



**Biggar High School Parent Council- 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 - AGM followed by September's Meeting**

**Present: Flora Neville (Chair), Kirsty Campbell (Vice Chair), Julie Forrest (Secretary), Robert Stewart (Head Teacher), Wendy Johnstone, Sue Hope, Clare Waters, Kate Allister**

**Apologies : Councillor Ian McAllan, Rosslyn Thomson, Chrissy Wild, Gemma Milne.**

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
1) <b>Welcome</b>	Flora welcomed all and thanked Sue for hosting the Zoom meeting. Flora asked due to the current circumstances and moving forward if it would be advisable for the Parent Council to purchase "Zoom" for future meeting. It was agreed that this should go ahead (cost approx £140. Wendy said that there is a 'charity' version.	
2) <b>AGM</b>	Flora/Chair report – copy attached.  Gemma/Treasurers report – copy attached  <b>Election of office Bearers-</b>  <b>Chair</b> - Flora Neville – Proposed by Sue, Seconded by Wendy  <b>Vice Chair</b> – Kirsty Campbell - Proposed by Flora , Seconded by Sue	

**Treasurer** - Christina Wild - Proposed by Flora, Seconded by Kirsty

**Secretary** – Julie Forrest - Proposed by Wendy, Seconded by Clare

New Role: Flora suggested creating two new roles –

**Funding Co-ordinator** – Sue Hope - Proposed by Flora, Seconded by Clare

**ASN Co-ordinator** – Wendy Johnstone – Proposed by Kirsty, Seconded by Sue

The question was asked if we knew who the secondary signatories are and are the records up to date. We will investigate this.

Also, we will need to assign an auditor for the amounts.

Dates for meetings for the next year. It was suggested perhaps moving them to a Tuesday Night and perhaps put dates in the newsletter. Need to push the meetings on the app etc

Liz Gilchrist is now in charge of the school newsletters so perhaps prompt her 1 week before. Flora & Kirsty suggest contacting Colin Barrowman to get a little training on the app. Kirsty suggested to add details to the local Facebook groups to share.

Meeting Dates 20/21: All are Tuesday nights

- October: 20<sup>th</sup>
- November: 17<sup>th</sup>

*Ensure record of 10 voting members in minuted. FN to add as agenda item for next meeting*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December: No meeting</li> <li>• January: 19th</li> <li>• February: 16th</li> <li>• March: 16th</li> <li>• April: 27th</li> <li>• May: 25th (AGM)</li> <li>• June: No meeting</li> <li>• August: 24th</li> </ul> <p>Kirsty was asked to help develop better communication with the parent forum via social media and apps.</p> <p>There are a series of documents that maybe need to be formalised at the next meeting. <b>Julie to re send documents.</b></p> <p>Kirsty asked with the money in the account do we wish to spend some of it? This was discussed and we need to keep £140 for Zoom and possibly the payment of the school apps (approx. £600). Also are we moving forward with trying to develop a lottery? This will be discussed more later.</p> <p>AGM was closed.</p>	<p><i>RS to ensure dates are in school calendar</i></p> <p><i>Agenda item for next meeting.</i></p>
<p><b>3) September Parent Council Meeting – Headteachers Report</b></p>	<p>Robert wished to start by congratulating both staff and pupils their positive and supportive attitude during the current situation- all pupils have been co-operative and abiding by the new rules. All risk assessments are running well with the soft period bells also working well.</p> <p>Social Distancing in the community– Robert has received positive feedback from local shopkeepers (e.g. email from Olive Tree) commenting on how well the children are behaving in general.</p>	

In school, almost all pupils are wearing masks and all are using hand sanitisers appropriately. External agencies are now starting to come into school on a phased, risk assessed basis (Clydesdale support: music tuition, etc). Local transport providers have also been delighted with the children behaviour with most wearing masks all the way to school.

Main H and S issue now are the seagulls – the astro turf is needing cleaned at least twice a week and this is denting PE staff the opportunity to deliver proper PE skill delivery. Issue is ongoing . . .

SQA were initially looking at slight changes to exams. Their original plans were held back as over 23,000 comments were made as to where the initial plans needed to be further reviewed. Updated plans are ready but have been held back until the ScotGov commissioned Priestley Report into last session's situation has reported (early October). RS noted that clarity with regard to the rest of the year's plans was of vital importance to allow teachers to plan ahead accordingly and to re-assure and de-stress pupils with regards to the plans for this session's assessment programme.

There may be an issue when the colder weather arrives with the safe spaces for children inside. At present the maximum 'assembly' number is 50 children. This will need to be tweaked as weather gets worse to allow a space for all children and to ensure as much social distancing as possible

School absences – initially high at start of term but has settled recently and is now about normal for this time of year.

Re Covid-19 there is no evidence of school transmission of the virus and at present the local authority seems happy with the current implementation of the risk assessments and procedures in place across SLC.

All previously shielding staff are now in school.

