



CUIKEN PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting on
Tuesday 4 October 2022
7.30 p.m. via Zoom

Present

Kim Armitage (Parent)
Caroline Brown (Parent)
Claire Bond (Head Teacher)
Meghan Brady-Macdonald (Parent)
Louise Cassidy (Parent)
Maria Connelly (Parent)
Gillian Drummond (Parent, 50/50 Club)
Karen Hancock (Depute Head)
Janet Lake (Parent, Chair)
Claire Monaghan (Parent, Vice Chair)
Leanne Naismith (Parent, 50/50 Club)
Stacey Smith (Parent)
Jane Tweeddale (Parent, Treasurer)
Lynsey Weir (Minute Clerk)

Apologies

Katie Black (Parent)
Aoife Callaghan (Parent)
Gemma Dutton (Parent)

ACTION

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES.

Janet Lake welcomed all and thanked for joining our Zoom meeting. Great to see so many faces and new ones. Apologies noted.

2.0 ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING - 060922.

- 1) Janet advised that the Midlothian Council meeting scheduled for the 12 September was postponed and a new date is yet to be advised.
- 2) Janet has asked the YM for contact details of the Mens Shed who we hope to ask for assistance with [the schools calm spaces, family room and library revamp](#) ~~our playground re-vamp~~.

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3.0 SCHOOL REPORT.

- 1) Claire thanked Janet for all her hard work, it is much appreciated. Lovely to see a good attendance for our meeting.
- 2) We are mindful of rising costs for families and are looking to offer assistance over the coming weeks i.e. free breakfast club; no charge for Panto.
- 3) Midlothian Council have announced an additional holiday for pupils on Tuesday 26 October, this is in lieu for the September weekend Monday of the Queens funeral.
- 4) The trial booking system for Parent Consultations has gone well and helped the office workload. We look forward to

welcoming parents and pupils along to the meetings.

- 5) Staffing issues continue with a shortage of supply staff across Midlothian. This results in the Management team providing class cover which can be challenging at times. Ms Pelosi has commenced maternity leave and we wish her well. Recruitment has proved difficult but we have appointed a Youth Worker which will be a great asset to the school. We continue to recruit for Learning Assistants.
- 6) We have welcomed members from Broomhill Day Centre for a Harvest festival as a re-connecting to the local community event. We felt this was better than asking families to donate food in challenging times. We hope to be able to invite them back at Christmas.
- 7) Midlothian Council have put a hold on the use of 'Seesaw', the tracking and progress reporting system, due to a security breach.

4.0 TREASURERS REPORT.

- 1) Jane Tweeddale provided an update:

BALANCE = £2,485.19

- 2) The 50/50 club continues to thrive and bring in funding – please continue to spread the word and sing up new recruits!
- 3) ~~Janet thanked Jane for all her assistance over the last few years.~~

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5.0 OFFICE BEARERS.

- 1) Janet advised that Natalie Gallagher has agreed to take over the role of Treasurer. Jane will provide a handover.

6.0 EVENT / FUND RAISING.

- 1) ~~Future fundraising ideas were discussed – Bettledrive (after discussion decided against); Halloween discos; pupil designed Christmas cards (Kimberley Hughes advised this can work out quite costly for families. Claire Bond will check what the ordering etc entails with Susan in the office and feedback).~~
- 2) It was agreed to hold Halloween discos on the 27 October. Discussion took place and ideas included – a Halloween outfits swap; reducing the ticket cost; paying forward a ticket entrance cost; promoting on Twitter; activities such as dooking, games, crafts, glitter tattoos; refreshments. A ticket stall will be manned at the entrance. A refreshments stall will be available with home baking requested. A DJ has been booked. Claire Bond advised there are 2 boxes in the Family Room with decorations, cups and glow sticks. Volunteers required. A separate Event meeting will be held to progress planning – Janet Lake to schedule.
- 3) A thrift shop for passing on school uniform was discussed as it is hoped to get this back up and running and build on what is available and how it can be accessed.
- 4) A Christmas Fair will be held within school during the morning of Friday 9 December 2022. Claire Monaghan advised of details so far – 20 tables will be available at a cost of £10 to be booked by local crafters etc (posts on Facebook and the App have already attracted some bookings); volunteers required; raffle prizes will be requested

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from local businesses; chocolate tombola; pre-loved stall; kids crafts; refreshments with home baking donations; class singing; P1 nativity.

7.0 50/50 CLUB.

- 1) Gillian and Leanne advised that we have 56 people signed up each month which brings in about £100 funds per month. Please continue to promote new sign ups as this is our main fundraising method at present. Janet Lake thanked Gillian and Leanne for running this, much appreciated.

8.0 QUESTIONS FROM PARENTS.

- 1) School photographs – It was noted that some complaints have been raised regarding the recent school photos taken by Horizon Photos i.e. poses; background; not having school logo jumper on. However, many others are happy with the selection of poses available to choose from and price range. Claire Bond advised that following feedback on previous photography companies it was the Parent Council who chose Horizon following some research into options available. Claire Bond suggested emailing the company direct with feedback.

9.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- 1) Karen Hancock advised we are working on obtaining storage for the loose parts playground play. We have approached several companies asking for assistance. Janet Lake suggested asking the Mens Shed who have recently taken on a storage container.

10.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

- 1) The next meeting will be held on Thursday 17 November 2022 at 7pm. It is likely that these meetings will continue to be held over Zoom at the moment as this seems to be attracting more attendance as it can work out easier for timings and childcare.

Future meeting dates are set as follows: 7pm, Thursday 17 November 2022. The Halloween disco will be held on Thursday 27 October 2022.