

# **Woodside Primary Parent Council**

Chairperson: Barry Naismith

Treasurer: Jonny Simpson

Secretary: Ali Gibson

Email: woodsideparentcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

## **Parent Council Meeting – Minutes**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 7-830pm, Woodside Primary School

**In Attendance:** Ali Gibson, Arnab Ghosh, Brooke Thompson, Barry Naismith, Charlotte Officer, Cllr Helen Toner, Cllr Gavin Wylie Keatt, Daniela McCartney, Elaine Renwick, Gillian Anderson, Jonny Simpson, Kelly Cook, Lara Lorenzini, Sakhya Rashid, Sandra Brodie, Tammy Evans, Tracy Hardy

**Apologies:** Laura Swift, Elizabeth Fletcher, Eileen McKellar, Carol White, Gareth Thomson, Cllr Celine Handibode, Karen Ross, Cllr John Ross, Jennifer Beattie, Jaclyn Robertson

**Minutes:** Ali Gibson

### **Introduction and Welcome – Chairperson Barry Naismith**

Barry welcomed all to our last Parent Council meeting of 2024.

Previous minutes from the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024 approved.

All actions have been completed:

- Newsletter has emphasised about safe and responsible parking to our parent body
- A savings account has ringfenced funds
- £50 has been given to each class teacher
- The Parent Council has registered to Parent Kind to receive Asda Cash Pots funds
- Promotion of parent helpers and calendar of events has helped make Parent Council events a success with great support from our parent body
- Tempest Photography has been pencilled in for same time next year
- School website Parent Council section has been updated

### **Councillor's Update – Cllr Gavin Wylie Keatt**

The South Lanarkshire Council budget is in process: They have drawn up potential savings with working groups. Education looks not too bad as it stands for this year coming. Headteacher Elaine added that what they are proposing at the moment is looking fine for this year.

Speeding on Silvertonhill Avenue: Highlighted recent incidents. Hopeful for some positive action.

Social Media and Mobile Phones: Are issues in the media and being discussed widely at the moment. Proactively getting ahead of it and looking at a ban in schools. This will include an understanding of students individual needs who may require some use.

### **Treasurer's Update – Treasurer Jonny Simpson**

The funds are healthy. See separate Treasurers Report for Details.

Savings account now opened and has a healthy balance of £4000.

Leanne Anderson had a call from South Lanarkshire Council. They will be doing the gala day grants again (we got £700 towards the summer fair last year). Leanne has passed on that we want to apply and to let us know when it opens for applicants. Leanne is happy to take this on again and put forward an application when it opens.

Asda Cash Pots for Schools: this morning balance is sitting at £851.44 and has 10 days left.

Twinkl membership renewal is due in a week, costing £53.88. Renewal proposed. All agreed. Jonny will action.

Charlotte Officer requested the Parent Council fund Fishy Music license for the school. Approximate cost of £50. All agreed. Elaine will price and forward details. Jonny will action.

Elaine Renwick thanked the Parent Council for the £50 for each class teacher. Parent proposal to increase the amount next year as we have gifted £50 for many years. All agreed to reassess next year.

Elaine asked if the Parent Council can again fund the Festive Fun Day juice and snacks. All agreed. Jonny to action.

Question asked about funds received via Parent Pay, if a fee is added. A fee is added but it is a very very small amount.

Fundraising suggestions: Community Payback, Amazon Wishlist, Community Wishlist. Cllrs will forward on information. Could be used to clear shrubbery and the muddy area at the back of the playground to make way for a sandpit and construction play area.

### **Discos Feedback**

We had a massive number of helpers. With so many parents there it made such a difference and almost 400 children had a ball. A massive Thank You.

We changed the P4s to the earlier disco, which also made a big difference. This will remain the same for the next Discos on 6 March 2025.

Elaine Renwick asked that for the next Disco we add on the letter that there are to be no mobile phones. There were also some requests for children to make use of school ear defenders. Suggestion to add on the letter then if children may require ear defenders, they bring their own. Ali will action.

Elaine added that building works are soon beginning and may still be in place at the time of the Discos next year. This may affect entrance and exits but will wait and see and assess closer to the time.

### **Christmas Raffle**

There has not been a good uptake for prizes from local businesses. A lot of money has been asked from parents so far and we do not wish to ask for them to give prizes as well as then purchase tickets. With a healthy balance we have made the decision to cancel the Christmas Raffle this year. It is a pressure that parents do not need.

### **Christmas Cards – Ali Gibson**

Due in school next week. Should be given out at the end of November.

Suggestion from Charlotte Officer that we change the marketing of the cards to be a celebration / festival card as there were some beautiful Eid cards made. All agreed as this will give more options and make the cards more inclusive. Ali will action for next year.

## **Headteacher update – Elaine Renwick**

Thank you to all our parent helpers.

We have had a busy term. Highlights include:

- All children P3 and up are in Pupil Voice Groups eg. Sustainability, Reading, Technology. They have a say in what happens in their school.
- P1 and P2 focus on play during the Pupil Voice Group Time.
- P2 have reintroduced their community links with Centenary Gardens and Avonbridge Card Home based on 'grandparent buddies'. They enjoy fun and craft activities together.
- Friday afternoon masterclasses. They are more child led this time, with the children choosing all activities. These include athletics, music, arts and crafts, lego and first aid. Some are being delivered by S6 pupils at Hamilton Grammar (most of whom are ex-pupils). This Friday is the last one this year. They will do them again in February next year.

Elaine talked about the results of the SWOT analysis completed on parents night.

- You can see a lot of positive comments about the relationships with the children
- A lot of comments about more homework. May look at another Homework consultation.
- Question asked about breakfast club. Ours runs later as most of our children arrive by bus and the first buses don't arrive until 845. This had led to ours being a later 'Toast to Go' service. Children can have toast, fruit and milk. They can stay standing in the dinner hall or go outside to play.
- Positive comments about parental workshops. A parent attended this mornings workshop and gave great feedback and thanks.
- Suggestion of a virtual attendance at the Parent Council. Barry will action for next meeting as a trial on Teams.

## **Any Other Business**

Leavers Hoodies: Idea from a parent that we give the leavers hoodies out in October and they can wear them every Friday. All agreed this was a great idea as they can wear them during the colder weather and for longer. Ali will action for next school year. For this year we will bring them forward to February.

Suggestion for a family fundraising night eg. race night. Will look into this after the new year.

MUGA – no further issues to report.

Tempest Photography – bring the date forward to avoid being so close to the holiday weekend. Ali will action.

Festive Fun Day 18 Dec. A free day for all the children. It is a dress down day to wear whatever you like. P1-P3 have parties, P4-P7 have an obstacle course. Each class watches a movie and does some arts and crafts.

### **Next Parent Council Meeting**

Wednesday 22 January 7pm