The Ski trip money has now been refunded; other trips are still in the process of being checked and hopefully refunded.

The usual P7/S1 Transition events cannot happen at the present- if anybody has any ideas Robert would be interested. Staff will discuss plans for this as part of the Tuesday Inset planning

Parents Nights look they will not be going ahead- there are 25hrs of teacher working time agreement time allocated to these. Suggestions on how to off this parent/teacher interactions would be useful. This will also be discussed by staff at the Tuesday Inset.

Congratulations to Captains, Coll and Finn, and Vice- captains, Katie and Evie.

Section of Inset day in September will be used for further upskilling staff on Google Classroom use.

Robert asked if Wendy could share the minutes of the recent ASN meeting so that he can discuss with KR and to start to examine any suggestions. Flora said that she and Wendy are going to discuss and feedback shortly.

Windfarm Grant – it maybe good to put in a separate bid in for Health and Wellbeing and Mental Health.

Flora asked Robert if there was anything that we can do and help fundraise. Sue suggested would it be possible to start talking and discussing the ways in which the children are feeling about the present situation (a pupil covid support group?). Robert stated that both Captains have discussed this and are wanting to move forward but normal channels of communication are not as easy as before. RS will meet with senior pupil leaders to discuss this before the end of the week. Hope that Pupil Council would be up and running by end of October.

What support in terms of support/mental health support – could we help develop a programme from funding. Robert suggested that now all we can really do is allow children to voice their opinions, concerns and fears.

Would it be possible to introduce something through the PSE sessions? This maybe something that could happen. Clare mentioned Mindfulness training. This was discussed and although a good idea

	<p>it is the sustainability of this that is the issue. RS noted that it would be most likely school could create a google form to capture/ assess areas of pupils' concerns but captains would take a lead on this. Sue brought up the issue of inside spaces. This was discussed. RS noted that all pupils should be aware of where the year group inside spaces were and what to do when there. This would be reinforced as winter weather approaches and there is more likely to be a need for pupils to be inside in social spaces.</p>	
<p>4)</p>	<p>Fundraising – due to the current financial climate opportunities will be limited to ask for/or receive regular payments.</p> <p>The possibility for asking for donations from alumni as gifts was suggested. We will have to be careful and perhaps have value prompts. Possibly with cards/certificate. Sue will investigate this and come with some ideas for the next meeting</p> <p>Lottery – we will need a license, and this will need to be completed. Sue will do a comparison between the three and assess the benefits.</p> <p>Clothing Bank- possibly put a reminder out of the whereabouts of this in the school newsletter.</p> <p>Hardship factor – it was suggested that the Parent Council should we be putting together a communication discussing that need to raise some funding and we are doing this to provide funding in the future for those within the community who are or will be experiencing hardship ( possibly a five minute video). At present there are approx 65 children eligible for free school meals whose parents may be experiencing some form of hardship and many parents are sometimes too proud to ask for help.</p> <p>Flora asked about children who have not engaged previously and are these children become more engaged now that school is back to a new “normal”. As initial pupil reports come out the school will be able to assess the impact and identify possible areas of further support.</p> <p>Kirsty asked about archiving old work on Google classroom that was not completed as this can look like there is a lot of unfinished not required work. Robert knows about this and staff will be tidying this up next week.</p>	<p>Julie to forward information to Sharon to send to Liz as standard item in the newsletters</p>

	<p>Parent Pay for the Ski trip – the returned money has not arrived yet . RS noted that there was an issue re. reimbursement of Euros and SLC having to authorise such significant sums of money to be returned via Parentpay- thought this should be cleared if not done by the end of the week- Clare let Robert know.</p> <p>Easy Fundraising – who has access to the login account? Can we check with Gemma as should be in treasurer pack.</p> <p>Funding for Wi-fi hubs? Kirsty stated that there is availability for wi-fi hubs to be offered to the school. Would this be of interest? Robert thinks that the school should be fine to accept them. RS to aks for an audit to identify is school requires this additionality.</p> <p>There is an opportunity for a Parent Council grant for £1k from SLC. This could be used to apply for a Chrome Book for PC, but this could be shared with school.</p> <p>The money in Bank Account? Kirsty asked if this should be given to the school? It was agreed that we should keep say £300/£400 float. The rest could be donated or gifted to the school. It was agreed that the remaining money should be given to the school by the end of the year. A suggestion for possibly video equipment etc. RS to investigate.</p> <p>Sue reiterated that she needs a bit of background, testimonials, and some costings, to help develop some knowledge so that she can apply for grants.</p> <p>Jill Traveno – Clare will see if she can find out how much her input would re building resilience and mind mindfulness and bring this to the next meeting to see if this would be suitable for future.</p> <p>Flora has been approached by a community member who has 2 x 3D printers available to give to the High School as they were used to make visors but are no longer required. Robert to investigate if school could use these but most likely yes!</p>	
<b>5) AOCB</b>		
<b>6) Next meet</b>	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	