



PRESENT: G Robertson, P Wilson, J Martin, N Reith, L Mackinnon, G McPetrie

APOLOGIES: F Thomson, K Lennox, K Warren, V Stewart, M McNeil, M Slater, J Currie, V Anderson, J Johnson, S Smithers, M Fraser

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

#### Developing the Young Workforce

This was postponed until the next meeting, when hopefully more members would be present.

#### Decider Skills

Gwen gave a brief introduction to 'Decider Skills' and the training she could offer to school staff, including sharing some of the materials with the group. Gwen explained the 12 skills taught to children and gave some examples of strategies children could use to deal with situations and emotions. The overall aim of Decider Skills for children is a preventative one, providing children with essential skills with a long term goal of less referrals to Mental Health Services in later life.

All present agreed that there was much value in the approach. PW explained that the Banchory Cluster Group had already discussed a need for this and were exploring different providers. It was agreed that it would make sense for all schools to use the same tools and materials to ensure smooth progression to secondary school and a familiar approach across the local schools. PW has taken a copy of the training manual and will familiarise before discussing this with the cluster group. It is certainly something schools will address, but a joint decision will be taken as to which route to follow.

#### Drumoak School Facebook Page

GR reported that MF has the Facebook page set up and ready to use, they are just working on re-sizing the logo for this.

GM added that Bridget Rhodes, who created the logo, had previously offered to shrink the logo for us, if we required. GR will inform MF.

ACTION GR

#### Fundraising Report

- Paddington Cinema Afternoon is organised for Sunday.
- The Burns Supper was very successful and is likely to become an annual event.
- The Disco raised around £200, funds were used to pay for the music festival.
- Fair scheduled for 19 May. LM will schedule a fundraising meeting. NM requested that floats are ordered at least a week in advance, to allow time for visiting the bank.
- GR had had a request from P Burnett, on behalf of Drumoak Junior Jog Club, for funding towards t-shirts for the club. It was thought that, since the request, funding had already been arranged via a t-shirt design competition for Run Balmoral. GR will check if this is the case. No vote was taken but the general feeling was that this might not be fair as there are other sporting groups, linked to the school, who have not received funding towards their equipment/kit and have raised funds or gained sponsorship separately. It was noted that the club has been very well received and successful.
- GR reported that F Thomson had gifted £25 to the School Council fund.

ACTION LM

ACTION GR

## Treasurer's Report

The current account balance is a very healthy £4918.23, with all spends already accounted for.

PW explained that the contribution to the school's per capita spend had been very helpful and that there may be a further request for funds of this nature, to clear any debt at the end of the month. This fund is for basic school equipment and photocopying bills.

## Head Teacher's Report

- The picnic benches in the playground (apart from the newer ones, gifted by last year's P7 leavers) will need to be replaced with new, sturdier ones.
- Cricket equipment has been purchased with the remaining funds raised by GR's Illuminator Run sponsor.
- PSA's in the school are keen to set up and run a cookery club, which has been successful in the past. New equipment will be required for this. The new cooker has an induction hob, so the old pans are unsuitable. GM to find out whether Drumoak Kitchens have any left over from a previous promotion where a set of pans were given with new appliances, they had previously donated a set to a playgroup raffle. ACTION GM
- New bins are required for the playground, this has been ongoing for some time, it was agreed that these could now be purchased.
- The nursery sweatshirts are in hand.
- P7 hoodies have been organised.
- PE t-shirts have been sourced, for next session.
- The running club is going well and hopes to organise and host a running event in the future, this will add to other events already in the school's calendar – the Deeside Badminton Tournament and the Curling Tournament, which took place last weekend.
- Mr Wilson raised the issue of snow days and sought opinions on whether it was felt that the school should issue 'snow packs' with activities for the children to complete, in the event of a closure, in line with other schools. It was agreed that if the school was closed for one or two days, no pack would be issued. On the third day of closure, the school would provide an activity or challenge for the children to work on, at home. ACTION PW

## Correspondence

- Rebecca Glansbeek, from Banchory Academy Parent Council, made contact about wishing to visit parent councils of the feeder primaries, to talk about where they are with progress towards a new academy. GM to reply with dates of upcoming meetings, to see if these are suitable. ACTION GM
- A parent, residing at the top end of James Gregory Road, raised the issue of children needing to cross the road outside the entrance to the school car park, at busy times of the day. It was suggested that a zebra crossing would be useful at this point, there is already a dropped kerb which marks it as a suitable crossing point. PW said that this would need to go to local council, GM will look to find a suitable contact. A councillor had previously attended meetings, to discuss other crossing issues when the school was being built, GM will try to find out who this was. ACTION GM

## AOCB

- GR asked if there had been any progress with appointing a caretaker. PW said that there had been an applicant and they were hopeful.
- NR raised that P7 pupils had discussed the P7 area in the playground and that they would like some age-appropriate resources for this area. PW said he would welcome suggestions from pupils and parents.

**Next Meeting – Tuesday 8 May, 7.00 pm**