

# MINUTES

## Parent Council Meeting

*Date | time* Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2pm | *Meeting called by* Donna Adams

### Present

Donna Adams (Chair) | Clare Birkby (Secretary, minutes) | Julia Rickard (Headmistress) | Myles Conlon | Jane Hinton | Elaine Morrison | Angela Arnold | Allyson Ironside | Ian Taylor | Ross Cassie

### Apologies

Owen Birkby | Denise Gallon | Louise McPherson | Caroline Shearer | Caroline Taylor | Lorraine Brennan | Sue Brightman | Joanne Cathcart | Sandie McDonald | Ted Peters | Karen Riddell

**Please note, dates for your diary are shown in red.**

Item	Action
1. <b>Welcome</b> Clare Birkby opened the meeting and thanked all for attendance, particularly Councilor Ross Cassie.	
2. <b>Old business &amp; approval of last meeting's minutes</b> No comments or amendments.	
3. <b>Valentine's Disco</b> Clare thanked everyone who brought their children, particular the parents who stayed to help and the three families who joined us from Fintry School. £70.18 was raised on the night.	
4. <b>A Night With Annie Moon, Clairvoyant</b> <b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> April, Commercial Hotel, Cumminestown</b> Playgroup have created the event on Facebook and this is being shared regularly. Playgroup will place an advert in the newspapers at the end of March, and School will duplicate this two weeks before the event (w/c 11 <sup>th</sup> April). The guest list is open and several tickets have already been reserved. Please could all parents bring in raffle prize donations?	All
5. <b>Treasurer's Report</b> Donna reported that Sandie McDonald has stepped down as Treasurer and the paperwork will be handed over to Donna (done 1 <sup>st</sup> March). Volunteers for the role are welcome, the ledger is a very simple paper-based system with minimal entries. Elaine Morrison has very kindly agreed to continue signing cheques.  The current bank balance is £1820.47, which includes the Valentine's Disco funds, and £59.60 from RagBag. The Paypal balance is £87.88. The invoices for the swimming bus and first aid course will be due shortly.	

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## 6. Headteacher's Report

### *Swimming lessons*

These start next term for P5-7, and will be every Monday from 11am-12noon from the first Monday back after the holidays. The invoice for the bus will be payable at the end of the block. The cost of the swimming bus is £75 per lesson and there are 10 lessons.

The cost of the lessons are met by Active Schools and the Parent Council previously asked parents for a £3 contribution per child per lesson towards bus costs. Lessons are for P5-7 this year; 17 children are included.

Julia Rickard

### *New attendance and absence policy*

A new attendance and absence policy has been introduced, the main change being that the attendance trigger is now 90% rather than 75%. Julia explained the flowchart and the process.

Please can all parents ensure that they notify the school by phone (01888 551217) or e-mail ([crudie.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:crudie.sch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)) as soon as possible in the event that their child(ren) will not be at school that day.

All parents

### *World Book Day*

This is on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, but school will be celebrating this on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March**. A book swap will also take place whereby children can bring in a book that they no longer read, and swap with other children.

"Ready Steady Read" will take place during w/c 7<sup>th</sup> March, whereby children can collect sponsorship for all their reading activities during that week, be it reading by themselves, being read to, or simply reading comic books or recipes. All funds raised will be used to buy books for the school, and our Usborne Books rep is also donating the commission to be used to buy books. Reading logs will be given to children on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March. All children taking part will get a small prize.

### *iPads*

iPads have been purchased and staff are currently being trained and are learning how these can best be used in the school environment. Staff will be making use of knowledge gained during the "Learning through mobile technology" session on the last in-service day. The iPads will be introduced into classes next term.

Julia has also purchased another iPad and two laptops, and also requested funding through the Dick Bequest Fund for two more laptops. The deadline for this funding is 31<sup>st</sup> March so we should hear soon after that.

There will be a twilight training session for OneNote during w/c 7<sup>th</sup> March, to be used for pupil profiling. It is felt that last year's process is not manageable and children will now be able to have much more input.

Digital literacy, e.g. using OneNote and iPads as effectively as possible will be included in the improvement plan for the next session.

### *Reporting*

At the start of the 2017/2018 session all schools will be reporting differently to parents. This will be done throughout the year, including open afternoons, presentations, and the children generally being more involved. We will be collaborating with King Edward and Fintry schools and a parent session will be held to introduce the new plans.

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### *Curriculum progressions*

Head Teachers recently worked alongside Education Scotland to produce curriculum progressions for Aberdeenshire. Next session one of the school improvements will be to take this work forward in school starting with the development of new planning formats.

## 7. **Any Other Business**

### *Competitions*

Councilor Cassie and Ian Taylor have been running a competition for children from Bracoden, King Edward and Crudie schools to design a new logo for the King Edward and Gamrie Community Council. The Turriff Young Farmers are coming out to talk to the children about farming in the past, present and how they see it for the future so that the children can then design posters of their vision of Farming in the Future for a competition run by the Scottish Government.

### *Car parking*

Ian Taylor has been looking at the land/house next door with a view to acquiring it for use as additional car parking for the community, however the owner has not replied to attempts to contact him. Councilor Cassie confirmed that the Community Impoundment Act could be used in order to force the owner to respond, and if he doesn't we can put in a note of interest. A council valuer can then value the land and facilitate its purchase. The community as a whole can put together a case for sustainable use of this land, and this would be a project which will need to be formalised and managed by a substantial team from the community. If anyone has any suggestions for taking this forward, please submit them to school or to the Community Council.

## 8. **Next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm**. Everyone is very welcome to attend, however if you are unable to attend and have any items to raise or questions to ask, please forward these via the School Office or e-mail [clare\\_birkby@btinternet.com](mailto:clare_birkby@btinternet.com).

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### **Distribution:**

Parent Council

All parents

Staff

Crudie Playgroup

Councilor Cassie

Councilor Partridge

### **Parent Council Committee Members' Contact Details:**

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Treasurer, position vacant