

Dunvegan Primary Parent Council Minutes

Date: 4 th May 2021 Time: 7:30pm online via Google Meet		
Agenda Items	Minutes	Action
1. Welcome, Apologies and Thanks	<p><u>Present:</u> Anna Campbell (Chair), Vicki Parfitt (Head), Mali Messent, Lucy Salter</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Marion MacGregor, Corrie Robertson, Katyana Ranicar, Catherine Matheson</p>	
2. Minutes from the previous meeting	<p>The minutes from the meeting on 9th March were checked and signed on behalf of the proposer and seconder.</p> <p>Proposed: Anna Campbell 2nd: Mali Messent</p>	
3. Actions from previous meeting	<p><u>New School development</u> - Research into existing PassivHaus school buildings is ongoing</p> <p><u>Parent Council email</u> - this is now up and running, and is being monitored by AC</p>	AC and LS to continue this
4. Finance Report	<p>MM presented a finance report (see attached). Since the last meeting there has been little change, as visitors are still not allowed into schools due to Covid-19 restrictions, so no money has been spent on workshops etc.</p> <p>£80 has been received from the Highland Council, this is their yearly payment into Parent Council funds.</p> <p>The Trust has promised funds to cover the new Smart TVs which are to be installed in the classes in the main building (the demountable units have them already), the ongoing Forest School sessions and the polycrub. These funds will be forwarded to school once invoices have been sent in to the Trust.</p>	VP to send copies of invoices to the Trust
5. Parent Council Projects	<p><u>Dunvegan Seed and Plant Swap Station</u> - this has been set up in Dunvegan car park & it was thought that the children could contribute by collaboratively designing a seed planting calendar to be available in the seed swap station. Rosie Morrison, a local artist and horticulturalist, has agreed to run some workshops with the school children to create a growing calendar in the style of a crop wheel. Atlas arts have agreed to supply the art materials for the design work, and will print the finished calendar. As visitors are not currently allowed into school due to Covid-</p>	

	<p>19 regulations, it was hoped that this could go ahead in the new school year (August). MM has volunteered to assist with these sessions too.</p> <p><u>Outdoor shelters</u> - builders who have informally assessed the outdoor shelters have recommended that they be renovated rather than go to the cost and effort of demolishing them and rebuilding. This may be possible with a team of parent volunteers and some donated materials. LS agreed to assess what would be needed and to work on redesigning the shelter interior with the Forest School groups.</p> <p><u>Polycrub</u> - a parent team will be needed to help erect the polycrub when it arrives - this will involve digging out holes for the poles to be cemented into and clearing the site where it will be situated. It is hoped that the new school development will not affect the area where the polycrub will be sited.</p> <p><u>New School Development</u> - following the publishing of the plans for the new school in Dunvegan and a meeting with Highland Council representatives on 26th April, the PC has been encouraged to send letters of support for the new school plans to the Council. PC members thought that letters sent should offer thanks for the replacement demountable units, but also highlight the ongoing problems with the main school building and push for a complete new build to be completed asap rather than a phased approach. The addition of new houses as part of the plan has been welcomed, but should not be allowed to hold up the start of the work on the school development itself. The PC need to encourage all parents to write to the HC in support of the plans for the new school.</p>	<p>LS to draw up list of materials needed for renovation</p> <p>AC to draft a letter from the PC</p>
<p>6. Head Teacher's Update</p>	<p><u>School improvement plan</u> - VP noted that this is usually completed by mid-June, but the format hasn't yet been sent through from the Council. This may be delayed due to the schools being closed in lockdown. VP thought that possible areas for development could include an increased play pedagogy throughout Early and First Levels in the Nursery and School, and the uptake of digital profiling for all children to increase the communication of learning goals and achievements between parents, teachers and children.</p> <p><u>P7 Activities</u> - the P7 trip to Raasay was held virtually online again this year, providing an opportunity for the children to meet other P7s across Skye and take part in a week of fun challenges. The school hopes to be able to</p>	

	<p>take the P7s for two days of sports at local activity centres in June, if Covid-19 restrictions at the time allow it. These may also be opened up to last year's P7's who also missed their Raasay experience.</p> <p><u>Whole school summer trip</u> - it is hoped that the whole school will be able to spend the day at Coral Beach. This was a successful trip in 2019 and should be within the regulations as it is local to the school.</p> <p><u>Staffing</u> - unfortunately Mrs Taggart is not well enough to return to work, however two Gaelic-speaking teachers have been booked to cover her class in her absence.</p> <p>Pupil numbers look set to allow for the continuation of two classes for both Gaelic and English medium children in the 2021-22 session.</p>	
7. AOB	<p><u>PC members</u> - The PC discussed ways in which more parents could be encouraged to attend meetings. A Facebook poll was suggested to gather possible barriers to attendance which would allow these to be addressed in future. VP suggested a system of class representatives, where parents are involved with their child's class on a rota basis, and could attend PC meetings as part of this responsibility.</p> <p><u>School day</u> - The possibility and feasibility of moving to a half day on Fridays was discussed. The High School and some primaries on Skye already do this, which involves a longer school day on Mon-Thurs. A move to this system had been suggested to parents a few years ago and was rejected, but it was felt that now, as more schools take it on, Dunvegan children might be missing out on sports activities happening on Friday afternoons. VP agreed to poll parents again on whether they wanted to change the school week.</p>	<p>AC to post Facebook poll</p> <p>VP to gather parental opinion on a 4.5 day week</p>
8. Next meeting	The next meeting will be online on Tuesday, 1 st June Time tbc.	

Signed _____

Signed _____