

MINUTES

Woodside Primary Parent Council Thursday 9th November 2023: 7pm Woodside Primary School

Attending: Ali Gibson, Barry Naismith, Charlotte Officer, Claire Thom, Councillor John Ross, Councillor Gavin Keatt, Elaine Renwick, Gareth Thomson, Jaclyn Robertson, Jonny Simpson, Julie Lamont, Lisa O'Hanlon, Maggie Scott, Sandra Millar, Susan O'Farrell

Apologies:, Carol White, Eileen McKellar, Elizabeth Fletcher, Fiona Leonard, Jennifer Beattie, Kelly Cook, Leanne Anderson, Linda Allen, Sakhya Rashid.

Introduction and Welcome: Everyone was welcomed to the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting 7th October were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report sent out prior to the meeting. Bank balance looking healthy. Disco brought in approx. £700. Have purchased sports equipment for the school. Waiting on receipts for the class gifts (£50 per teacher). Claire raised request from Nurture group for £50 to purchase much need resources – approved. **Claire to contact Kirsten Lawson to let her know.** Elaine requested that the PC purchase a spare bulb for the projector – approved. **Elaine to send details of bulb for purchase.**

Disco: Very successful. Approx. 400 children attending. A few teething issues with new DJ – volume was a bit loud, chose songs carefully for lyrics.

Need as many parental helpers as possible especially for the older disco. For future disco include no mobile phones at disco on letter.

Buying own sound equipment raised as a suggestion- would allow school to use it for internal discos etc – carry forward as possible option for purchase

Bikeability: will organise dates etc in January. New volunteers have done training. **Charlotte to give contact details of new volunteers to Julie to add to the chat group.** 2 full classes 7 composite class so looking at best option to allow all children to do.

Grant Applications: Leanne Anderson looking into this for us.

Tesco community grant – Leanne been in touch with Sue at Tesco grant programme and we qualify. Activities funded are those which improve physical and mental wellbeing (for example sports, breakfast club, growing project, music, wellies and coats etc for outdoor play etc). It can include a combination of equipment, activities, volunteer costs, subsidising transport, clothes etc

- If successful, we would go into 3 Tesco stores (Hillhouse Express, Uddingston, Cambuslang) and when people spend money they get a token to vote for one of the three projects

- First prize is £1500, second prize is £1000, third prize is £500

- If successful have 1 year to spend the money

- Advice was to keep the activity and spending simple (eg not match funded) and to apply for the whole amount

- Either schools or parent councils (as long as there's a bank account and constitution) can apply

There are no official closing dates. The sooner we apply the sooner we may be likely to be selected for funding. To have time to be considered for the Jan/Feb/Mar '24 instore voting round, applications

need to be submitted by **20 Nov**. Elaine and Charlotte suggested applying for grant to cover outdoor toys for playground – covers both physical and mental health. **Claire to speak to Leanne.**

SLC grant for Gala days – eligible to apply– try and see if we are successful. Would help with costs for summer fayre. ***Update – SLC no longer offering this grant due to unprecedented financial challenges **

Christmas Cards: Templates returned, some issues with templates returned with no payment or not returned with payment or paying for a different amount than was ordered. All parents with any of these issues were emailed to try to resolve. Not as big a return as in previous years and profit we make not as great as cost of cards has increased. Cards will be delayed slightly as needed to wait for slot to get them scanned as there are too many to scan at school.

Online Christmas raffle: Go live with raffle on Monday 20th November, Draw raffle on Wednesday 6th December. Payment via Paypal again. Julie has a letter drafted that can be used to approach local businesses – **Claire to email out to wider PC**. Letter gone out to parents asking for donations. Need to get some good prizes to make it a success.

Benches: Claire met with Joe from unpaid work about the benches. He sent through photos of benches they have made in the past. Only charge for materials – he suggested asking parents, especially those on new build estates that are still be developed, if the site manager would be willing to donate wood – would help keep costs down. Will get back to us with cost for benches. They can paint them too if required we just need to supply the paint. Claire has emailed out and posted on facebook looking for wood donations. **School to decide colour required for benches.**

School Buses – parental concern: Issue of behaviour on buses was raised by a parent, issue raised with school prior to meeting. On day of PC meeting there had been a separate issue on one of the buses that Elaine had had to take time out to deal with.

School doesn't organise the buses, they are organised by SLC and SPT. School are just given a list of kids for each bus. Parents all have to sign contract to say they will ensure their children behave in a safe and acceptable manner. Senior management from school and bus drivers ensure they all have seat belts on before bus leaves. Elaine has spoken to all the children from the bus and a letter has also been sent out to all parents.

Elaine has spoken to SLC about recent bus issue and they are going to carry out a full investigation. Best advice if there are any issues on the bus is to complete a parental postcard on website which goes straight to SPT for them to investigate. If the issue is related to behaviour then please contact the school.

Question raised as to why there is no escort on the buses, could parents act as escort to try to overcome issues – possibly too expensive for bus companies to provide an escort on all buses ? SLC advice is that no parent is allowed onto the buses.

If behaviour issues persist on buses Elaine can request that parents of the children involved stop using the bus service for a set period of time.

Cllr emails regarding previous issues raised:

2 emails were received, one from Cllr Keatt regarding the lack of signage regarding speed around the school and one from Cllr Ross about the ongoing issues with the MUGA. Both emails were sent round the PC members and are included at the end of these minutes. For speed signage – appropriate speed warnings are present on all directions of approach to school, but they are hoping

to introduce mandatory 20mpgh speed limits in residential areas and are currently assessing the viability of this.

