

# Friends of Maud School Parent Council

## Minutes

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Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### Attendees

Committee: John Curno (Chair), Kenny Westmacott (Vice Chair), Louise Cran (Treasurer), Cat Anderson (Fundraising), Rebecca Cassie (Fundraising);

School: Mrs McCue, Mrs Steel, Miss Portsmouth, Adele Scrimshaw (Quality Improvement Officer)

Members: Kath O'Connor, Katie Fordyce

### Apologies

Committee: Louise Gorley (Secretary);

School: Miss White, Miss Park, Miss Ovens

Members: Lynne Adams, Jennifer Grey, Louise Catto

### 1. Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone.

### 2. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting were summarised by Ken Westmacott, approved by Cat Anderson, seconded by Katie Fordyce.

### 3. School Improvement Plan

Mrs Steel gave a very quick overview of the School Improvement Plan. It has been emailed and put on the website so this was a quick summary.

- Curriculum Framework – ascertain where pupils are and plan for next steps which enables teachers to make better decisions.
- Rights Respecting School – making good progress
- 1+2 languages – the children are very enthusiastic to learn French and the teachers are doing some twilight training to improve too.
- Raising Attainment and Achievement – trying to ensure all pupils reach their full potential
- Reporting – a parent group was held to discuss the new reporting structure and how to take this forward

### 4. Reporting to Parents

A short report has been prepared based on the discussions held at the parent meeting, emphasising the next steps for the children. There is a yearly calendar going out soon, which shows the reporting to parents' stages through the year. It will be colour coded and explained to the parents. Also, any documents home which are classed as reporting to parents will be on a different colour paper to highlight what they are.

### 5. Implications of School Rezoning Proposals

Rezoning – Kath asked about the implications to our school. Mrs Steel thought it would be a positive impact with a projected increase of 12 children over 3 years. The school has capacity (the council work on a floor space required by a child). Adele Scrimshaw said it necessary to ensure the least negative impact. Concern was expressed that with the increase it would take us to the cut off for needing to increase to 6 classes and if we hovered around that level then we could potentially need a different number of classes through the school year. The disruption this caused last time, reducing from 5 classes to 4 mid way through the year was immense. Although the need for rezoning is necessary we just want to be kept up to date with the effect on our school. Mrs Steel highlighted the meeting in Mintlaw and everyone had been invited, but also if anyone had questions and could not attend to let the school know and they would ensure they were asked.

### 6. Review of the School Questionnaire

Kenny had some questions about the questionnaires, especially about the disagree and strongly disagree, and how was this questionnaire used. Mrs McCue/Mrs Steel explained they were mainly aware of the issues but were taken seriously and used to see how the school can improve. The figures were discussed and it was

confirmed they were percentages and this wording would be added to the next report. They had 33 responses from 71 families and Adele Scrimshaw indicated this was probably a bit above the average.

## **7. Treasurers Report**

The bank balance as of 29th September 2016 was £2,902.00, less £40.13 cheque yet to be cashed, and including Aberdeenshire Council funding of £286.50 make the current balance £3,148.37. There was money still to be paid to the school depending on the blinds which need purchasing (to follow) and would be handed over soon.

## **8. Maud School Football**

As usually happens between the October holidays and the Easter holidays, our training sessions have changed. The P1-3s have 2 sessions at Maud Village Hall, the coaches have split the children according to their abilities. The first group is at 6.15-7, and the second 7.15 to 8. The P4-7s are all training at New Deer All Weather Pitch from 6-7. Our next committee meeting is Thurs 3rd November at Maud Social Club at 7.30 all parents are welcome. We are always looking for more volunteers both for helping and at training and coaching, speak to Louise Cran about this if they can help and she can organise PVG training.

## **9. Parent Council Communication Ideas**

The issuing of minutes and notes is still reliant on school. FB has quite a few signed up but not the email address. In the future those signed up to the email would get minutes and everyone would be encouraged to do so. School will add to the newsletter and add it to the school handbook for new P1s next year.

## **10. SPTC Training**

Due to the committee being excessively busy, this issue has been put aside for present and will require to be raised again at the next meeting.

## **11. Fundraising**

### **a. Christmas Fayre**

Cat is updating the fundraising sheet for this time of year – there is the Xmas Fayre (Choc Tombola, organised mums and theatre lucky squares). It was confirmed the concert date was 19th December. The sheet also included Burns Ceilidh, Discos, Organised Mums, and a form for help.

### **b. Lucky Squares**

See item 12(a)

### **c. Other Ideas**

Easy Fundraising – apparently Maud School are registered but it is not currently used – Cat to look into.

Evening Express CommunitEE Chest was discussed – it was thought it was worth a try.

Mrs McCue suggested a Rock & Roll Bingo – you can buy packs and you have a bingo sheet to match to music playing – the Fundraisers will look into this.

Christmas Evening Shopping Trip – we have done before but gone to McArthur Glen and perhaps a more local one might be just as profitable – Fundraisers to look into.

## **12. Blackout Curtains – Options**

John explained the blinds/curtains for Mrs Moir's room and how the prices worked out. It was thought that the outside blinds in a colour to suit Mrs Moir at £280 were the best option. John offered to measure any more that were needed. School thanked John for his work on this.

## **13. Date for Burns Ceilidh**

It was thought the limitation on dates previously had been set by Ythan fiddlers so we could have it at a time to suit us this year. A date was set for 27th January 2017. One issue last year was a lot of wasted food. The Café would be asked for a price for an adults and child's portion – Kath to do as she would see Annette, also asking about tatties and neaps being provided.

## **14. AOB**

Louise Cran had been asked by a parent for clarity on Library books, and if not going home does this meet the GIRFEC Chart? They are not going home, they are read at school due to them not being returned by parents, or being damaged.

Mrs Steel said there was to be a Quality Inspection on the 10th November with Adele Scrimshaw and others. Adele said they are guided by Education Scotland and the heads have assessed the school and they visit to moderate their assessment. A report goes to the school and the heads interpret it and issue a more user friendly version to parents. Some letters may go home to parents asking them if they want to visit and discuss.

Kenny asked if Class Dojo is being used? Miss Park had apparently forgotten in the first few days of term but would start again with it. Kenny also thought there should have been more information on its use and purpose.

Christmas Gifts – it was thought a P1-3 and P4-7 split would work and the exact numbers would be confirmed by Mrs McCarthy. Rebecca Cassie, Cat Anderson, Katie Fordyce, Louise Cran and Kath O'Connor would all be interested in helping choose gifts and sort the wrapping etc. Teachers would be consulted too to ensure no cross over.

## **15. Date for Next Meeting**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017**