p>	<p>Lorna: source money for woodland repairs from Avoch CC</p> <p>Kate: reply to offer of help/ fundraising email</p>

3

Head Teacher's Report

New classes

We are permitted to have 11 classes only at this stage. This means some classes and classrooms will be full so there is a chance that we may need to move to 12 classes in August. A change in policy means that after the first week of school, there can be no more changes to classes, even if more children move into the catchment area. Children will have a class swap on Friday so will be notified over the next few days of their proposed class.

Staffing

Even later than usual, I am still awaiting the full allocation of teachers to the school. There are a couple of staff leaving: Katie Munro has a new job in Clackmanashire but is required to work her final week's notice at Avoch in August when she will officially leave. Emma McCallum has applied for part-time so has been moved to Cromarty, swapping with Cath Milne from Cromarty who will be full-time: wishing them both all the best. It is likely that Miss Clark will be teaching for three days per week as she only gets one day management as Depute Head and one day as management of nursery.

Cuts

We have not be unaffected by the budget cuts. I have just been informed that we are to lose 60% of our support for learning teacher time, leaving us with one person for one day a week. We are also losing 30 hours PSA time, in addition to the 27 hours lost a few months ago. Those with children with ASN will realise that this makes it impossible for the school to maintain the level of support we currently offer. As reported in the media, no jobs are being lost. It is through retirements and reductions in hours

The school Improvement Plan.

We evaluate the work of the school and the outcomes on learners on an ongoing basis. This takes account of parent and pupil views, collected in a variety of ways. Based on this, we then write our next plan.

A quick summary of our key priorities in our action plan for 2019-20 are

Action plan 1- Raising attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

This continues to be a focus in all school plans and we plan to do a number of things to target those who are missing their academic milestones. We also plan to revamp our maths programme.

Action Plan 2-Building skills for life learning and work.

Much of our focus this year will be developing the children's ICT skills, especially in aspects such as coding.

Action plan 3- Health and Well-being

The staff will implement the training they received on mental well-being, called the "Decider Skills" and they will use props and puppets to help children to deal with upsets, anger and fall outs.

We will also continue with our daily skip and evaluate it during the session.

Finally, I shall be absent from school for some time next session. Wanda Clark (Depute) will be in charge in my absence - Mrs L Sim June 2019.

Discussion re: Staffing and cuts, an incredibly difficult situation for all staff and children. Parent Council want to offer their support.

Kate & Julie to draft letter to Highland Council, asking them to look at the allocation of PSA in schools & how will this be managed to ensure greater equity across schools.

4	<p>Playground Project Update</p> <p>Inga and Lindsay have submitted an application to the Co-op's community fund. We should know September/October if selected - will need to encourage parents to sign up and choose the school.</p> <p>Playground: Grant application forms have changed, so few things to finalise, revised quote to be obtained, then submit as soon as possible. Thanks given for all work.</p>	<p>Inga & Lindsay: submit grant application as soon as possible. Kate and others happy to review the application before submission.</p>																				
5	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="220 716 1230 1045"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">AVOCH PARENT COUNCIL</th> <th colspan="2">TREASURER REPORT 17/6/2019</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Opening balance as at 16 April 2019</td> <td></td> <td>£7,155.24</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Expenditure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>plastic boxes/ sports day</td> <td></td> <td>£25.98</td> <td>£25.98 Total Expenditure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closing balance as at 28 May 2019</td> <td></td> <td>£7,129.26</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Thanks to Asia.</p>	AVOCH PARENT COUNCIL		TREASURER REPORT 17/6/2019		Opening balance as at 16 April 2019		£7,155.24		Expenditure				plastic boxes/ sports day		£25.98	£25.98 Total Expenditure	Closing balance as at 28 May 2019		£7,129.26		
AVOCH PARENT COUNCIL		TREASURER REPORT 17/6/2019																				
Opening balance as at 16 April 2019		£7,155.24																				
Expenditure																						
plastic boxes/ sports day		£25.98	£25.98 Total Expenditure																			
Closing balance as at 28 May 2019		£7,129.26																				
6	<p>Disco Dates for School Year 2019/20</p> <p>10th October, 13th February and 25th June have been booked for Disco's next school year.</p> <p>The last Disco of this school year is next week: Thursday 27th slap wristbands £1 includes face paint moustache & 50p for sticker.</p>	<p>Julie: Facebook post re: Disco Kate: Posters</p>																				
7	<p>Online Payment for school dinners</p> <p>No update: Mrs Sim enquired again today</p>																					

<p>8</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Sensory garden: weeds growing in from land (not school land) next to the fence. Katie spent a whole day with class and it is looking a lot tidier. Looking for solution to weeds growing through from outside of the school, work in progress.</p> <p>AOCB:</p> <p>Succession planning: We will need new Parent Council Chair and Secretary at AGM in September as Julie will no longer have any primary age pupils and Kate is standing down due to her own work commitments. If there are no volunteers for these roles the Parent Council cannot continue. Asia confirmed that she would stay on as Treasurer if needed, which the PC was very grateful for.</p> <p>E-mail in first week of term to all parents from school: the roles of Chair, Secretary could each be shared between 2 people if time is a concern. Support would be given to all new comers from existing parent Council members.</p> <p>Communications: it was agreed that the notes of previous meetings would be circulated with the Agenda in future and the school office would send these out so the email could reach all parents.</p>	<p>Lorna: email all parents in first week of term encouraging parents to join PC and also take on these roles.</p> <p>Secretary: when emailing next Agenda, please include minutes from previous meeting, send to Parent Council members and ask school to send to all parents, as well as posting on School and Parents of AP Facebook pages.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting & Close</p> <p>Next Meeting: Wednesday 28th August, 6.30pm</p> <p>AGM & Meeting: Monday 30th September, 6.30pm</p> <p>Thanks to all for attending.</p>	