

DRUMOAK SCHOOL COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting – 7 November 2017

PRESENT: G Robertson, P Wilson, G McPetrie, V Stewart, M Slater, L MacKinnon, M Fraser, S Smithers, J Johnson, M McNeil, V Anderson, J Currie

APOLOGIES: F Thomson, K Lennox, K Warren, N Reith

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by email, in advance of the meeting.

What do we wish, as a School Council, for 2017/2018?

Suggestions were sought, to provide a focus for the year's meetings, they will be as follows:

- 16 January – Engaging the Wider Community (Community Council member to be invited)
- 6 March – Developing the Young Workforce/Career Evening Planning & Decider Skills input
- 8 May – Outdoor Learning
- 19 June – Survey/Improvement Planning

Drumoak School Facebook Page

GR recalled that the 'Drumoak School Past, Present & Future' page, which had been used to reach out to the community in putting together and promoting the school book, had been changed to 'Drumoak School' – this page is open to members in the wider community. GR suggested that a Drumoak School Council page could be created, for sharing information about meetings, fundraisers etc. Only assigned members would contribute to the page, it would not be a forum for anyone to contribute, but there would be a private message available for anyone wishing to contact the group. It is hoped that it can be used to reach out to the school community, share information and hopefully attract more contributions with specific activities on the agenda.

GR requested a volunteer to set up the page, JJ recalled that S Goncalves had offered to do something like this at the last meeting. GR to approach S Goncalves regarding this.

ACTION GR

School Council Logo

JC presented final ideas for the logo, taking into account the feedback from the last meeting. A final decision was made and a logo, featuring the new school building, was chosen. JC will contact local artist 'Rho Rho Illustrations', to ask if they can finalise the design. Once complete, it will be shared for using in all correspondence.

ACTION JC

Fundraising Report

- GR was congratulated for her efforts in raising over £1000, for PE equipment, by taking part in the Illuminator run. Curling sets have already been purchased and are in use.
- There will be a prize draw, to win £300 in vouchers of the winner's choice, tickets will cost £5. Due to frequent, recent requests for money from parents, this will not be sold via school until December. Until then, the focus will be on selling out-with school. To be drawn at the pantomime on 13 December.
- Date confirmed for Burns Supper, 20 January at the Bowling Club. Syd Bichan is organising a band. L MacKinnon is organising speakers. A further fundraising meeting will be organised to finalise this.
- Date set for Valentine's Disco, 16 February
 - * P1-3, 6-7pm
 - * P4-7, 7-8pmS McTaggart will assist with this, on the night.
- Film Night, 17 November – set up from 5.15pm, doors open 5.30pm. JJ to organise helpers and draft an email with rules for the evening. All children attending must have an adult present who is responsible for them at and after the event. The event will be first come, first served, no advance ticket sales. There will be a 20-30 minute

ACTION JJ

interval, about one hour into the film, refreshments will be served in the GP room. A raffle ticket will be issued to each paying spectator, this will be drawn at the interval, the prize is the DVD.

- The Summer Fair will be on 19 May.
- A meeting of the fundraising group will be arranged, before the next School Council meeting.

Head Teacher's Report

- There is to be a focus on 'Developing the Young Workforce', part of A Curriculum for Excellence. The school plans to host a Careers Evening for P6/7 pupils, next September, where children could talk with representatives from a range of different jobs. Pupils from Crathes and Durriss will be invited to this event. Parents will be asked to help to gain volunteers to represent different careers.
- Christmas Plans are almost all in place. GR confirmed that Santa is available. MF will also help at the upper stages party on 20 December, replacing JJ. LM will purchase 140 crackers from Costco. The gifts have been ordered from Tarland Toy Store. ACTION LM
- PW has been updating the school website and will begin to upload School Council minutes to the site. The plan is to alert parents to items as they are added, an example being that the Christmas song words could be shared on the website, and families instructed to find them on there.
- Pupils have begun to use the new Curling stones. This has introduced a sport that is new to almost all pupils, allowing them to develop teamwork and personal qualities, as well as skills in the sport itself. There will be a house tournament and P5-7 pupils will visit the rink. This has been well received by pupils, so far.
- There are a variety of items still to be paid from the School Fund – Forest Schools, further Big Cat reading books, bus money, film licence, pantomime... School running costs are increasing but Per Capita funding has not, which means that School Council contributions may now be required to help with the supply of core things such as paper or photocopying. In the past the funds raised had always been for new resources or experiences over and above the general running of the school. For the first time ever, the school is close to operating 'in the red'. Everyone was in agreement that funds could be made available to support the school in this way, as it is obviously essential and benefits the children. The school continues to part-fund many events, such as the pantomime, to endeavour to keep costs down for parents. Figures will be looked at, at the next meeting, and PW will keep an account of how the monies have been spent. PW requested £1000 to cover the items above and to contribute to general running costs, this was agreed by all. NR to arrange transfer of funds. ACTION NR

AOCB

- JJ asked if anything had come of the offer of Spanish lessons as an extra-curricular activity. PW had responded to this, asking what the format would be and explaining that it would need to be out-with school hours, but received no further reply.
- The After School club was discussed, some parents are working with the club to find ways to increase numbers.
- GR asked if PW had considered the Decider Skills Training and suggested running an information evening. It was agreed that this would be shared at a School Council meeting.
- It was agreed that the survey of parents, to inform the School Improvement Plan, would take place every second year.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 16 January 2018, 7.00 pm