

## Marykirk Parent & Carers Council

### Minutes of Meeting held on

Wednesday 7th January 2015

**Present:** Karen Stather, Karen Wolstencroft, Heather Herd, Fiona Thomson (Head Teacher), Kim Tait, William Brown

**Chaired by:** Heather Herd

#### 1. Apologies

Bev MacKinnon, Sara Adair, Janet Thomson, Julie Milne, Lynn Dawson

#### 2. Review of Previous Minutes - 12th November 2014

Minutes were proposed as a true reflection of events by Fiona Thomson and seconded by Kim Tait.

#### 3. Family 80s Disco: 7-11pm, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2015

##### Games/Activities:

"Wine or Water?" – clean & empty wine bottles will be needed for this along with some full wine bottles. Action: **WB**

"Roll a penny" – two versions: one for children with a bottle of Appletise or similar as the prize while the adult version's prize will be a bottle of whisky or similar. Action: **HH**

Chocolate Tombola – donations required for this.

##### Promotion:

Hall booking & time to be confirmed Action: **HH**

Disco will be open to the village. Leaflet drop to advertise: volunteers to assist with this would be welcomed! Contact Heather as soon as possible. Action: **HH**

Poster in village hall & its notice board Action: **HH**

Tickets required for pre-sales Action: **HH**

Boards on approach to village in week before the disco Action: **KT**

##### Set-Up:

School sound system will be available for the night. Action: **FT/HH**

Check whether drapes are available to help acoustically dampen the hall. Action: **KW**

#### 4. Future Fundraising Activities

Fiona outlined a number of activities such as 'We Day' for which fundraising would be very welcome and in some cases necessary to maximize the opportunities for the children to attend these events. Looking ahead, there are a number of possible fund raising events that could be organized. These include a Pamper Evening and the possibility of a wine tasting/quiz evening.

There is potential to link in with the Raft Race (May 17<sup>th</sup> 2015) and benefit from the extra people in the area on the day. Only activities that didn't take away from the Raft Race's efforts would be considered. Suggestions for suitable ideas are welcome.

#### **5. Active Maths**

Fiona announced the purchase of this package which will be of direct benefit in teaching problem solving in maths and general numeracy. There will be a transition period as the teaching staff familiarize themselves with the system and develop lessons to best exploit it.

#### **6. School Vision, Values & Aims**

Fiona explained how this has been created with reference to various articles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. All present read over the document and were in agreement with the content. Heather, as Chair signed the copy to indicate as much.

The children themselves in the form of the Pupil Council have developed their own interpretation and provided a clear set of expectations. These 'School Aims' can be found on the school website (<http://marykirk.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/Our-School-Aims.pdf>).

#### **7. PTA Magazine**

This has formerly been provided free of charge on a trial basis. If we wish to continue it will cost £12 per annum for four issues published quarterly. It was agreed to subscribe to it for a year and review continuation annually thereafter.

#### **8. AOCB**

'Marykirk's got Talent' – there seems to be quite a bit of demand amongst the children for this to take place. Put on agenda for next meeting to discuss in more detail. Action: **WB**

Movie Night – there is interest in getting this restarted. Popcorn & juice would be included for a price of £2 per child. Put on agenda for next meeting to discuss in more detail. Action: **WB**

The Library is going well and so far has not needed to call on any of the parent volunteers to assist.

Karen Wolstencroft stated that she was very pleased to discover the greater emphasis that has recently been placed on the teaching of spelling and the 'times tables', the effects of which she'd directly observed. Kim Tait mentioned that she had also noticed this and was pleased to hear of this change in emphasis. Fiona thanked them for the positive comments and said that she would pass them onto the teaching staff.

#### **9. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 6.30pm – any agenda items can be handed into the school office.