

King's Park Parent Council Meeting - Minutes

Date: Wednesday 15th November 2017

Time: 7.00pm

Place: King's Park Primary School, Senior Building (Door A)

Agenda Item	Update
Welcome	JC welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new school year.
Previous Actions	JP confirmed all actions had been completed.
PTA Update	<p>No one from PTA was able to attend the meeting.</p> <p>The group discussed the upcoming Christmas Fair and referenced the various updates and requests for donations that were being shared via Facebook.</p> <p>AL re-iterated the PTA's plea for parents to volunteer to support stalls etc, on the day.</p>
Head Teacher Update	<p>AL informed us the proposed Street Closure consultation agreed it should proceed, as quickly as possible. She confirmed that concerns had been raised about whether or not Police would be able to enforce the scheme and confirmed that the Police had confirmed they would provide resources "as appropriate". AL acknowledged that concerns had also been raised that closing one street would likely move the problem to another street and informed us that the Police had confirmed this would also be reviewed. She confirmed that next steps were related to completion of the required statutory measures to allow the closures to commence in January.</p> <p>AL shared an update on health and wellbeing on behalf of Jamie Dougal:</p> <p>Curriculum - Staff will be soon embarking on an audit of the present HWB curriculum across School. This will allow the staff to assess where we are at present with the HWB curriculum and allow us to plan an updated HWB programme.</p> <p>Outdoor Education - The gardening group has been a success and the pupil's involved have demonstrated a great level of enthusiasm. The group have an action plan in place for the year and through this the School have made some positive partnerships with Volunteer Midlothian and Growing Gardeners. Volunteer Midlothian have been working with us leading the gardening group and Growing Gardeners are planned to come in to do further works in the School grounds with plans to carry out further work with the pupils. Long term it would be great if we could have a family morning, where families come in and volunteer a Saturday morning to assist with gardens (Potentially in Spring time?).</p> <p>Sporting Successes - We have been represented at several Active Schools sporting events with a good level of participation coupled with some good success:</p> <p>Cross Country Festival – September</p> <p>Midlothian Swimming Gala – September</p> <p>Boys and Girls Football Festivals – September and October</p> <p>We are scheduled to participate in a forthcoming Rugby Festival (40 children from P6 and P7) and also the Midlothian Sportshall Athletics event in January.</p> <p>Funding - Robert Wilson has also kindly volunteered his time in order to source relevant funding to add to our present PE apparatus, Playground equipment and gardening materials. This will be an ongoing exercise however already Robert has uncovered some positive leads.</p>

	<p>Food Glorious Food Programme - The School received £2300 last year as part of Midlothian Council's food glorious food programme. This has been used to fund the three large planters that are in the main playground, additional funding for plants and shrubs. The final aspect of this was purchasing a Smoothie bike for the School. This is anticipated to be delivered over the next week or so and its initial outing will be the School Christmas Fair.</p> <p>Health Week 2018 - We have begun planning next year's Health Week. After last year's successful athlete visit from Athletes in Schools, we will have a visit from two athletes. If any parents/families have any HWB related interests they would be willing to share with pupils then if they could contact Jamie, that would be much appreciated. This could be from meditation, Health related careers or sporting interests.</p> <p>Robert then gave an overview of the activity he has been undertaking to source funding from local companies. He confirmed that he was still awaiting responses from many and had a mixed response from those who had replied, with some committing to providing resources for the school.</p>
Proposed Budget Cuts	<p>AL talked to the group about how the Education budget had been the most protected area of the budget in previous years but is now being asked to contribute to savings. She mentioned some of the proposals that would affect the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A 10% reduction of Learning Assistants - Review of the Sure Start contract - Review of Lifelong Learning and Employability - A reduction in the amount of the Devolved School Management budget that can be carried forward to the next year (2.5% reduced to 1.5%) - Chargeable instrumental tuition - A review of the Lets/charges applied to After School Clubs in council buildings (Laura Cockram also confirmed she'd been informed that Dalkeith After School Club had stated that any increase to their costs would need to be passed on to parents) <p>JC asked John Hackett (JH) for his opinion on how parents can best share their views and concerns.</p> <p>JH encouraged everyone to contribute to sharing any concerns. He informed the group that, even with the proposed cuts, the budget shortfall will still not be fully addressed.</p> <p>Gail asked JH if he knew where all the 'income', generated by the significant amount of new builds in the area, was being swallowed up. J gave examples of this, e.g. sending a child to school, bin collections, road maintenance and building new schools etc. At this point, AL committed to providing an update on the plans for expanding KPS at the next meeting.</p> <p>JH was asked what the most effective way to share concerns would be. He suggested a collective response, which clearly shows how each proposed cut would impact the group, along with sharing other ideas on savings.</p> <p>Gail suggested an alternative way to share views, involving children in videos, to emphasis the impact the cuts could have. The group agreed that this would be an innovative way to get our points across and Gail confirmed she would be happy to lead this activity. She suggested that anyone else who wanted to get involved could get in touch with her.</p> <p>JC asked for a volunteer to collate a more formal response, which could be shared with the Parent Council at the end November/beginning of December for comment, prior to the 14th December deadline.</p> <p>Laura Cockram volunteered to lead this activity, as well as creating a 'template' that individuals could 'copy and paste' and submit themselves. Diana and Aoi bhe volunteered to help her and Laura asked any other parents who would like to support this activity to get in touch.</p> <p>Laura advised the group she had already started a petition to save the Library, which was being shared on Facebook. She encouraged all parents to sign it and share it.</p>

