

Broughton Primary School Minutes of Parent Council AGM

Wednesday, 1st September 2010 @ 19:30
Drama/Music Room

Present	GC	Gordon Chrumka	Outgoing Chair
	LL	Lindsay Law	Outgoing Secretary
	AH	Aileen Harris	Outgoing Treasurer
	AD	Alan Devine	Head Teacher
	SS	Sandra Stewart	Depute Head
	AM	Ailsa McMullan	PSA Co-Chair
	DD	Donna Douglas	Non-Teaching Staff Member
	GO	Gareth Overton	Parent
	GH	Gillian Hutton	Parent Member
	JW	Jennifer Williamson	Teaching Staff Member
	JG	John Gardner	Parent Member
	LS	Lesley Shepherd	Parent/PSA Co-Chair
	LG	Lorna Gardner	Teaching Staff Member
	SC	Shona Campbell	Parent
Apologies	ET	Elaine Thomson	Parent Member
	JB	Jackie Blair	Outgoing Vice Chair
	LC	Lisa Cardozo	Parent Member
	HI	Hazel Irvine	Parent Member

1. Welcome

The Parent forum is body of parents, from which is formed council to discuss issues about education, the school and to provide sounding board for school ideas. Firstly, Gordon welcomed all the attendees and thanked outgoing committee for their input over the previous year.

2. Chairperson's Report

Noticeboards

Noticeboards have been installed at the Broughton Road entrance to the schools. It has worked well, and staff have noticed both parents and members of the public stopping to look at the board. Unfortunately a small amount of moisture has got into one of the boards and additionally, one now has a scratch across the front of the glass. One possibility for Parent Council spend this year is additional noticeboards for back of school. Gordon has checked preliminary costs and prices have not changed very much. It is slightly more for a bigger one and for a square one of similar size it is about £200.

Road Safety

Temporary measures have finally been installed at the school crossing on McDonald Road after more than two years of active and persistent lobbying of the Council to support the instalment of these measures. Grant money was received from the Leith neighbourhood partnership to enable the instalment.

There is a review ongoing for the installation of the permanent measures but this is likely to be delayed until after the trams are completed.

Gordon has noticed that the Broughton Rd. crossing has new lights being installed.

The lights opposite the park, which have been installed but not switched on for some time, are waiting for Scottish Power before they can be switched on.

The **Kerbcraft** programme has been implemented through the school travel coordinator. This seemed to be very successful. It was targeting Primary 2 age children through parent led groups. Many parents volunteered and the school is hoping to continue the programme this year.

School Budgets

In the area of the schools budget there has been lots of lobbying done on behalf of schools across the city. The eventual agreed budget was a 1% cut, which was expected to be funded through efficiency savings. Broughton Primary School finished this year without a deficit, showing continued prudent management of available funds.

The current spending review in Westminster is expected to have a knock-on effect to the Scottish Government budget, and subsequently on local Council budgets. The Council has started consulting earlier this year and has already held workshops with head teachers, staff, and parent councils to identify places to make cuts.

Primary School Lets

This year the Parent Council has also been investigating the Primary School lets issue. Whereas secondary schools get to keep the money, primary school let money goes to the Council and is then reallocated back to the appropriate school. There is some confusion over the mechanism, and some doubt as to whether the full amount is reallocated. This issue has become more visible at other budget sessions.

Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum for Excellence was an area of focus this year, although the impact on Primary Schools is not as great as on secondary schools. There are three extra in-service days for training to focus on the curriculum.

P1 Transition Day

Lindsay Law and Jane Chrumka attended P1 transition day in May to talk about the activities of the Parent Council and to encourage new parents to attend.

Vacant Building/Derelict Land

The vacant building is still under discussion at the Council. This will remain a priority in this school year.

City Development have warned against spending too much on derelict building site at the back of the school.

3. Treasurer's Report

Aileen Harris provided details of the accounts. The Parent Council hasn't had much in the way of expenditure this year. Letters and newsletters have been printed outside without direct costs to the PC or the school.

There is currently a positive balance of £1416.09. This has increased by about 700. By having a clerk from parents to take the minutes this saves £240. The Council also receives an allocation per pupil for communications.

A small amount of money was spent on noticeboards, as the wood and fittings have been generously donated by a parent, Stuart Telford.

At the moment there are commitments of approximately £150 for a Curriculum for Excellence booklet to be printed and distributed to parents. Collaboration among Parent Councils across the city has got the price per book down to 33p per booklet and depending on whether extra schools come on board, it may go down further.

This leaves around £1000, the possibilities for which can be discussed at future meetings. Accounts will be audited by Grant Stewart and Aileen Harris has kindly agreed to remain as Treasurer for another year.

4. Selection of 2010-2011 Parent Council

An attendance sheet was passed round for people to indicate whether they wished to join the Council or remain on the Council from previous years. The following people have indicated that they are willing to be members of the Parent Council for the current session.

Aileen Harris - Parent Member

Ailsa McMullan - PSA Co-Chair

Alan Devine - Head Teacher

Donna Douglas - Parent Member and Non-Teaching Staff Member

Elaine Thomson - Parent Member

Gareth Overton - Parent Member

Gordon Chrumka - Parent Member
Hazel Irvine - Parent Member
Jackie Blair - Parent Member
Jennifer Williamson - Joint Teaching Staff Member
John Gardner - Parent Member
Lesley Shepherd - PSA Co-Chair
Lindsay Law - Parent Member
Lorna Garner - Joint Teaching Staff Member
Shona Campbell - Parent Member

AD indicated that Rev Joanne Hood had agreed to continue as Co-opted Member if the PC wants her to. It was the unanimous decision of the Parent Forum that she should be asked to continue in the role. GC will contact Joanne after the meeting.

5. Selection of 2009-2010 Office Bearers

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|----|------------------|---------------|
| a) | Chairperson | Lindsay Law |
| b) | Vice Chairperson | TBD |
| c) | Treasurer | Aileen Harris |
| d) | Secretary | TBD |

6. Plans/Priorities/Issues for 2010-2011

a) School Budgets

The Parent Forum was concerned about budget pressures and felt that there could be efficiency savings made by the City Council if they were to review the contracts that the council maintains and oversees. Pressure needs to be applied regularly in order to maintain focus on this.

The preparatory work for the budget for next year is currently trying to identify savings. Some information is going to councils soon, but the schools' budget information will not be out until the normal time of February. There seems to be some confusion at the City Council over how and where to make savings. Procurement, as an issue, is not confined to Broughton Primary School, it has been bubbling up to the top as a priority at budget workshops.

AD and SS highlighted that pre-school education is an area that they are looking to cut with proposals to create junior and senior early year workers, a practice which the Council is piloting. It appears that they are trying to remove teachers at the pre-school level or at least down-scaling their involvement.

b) Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum for Excellence will be discussed as and when updates become available. The Improvement plan for school is heavily focused around the Curriculum for Excellence implementation.

7. AOCB

- It was raised that a number of employers now offer a day off to work on community service. It was agreed that this was a subject that could be raised in a future newsletter if there was an appropriate activity with which school needed help.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 22rd September 2010

19:30

Staff Room