

Marykirk Parent & Carers Council

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

7pm, Tuesday 12th September 2017

at Marykirk Primary School

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Present: Heather Herd (Chair), Fiona Thomson (Head Teacher), Karen Stather (Treasurer), Kim Tait, Carrie Diack, Joanne Midgley, Lesley McNamee, Gayna Sandeman, Willie Brown (minutes)

Chaired by: Heather Herd

1. **Apologies:**

Leanne Hill (Secretary)

2. **Chair's Remarks:**

Heather thanked all for attending. Over the previous year, fundraising had been the prime focus of the MPCC and the support of everyone who attended &/or helped at the fundraising events was greatly appreciated.

3. **Minutes of previous AGM 14th September 2016**

Minutes of the previous AGM had been included with the ordinary meeting minutes immediately following it. These were subsequently approved at the next MPCC meeting in November 2016.

4. **Head Teacher's Report**

Fiona highlighted what she regarded as the MPCC's vital contribution to the school as being the combined aims of fundraising & school improvement via parent engagement. Having parents involved in the day-to-day life of the school is something that the school would very much like to develop.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Karen advised that the final report was underway but not yet completed. Bank balance is healthy though, with a balance of £1907.05 which includes a donation of £250 from the Marykirk Raft Race Committee.

6. **Election of Office Bearers**

6.1 Secretary: Leanne had indicated that she was willing to remain in post as Secretary. Her re-election was approved.

6.2 Treasurer: Karen indicated that she would be happy to stay on as Treasurer. Her re-election was approved.

6.3 Chair: Lesley was proposed for Chair by Kim and this was seconded by Fiona.

7. **Any Other Business**

7.1 Gayna was co-opted with the responsibility of carrying out the role of Administrator on a MPCC group page on Facebook. This group will help highlight the work being done

and also publicise future MPCC meetings in order to maximise attendance. The group is going to be for announcements only. Discussions &/or comments are not going to be enabled as these could require the Administrator to act as a moderator.

AGM concluded

Marykirk Parent & Carers Council

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

held immediately following AGM

Tuesday 12th September 2017 at Marykirk Primary School

Present: Heather Herd, Fiona Thomson (Head Teacher), Karen Stather (Treasurer), Kim Tait, Carrie Diack, Joanne Midgley, Lesley McNamee (Chair), Gayna Sandeman, Willie Brown (minutes)

Chaired by: Lesley McNamee

1. **Apologies:**

Leanne Hill (Secretary)

2. **Review of Previous Meeting's Minutes:**

Minutes from 9th May 2017 were proposed for approval by Fiona and seconded by Willie.

3. **Parent Council Funding**

An email had been received from Aberdeenshire council requesting details on the MPCC membership. Karen will respond to this. **Action: Karen**

4. **MPCC Survey**

4.1 Final total of submissions was 11 which is above average given the usual response rate for such surveys and taking into account family groupings etc. Thanks to everyone who took the time to respond.

4.2 Impossible to schedule for a day & time that would suit everybody. Either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings suit the majority of respondents best. It seems the best policy is to continue to be flexible when scheduling meetings.

4.3 All respondents thought that the aim of applying for charitable status was a good idea.

4.4 Summary report of the responses to be emailed to the Parent forum email distribution list. **Action: Willie**

5. **MPCC – Charitable status application**

5.1 Willie explained that this has been on hold over the summer but will start back on it soon. Main immediate aim is to ensure that whatever the membership structure, it should not put off possible members from attending meetings & joining in.

5.2 Leaflet summarising the reasons behind making the application. This to be distributed to the Parent forum email distribution list. **Action: Willie**

5.3 Check to see if Leanne is still happy to assist with the preparation of the application. **Action: Willie**

6. **Curriculum for 2017-2018**

6.1 Fiona explained that the School Improvement Plan is currently in draft form and once approved, should be published shortly.

6.2 The focus for the coming school year is on raising attainment in both literacy & numeracy. Current levels of these within the school are not causing any concern but it does no harm to reinforce these given that these skills underpin effective learning.

6.3 Other key areas are Visible Learning, developing a growth mindset and resilience. The school will be hearing a talk from James Nottingham on the topic of the "Learning Pit", which features many aspects of these key areas. Further information on that can be found here: <http://www.jamesnottingham.co.uk/learning-pit/>

7. **Forthcoming Events**

7.1 Halloween Party. Provisional date is to be chosen from either Thur 2nd or Friday 3rd, depending on hall availability. Fiona to check & advise. **Action: Fiona**

7.2 Christmas Coffee Morning. Provisional date is Saturday 25th November 10am-1pm. Fiona will check hall availability & book. **Action: Fiona**

7.3 Christmas Coffee Morning. The side-room is going to feature some creative activities for the children such as face painting. Any other ideas welcome.

7.4 Stall Holders: Heather will make contact with previous holders to establish likely numbers. **Action: Heather**

7.5 Posters to publicise the event. Gayna will look after this. **Action: Gayna**

8. **Co-operation with Luthermuir PTA**

8.1 No meetings have taken place as yet though both parties are willing. Contact to be made once they have had their AGM. **Action: Lesley & Leanne**

9. **Road Safety**

9.1 The traffic situation is just as bad, if not worse as before in terms of difficulty in crossing safely due to a combination of excess speed and the amount of traffic.

9.2 The pupils have received road safety training but this is beside the point as it isn't the children who are the source of the danger. Rather, it is the significant proportion of speeding and otherwise inconsiderate drivers who are putting others, especially pedestrians in danger.

9.3 Fiona suggested inviting local councillors to the next Community Café which could allow parents to discuss the issue directly. **Action: Fiona**

9.4 It could be worth contacting Mearns Community Council to see whether they can assist and/or advise in addressing the issue.

9.5 Gayna mentioned that she had raised the matter with the current MSP when she had been canvassing locally prior to this year's General Election.

10. **Any Other Business**

10.1 MPCC are happy to pay for the TechFest bus.

- 10.2 MPCC email account. This will need to be updated to reflect the new office bearers. Lesley to confirm her email address to Leanne who can then update the account accordingly. **Action: Leanne & Lesley**
- 10.3 Bingo night. Previous one was well attended so another will be arranged at a later date. Put on agenda for next meeting. **Action: Leanne**
- 10.4 Tea urn. Meetings make for drouthy work so it was suggested that a tea urn be purchased to allow for refreshments to be taken. **Action: Heather**
11. **Date of next meeting**
- 6.30pm on Wednesday, 8th November.