<p>Parental Engagement Survey</p>	<p>JP shared the outputs of the Survey Monkey results, which were the result of 48 surveys. AL confirmed that there had been an additional 186 responses collated during the Parent Consultation evenings and these were being collated and typed up by P7 pupils and the school office. JP asked AL to pass on the Parent Council's gratitude to all involved with the effort to gather and collate the responses. JC confirmed that future meetings would explore the results further and use the information to agree next steps.</p>
<p>AOB</p>	<p>School Pigeon - Phil Bowen confirmed that there had been 253 apps downloaded so far. AL confirmed that texts alerts will continue for the moment as a way to ensure important messages reach all parents. She also confirmed that a flyer had been given out to all children as an encouragement for all parents to sign up, following a successful trial with P1 parents. The group discussed how the App could be promoted and agreed that Phil should share the link via Facebook. The group also discussed how the App should be rolled out as the primary method of communication across the whole school. After a debate, it was agreed that a 1 week countdown will commence during the week beginning 27th November. It was also agreed that this could be promoted at the open morning, Christmas Fair etc. AL confirmed she would also share a list of communication types, and the method that will be used to share them, via the website.</p> <p>Children's University – Robert advised the group that the next round of graduations will be shared via a 'live link' to the ceremony. AL agreed this would good to share with parents and committed to doing this.</p> <p>Future Agenda item – Laura asked that a future meeting be used to discuss the Relationships and Behaviours Policy and how parents and children contribute to this.</p> <p>Disabled Spaces – Karlyn advised that she had witnessed the Happy Days mini bus using the disabled space outside the school. AL agreed that this should not be happening and advised she would look to address this.</p> <p>JC confirmed the next meeting will be held on 7th February 2018.</p>

Actions:

1511-001	Include an update of the expansion of King's Park Primary School on the agenda for the next meeting	John Clydesdale/Jillian Phair	15/11/17	07/02/18
1511-002	Any parent who would like to get involved/get their children involved in the video summarising concerns about the proposed budget cuts to get in touch with Gail at gailwatson@talktalk.net	ALL	15/11/17	07/02/18
1511-003	Any parent who would like to get involved in the formal response summarising concerns about the proposed budget cuts to get in touch with Laura at laura.a.cockram@gmail.com	ALL	15/11/17	07/02/18
1511-004	Share list of communication types/methods via the school website	Arlene Limerick	15/11/17	07/02/18
1511-005	Include an agenda item for review of the Relationships and Behaviours policy at the next meeting	John Clydesdale/Jillian Phair	15/11/17	07/02/18
1511-006	Share a link to the live feed for the Children's University Graduation Ceremony via the school website, Twitter etc	Arlene Limerick	15/11/17	07/02/18
1511-007	Approach Happy Days about misuse of the disabled parking space next to the school	Arlene Limerick	15/11/17	07/02/18

Decisions:

Decision	Date
W/C 27/11/17 will be the countdown week, after which School Pigeon will be the primary method for communications from the school	15/11/17