

# Marykirk Parent & Carer Council AGM

14<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Marykirk Primary School

**Present:** Fiona Thomson (Head Teacher), Chantal Hay, Heather Herd, Morag Williamson, Louisa Stewart, Greg Stewart, Leanne Hill, Lesley McNamee, Emma Kellas, William Brown

Chaired by: Chantal Hay

## 1. Apologies

Karen Stather, Bev McKinnon, Karen Wolstencroft, Sara Adair, Kim Tait

## 2. Review of Previous Meeting's Minutes

Minutes are not yet available for June's meeting. These will have to be proposed for approval at the next scheduled meeting.

## 3. Chair's Remarks

Chantal opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and for those involved in the previous year's efforts.

## 4. Selection of Office Bearers

Joint-Chair: Heather Herd & Greg Stewart

Secretary: Leanne Hill

Treasurer: Karen Stather had indicated that she was happy to continue as Treasurer. Her re-election was approved.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

This was given by Chantal in Karen's absence. In summary, the finances are in a healthy state with a balance of £2470.88 as of 31/08/2016

Items for funding in the near future are the First Aid Training course & Christmas Pantomime.

**First Aid Training course** This has previously been outlined by Fiona and is aimed at the p5-7 pupils. The intention is to run this annually so all children on reaching p5 will be eligible to attend the course. MPCC funding towards this course was previously agreed upon via a circular distributed by email.

**Christmas Pantomime** Fiona also asked if the MPCC were happy to subsidise the school's trip to the Christmas Pantomime, this year's destination being the Webster Theatre in Arbroath. This was approved and it is anticipated that it will be in line with funding for the previous panto trips.

## 6. Charitable Status Application

This has been ongoing since being suggested at the 2015 AGM. Chantal described progress to date and the advantages of gaining charitable status in the form of a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). The next stage requires the MPCC to decide on various details for the application and this should be considered at the next meeting. **ACTION: Chantal, William**

## 7. Curriculum for 2016-2017

Fiona reported that the ongoing focus is on literacy & numeracy. Encouraging children to find reading as a fun and rewarding activity continues and this has been aided with the purchase of some new books for the school library with the aid of funding.

Regardless of the loss of the specialist French teacher, there is still an emphasis on utilising appropriate French vocabulary on a year-round, everyday basis. There is also a third language but this can alter throughout the year to tie in with relevant topics from other subjects such as history and geography. Besides this, there are informal weekly Spanish lessons from a parent on Monday lunchtimes which is greatly appreciated.

#### **8. Road Safety & Councillors Feedback**

Following on from The MPCC meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> June which had been attended by Councillors Carr & Howatson, there hasn't been any further feedback as regards the points raised at that meeting relating to the traffic situation through the village. There is plenty of anecdotal evidence of vehicles being driven at inappropriate speeds through the village and of near-misses happening on a sadly far too frequent basis. For those living across the road on the Balmanno side of the village, the twice daily crossing is becoming increasingly hazardous.

On a more positive note, a Police traffic car has been seen twice in the past week monitoring the speed of cars at the north end of the village.

Fiona will contact the Councillors to ask if they have any updates that they can share. **ACTION Fiona**

#### **9. Fundraising for 2016-2017**

**Halloween Party:** provisional date for this is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October subject to hall availability. Time 6.30 – 8.00 pm with the usual games. Heather will provide music & DJ'ing along with sweets & glowsticks. Greg will organise the toilet roll "bandages" for the Egyptian mummy game. Fiona will contact the hall re availability, organise tickets and the children will write letters seeking donations for the prizes. As in previous years, pre-schoolers are also welcome to attend. **ACTION Fiona, Heather, Greg**

**Christmas Coffee Morning:** provisional date is Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November, again dependant on hall availability. Besides the usual school & MPCC tables, stalls will be available at £15 per table plus a donation of a prize for the raffle. Heather will contact the regular stall holders and Chantal & Fiona also have a couple of possible stall holders to contact. **ACTION Heather, Chantal, Fiona**

The school will organise tickets (adults £2.50, children £1.50), publicity posters and letters to local businesses seeking donations for raffle prizes. Fiona will also check to see if Wendy Adie is available for photograph sessions. Chantal will check back to see what Christmas puddings were ordered last year and order the same again. **ACTION Fiona, Chantal**

#### **10. Parent Council survey**

Chantal explained that notification of two surveys had been forwarded to her by a local Parent Council co-ordinator. One is for completion by parents and further information can be found at the following website: [http://www.npfs.org.uk/2016/09/06/parent\\_call/](http://www.npfs.org.uk/2016/09/06/parent_call/) This has a closing date for submissions of 31/10/16 so anyone interested in making their views known should visit the above page and complete the survey before that date.

The other survey is for completion by Parent Councils. Chantal suggested that this would be better dealt with as a group at the next MPCC meeting. This was agreed. As this survey has a later closing date for submissions of 6/11/16, this item can go onto the agenda for the next meeting which will be held in advance of the submission date. **ACTION Chantal**

#### **11. Date of next meeting**

This will be held in the school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 6.30pm.