

Cornhill Parent Council Minutes

Wednesday 30th October 2019, 6pm

Present : Mark Evans, Monica Krakowska, Vicky Low, Bolanle Ajibola, Lyndsey Spiers, Helen Young, Hazel Cameron, Neil Copland and Wonder, Ilona Plicnta, Sian Edwards, Diane Rough, Heather Mackintosh and Oisakede Lee.

Apologies: Laura Robertson-Young

<p>1. Welcome and Introductions</p> <p>Diane welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>Laura Robertson-Young</p>	
<p>3. Head Teachers Report</p> <p>Busy but normal start to the year. With after school clubs back along with Russell Anderson Development (RADs), tennis, Sam's club, hockey, netball, rugby, houses, committees, speech and language and assemblies.</p> <p>Staffing is very positive, with one extra member of staff, who is a probationer, and we have a teacher who comes in two extra days a week.</p> <p>Unfortunately the PSAs have been cut back. This has had a big impact on additional support for learning and has been challenging and there is an acute need for more.</p> <p>A major loss to the school has been our janitor Derek retiring. There is currently no replacement, Mr Evans is hopeful we will get one soon, there has been a few covers but Derek is really missed.</p> <p>Mr Evans is expecting an inspection soon, there are a lot of good and positive people that have helped, now just to wait and see what is said afterwards.</p>	
<p>4. Treasures Report</p> <p>Since the last meeting a cheque has been wrote to the school to pay for the coach for the p7 residential trip.</p> <p>Giving a total in bank of £6,071.43p</p> <p>Diane asked if there was there anything that the school would like?</p> <p>Mr Evans had 2 thoughts.</p> <p>One is to convert the old building across from the school into a library. The building used to be used for a toddler class and is now empty. It was looked at for more nursery space, but was deemed unsuitable. It would be a big project but we may be able to obtain funding. At the moment there is no library in the school, each classroom has a reading corner, and the teacher changes the books over. The children spend a lot of time on</p>	

chrome books researching facts, so is there a need for a library? Also, we do have a council library just around the corner that the children are able to use. We agreed that children should be able to have access to a nice space to read for fun, as well as education, and the benefits of doing this on a comfy chair can not be over emphasised.

Alternatively, funding could go to replacing the playground area in the p1/2 area, as they are getting old and falling apart. After updating some of the older areas in the playground, we know that this costs a lot more money than we have, also the money is only going towards a small section of school children.

We unanimously agreed to the library. It was agreed that, if this was something that the school would like to do, parents and companies would be more likely to help with funding knowing what the money would be used for. Lyndsey also mentioned the Tesco/Asda token scheme.

Electronic payments.

The school is having a hard time getting a concrete answer to using this instead of cash or cheques. Vicky had looked into this also, and found schools using Ticket Taylor, but it was not ideal. Would we offer different ways of paying? How long would it take the treasurer to look through the bank account to check for payment? Heather to ask the Aberdeen city what's app group of parent councils to see if any other school are doing this and what system they are using.

Vicky is trying to get the bank to change addresses so that the statements can be sent to her, but it is taking much longer than it should.

HM

5. Future Events

Halloween disco

Diane has booked the DJ for all discos this year. £95 for both discos. To be ran the same as normal, two people at the door, three give out juice and crisp, extra people to wander around the hall, as parents wont be there. We discussed having the parents stay, but last time we had a disco, there were too many and they took up all the space. None of the p1-3 children have been to a disco and they might not like having no parents. We thought of serving tea and coffee in the yellow room so that parents are close by, but we would need more volunteers. It was thought that some people might volunteer as they get to stay with their child. There are 170 p1-3 and it is likely that they will mostly all come. We don't need as many parents to volunteer for the p4-7 disco. Mark will be staying, and will ask if any teacher can.

Vicky volunteered to buy crisps and juice, Diane normally bought 200, but we had to make an emergency trip to Aldi last time, so probably more needs to be bought this year. We need to look under the stage and see what we have. Vicky also volunteered to buy tea/coffee/ sugar/ biscuits and milk. We were also wondering about buying throw away tea cups, we do have regular cups but we would need volunteers to wash them. Heather to ask for volunteers and print out the tickets.

VL

HM

Christmas Fair

We will have stall holders that will be charged £15 and a raffle prize. Diane to check how many external stall holder can come in as we must have room for all the classes.

We will give each class £15 for them to buy items, once they sell the gifts they make they will give us the £15 back and keep any profit.

Heather to put out a Facebook ad for external stall holders
 We will serve tea/coffee and mince pies, the £1 entry fee will cover this. Kids will be free.
 There was some thought that it might be nice to have the children form a choir and sing some Christmas songs.
 We will need volunteers for the door, to make tea and coffee and to set up and tidy up, so not many.
 Vicky to organise floats for all classes, £5 in change.

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 VL

Valentines disco

Shorts n shades disco

Christmas cards

Heather has the templates at home, ready to hand into school after the September holidays. The company is now allowing parents to order and pay online which makes life much easier for us.

School uniform swap

The school is holding an open afternoon / evening 3.15-4.45 and 5.15-6.45 in October. Uniform can be swapped for a larger size or a small donation made.
 Can we make this a regular thing? Is there space to store things under the stage? Mr Evans would like this to be a regular thing, and we really need to organise under the stage. It was thought that at the open afternoon the school could ask parents option on upgrading the playground or making a library.
 Neil told us that the council had agreed to putting £100,000 towards children's winter coats.

6. AOCB

Sian asked if the school was going to do paired readers again. An email had been put out, but Matthew had not heard. Hazel pointed out that a lot of people in the local community might like to come in and do this, especially when the school has heating on.

Neil offered to take his wonderful reading dog Wonder into school on a Friday, Mark to get in touch to arrange the paperwork.

Monica said that they were asking p1 parents to come in to see the classroom but also to help set up activities.

Are parents happy not going into the playground?
 The seem to be, no unhappy feedback, and they would say if they weren't happy. The parents can catch the teacher at the end to ask a question, and this seems to be working. A parent came into the school the other day to look for a lost jacket. The new systems works well, and there is also no children holding onto legs and refusing to go into school.

Vicky had seen small children looking lost.
 Mark has not heard, but will mention to teachers to make sure every child knows where there parents are. No one wants any kid lost, or sad.

What is happening with playtime with the drop in PSAs?

ME

<p>We still have psas, and there is still enough for the playground, before we had 14, now it is 10/11.</p> <p>What is the school total sitting at? 390, with 3 nursery classes, the school is near capacity.</p>	
<p>7. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday the 16th of November 2022 Wednesday the 1st of February 2023 AGM Wednesday the 17th of May 2023</p>	