For the MUGA – Woodside PS is one of a very few schools on a list to be upgraded – work is out to tender currently. Lynn Sherry to speak with football coach prior to work being carried out.

Headteacher's update:

- Looking at relationship blueprint across the school as part of the school improvement priority. 97% of parents came to last parents night which is tremendous. Got good feedback from questionnaire that was given out to parents at parents night: 91.6% - felt kids were safe in school, 80% - felt kids were happy in school, 93% - felt kids were cared for in school.
- Carrying out learning conversations with kids about feeling safe, happy and cared for – good results across the school. Letter will go out about this to parents.
- Initiatives mentioned at last HT update, postcards home, woodside walking, recognition boards, all going well.
- Working on anti bullying policy within school. There is an SLC policy but looking to tailor it for Woodside. Questionnaire will go out to parents.
- Inservice day – working on strategies within school for language and body language so it is the same across the whole school.
- Festive Fun Day – Wednesday 20th December. Party for P1-3, Christmas obstacle course for P4-7. **Request to PC to provide snack and juice – approved.**
- Plea from school that there is no need to hand in gifts for the teachers at Christmas. The teachers are not going to do class gifts (or even a staff secret santa! – instead giving to the foodbank).

AOCB:

- Climbing wall – is it still needing repaired – **Elaine will check**
- Afterschool clubs – more will be coming in the new year.
- Signage coming off roundabout onto Johnstone Road is too high to be easily seen – Cllr Keatt will feed that back to Roads Dept.
- Cllr Keatt advised that having spoken to various council members including Colin Park, head of roads and transportation, about use of fleet buses for school purposes i.e transport of children to swimming or to sporting events, there is some availability. A bulletin regarding this will go out to schools and will work with Colin Park and Lynn Sherry.

Date for next meeting: Thursday 18 January 2024, AGM: Thursday 21st March 2024

Email reply regarding speed signage:

Councillor Gavin Wylie Keatt,

Thank you for your enquiry of 10 October 2023 in which you raised concerns regarding a lack of signage in relation to speed limits in the area around Woodside Primary School on behalf of parents from the school. We would respond as follows.

The use of traffic signs on the public road network is governed by the Statutory Instrument 'The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016' (TSRGD) and supplementary chapters of the Traffic Signs Manuals (TSM). Both documents are issued by the Department for Transport. The purpose of the TSRGD and TSM is to ensure a consistent approach to provision of road traffic signage across the public road network.

As per the above, I can advise that there are appropriate speed warning signs in all directions on approach to Woodside Primary School in the form of "Children going to or from school or playground ahead" (TSRGD

diagram 545) and “20mph when lights flash” speed signs that all vehicles pass on approach to the school. The 20mph when lights flash signs are located after turning onto Johnstone Road from the A723, at number 8 Silvertonhill Avenue and at the junction of Chestnut Crescent at Johnstone Road / Silvertonhill Avenue. Notwithstanding the above, we can advise that Scotland’s Road Safety Framework to 2030 is committed to creating a safer, healthier and greener Scotland. The introduction of more 20mph limits would help contribute to these objectives. Reducing traffic speed on our urban roads would create streets that provide a more equitable balance between different road users, alongside the creation of a safer environment which promotes inclusivity and encourages people to make active travel choices. It is our aspiration to introduce mandatory 20mph speed limits within residential areas in line with the new Scottish Government policy. As part of the National strategy for 20mph, Transport Scotland have been working with the Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS) and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) through the 20mph Task Group to identify the most effective route to implement 20mph speed limits across Scotland. It was recognised, to support the decision making process, that an assessment of the road network would be required to help identify the number of roads affected and the financial implications for implementation. We can advise that South Lanarkshire Council has appointed a traffic consultant to undertake this assessment. The outcomes of the above assessments will aid Transport Scotland in developing a strategy and associated guidance for the introduction of mandatory 20mph speed limits and it is hoped that 20mph speed limits will be introduced on all appropriate roads by 2025. In the interim, it is considered that the majority of drivers assist with casualty reduction by undertaking their journeys in a considerate and courteous manner. It is acknowledged, however, that there will always be some drivers who drive in a manner or at a speed inappropriate to the prevailing conditions. Should inappropriate driving practices be a concern at this location, then your constituents may wish to contact Police Scotland by telephoning their 101 helpline number for non-emergency enquiries. Alternatively, should they wish to report their concerns to the police in writing then this can be done online by using the web link provided below.
<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>
We trust the above will be of information and assistance”

Email reply regarding MUGA:

Councillor,

We managed to secure Scottish Government funding for a small number of MUGA pitch upgrades this year.

Woodside Primary School was one of the projects. Tenders are in and are currently being evaluated by Housing and Technical Resources.

As regards the wider question of MUGAs , the Council is working to try and identify funding for a programme of replacement/repair.

Housing and Technical Resources are currently reviewing the opportunity of including MUGA replacement/repair as part of their Property Life Cycle Replacement Programme for future years.

However, given the current financial position of the Council it is recognised this is only likely to allow for the upgrade of a small number of MUGA pitches each financial year, so the replacement programme would progress but at a slower rate.

Housing and Technical Resources will undertake surveys of the pitches as part of their on-going property reviews and will prioritise the MUGA replacement programme based on this information.

We will also continue to try and look at external funding opportunities where they arise.

Thanks,

Lynn

Lynn Sherry