

Lesmahagow High School Parent Council Meeting

Wednesday 11 November 2020, 7pm (Online Via Zoom)

Attendees: Wendy Russell (Chair), Jennifer Cairney, Marie Cox, Alan Crooks, Moira Fell, Donna Kelly, Lorna Laird (minutes), David Robertson (DHT), Hazel Leggate, Richard McGowan (HT), Angela Norris (minutes), Vicki O'Rourke, Louise Spiers, Lynne Thow, Michelle Wailes, Counsellor Mark Horsham

Apologies: Elspeth Martin, Karen Hynd, Gillian Brown

1. WR welcomed everyone to the Parent Council meeting.

2. Approval of minutes

Approval by V O'R and seconded by LL

3. Treasurer Update

In KH absence, WR advised that the current balance is £351.61. MW advised of successful audit.

4. Fundraising Plans

VO'R updated on progress of The Virtual Christmas Fayre and there was reasonable activity. She was sorting into albums for ease of the user and would provide a full update in January. The easy funding app had generated £80.87 income to date.

Action: WR following up on possible local grant Trust options (including Loaningdale Trust, Working with Others and Community Council Grant)

5. Litter

The on-going issue of litter was discussed again. HT advised that he was liaising with facilities with the school to target problem areas. He has also spoken to local businesses about bins and consideration to areas outside their premises. MH advised that he has secured 3 additional bins (Milton School, Bus Stop and junction at Station road). He also advised that within the area there were 12 bins aligned to what there should be and some of the bins were empty. The team will review this,

Action:

Litter pick to be arranged for February **HT**

Reducing visits to shop at breaks - **HT**

6. Cold Classrooms

Parents raised an issue regarding the cold environment within classrooms. There is a requirement to have ventilation and there are guidelines on acceptable temperatures. HT advised that the heating is controlled centrally. He advised that pupils can wear suitable jumpers and outside jackets if required and he will monitor for the winter. There was also

a discussion on Risk assessment, mitigation and communication, HT asked best medium and parents responded both email and the School App.

7. Homework

LT raised a query as to whether homework was choice or compulsory. HT responded choice albeit he sees value in reinforcing learning but there is no legal requirement. There are parents who do not support or are unable to support and education teams have to respect parents' rights.

8. Energy Drinks

HT raised health issue with Energy drinks being consumed within school, with the assumption that they are being sold at local shop. He asked Parent Council views in banning these in school and parent council supported this

Decision HT to communicate that Energy drink consumption is banned within school.

9. Head Teachers Update

HT advised that prelims would be moved back to ensure that there is enough data to validate so a new exam timetable has been developed. Work is underway to launch new school website. BL has deployed Learners Statement and will update at next meeting.

10. AOB

Discussion took place regarding the required use of mobile phones and access to WIFI. HT advised that there was open access to WIFI.

Action – HT to review WIFI access

School transport issue was raised in regard to idling outside Milton Primary School particularly with a certain company.

Action - HT advised he would raise again with SPT

Next PC meeting

Monday 18 January 2021