

Abbeyhill Parent Council Meeting

Date: 12 Sept. 2018 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Venue: Abbeyhill Primary School

Minutes By: Charlene Kay



ITEM	DESCRIPTION		ACTION
	PRESENT		
	Simon Preston	PC Chair	SP
	Charlene Kay	PC Secretary	CK
	Vlad Hasiu	PC Treasurer	VH
	Sally Ketchin	Head Teacher	SK
	Keith Martin	Principal Teacher (P7)	KM
	Melanie Chuprasova	Parent	MC
	Janina Costa	Parent	JC
	Illiyan Nedkova	Parent	IN
	Karen Ridgewell	Parent	KR
	Ann Pratt	Parent	AP
	Dimitra Trivilou	Parent	DT
	Apologies		
	James Preston	Parent	JP
1.0	Welcome by the Chair		
1.1	SP welcomed and thanked all for attending.		
2.0	The Role of the Parent Council		
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was made available for new attendees. 		
3.0	Previous Meeting Actions		
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP has updated the PC constitution. It's been circulated and approved. There were questions over the various roles in the Parent Council and Parent Forum, these were clarified. There was also a discussion about how many years an officer should serve, Connect advised no more than 5 but this does not need to be part of the Constitution. This constitution replaces the one written in October 2016. 		
3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Both book fairs have been cancelled for this year after concerns last year that parents were feeling pressured to buy books/parents weren't happy with the books their children 		

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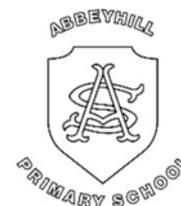
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	were selecting on their 'wish lists.' Instead, KM is gathering fun ideas for Book Week in Nov. Will likely involve an exchange/reuse activity rather than a money making scheme. Could have a lending library in the playground.	
3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Santander group have started painting! SP is donating a stage to the school. 	SP
3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding application to Craigentiny & Duddingston Partnership for middle playground improvements dropped, requirements of CEC too onerous. Illie is taking up the application for one of her projects. 	
4.0	Chairs Report	
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks to all the families who came along to our end of term Playground Party in June, it was really well attended and great fun. Special thanks to all those who worked hard to make it happen and run smoothly. The team involved have made notes to ensure we can build on our success next year. 	
4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks again to Mr. Martin and Mrs. Lansdown for all the work they put into the Food For Thought application to raise funds to build a new kitchen classroom at Abbeyhill. The application was successful and has allowed for the purchase of new equipment. 	
4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new projector screen has been purchased from school funds to make best use of the new projector purchased by the Parent Council. 	
4.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome to the new intake of P1 Parents who are already taking an active role in the work of the Parent Council and Parent Forum. 	
4.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Happy to report that the PC Facebook page followers has increased from 49 in May to 77, well done P2 parent Charlene Kay who manages the page for us. 	
4.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks to P3 parent Billy McElhone and his team at Santander for their continuing work to build a music and performance area under the main building. Unfortunately this didn't happen during the summer break but is now underway. 	
4.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks to Mrs Souness for her input into the plan for line painting on the Playground, we now have a new plan and painting (by P2 parent William Kearns) will commence soon. 	
4.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks to Linda Watt, Abbeyhill Business Manager, for arranging the installation of an outside tap, this will allow us to keep our new plants alive. 	

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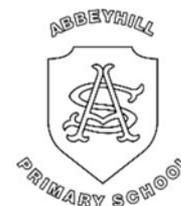
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4.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simon Preston attended the CEC NE Locality meeting on behalf of Abbeyhill PC on 12 September. Among other things the new Scottish Government initiative to improve parental engagement was discussed, along with school building works, school lets and school meals. 	
5.0	Treasurers Report	
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall, we are up £700 from last year 	
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current balance: £2616.31 	
5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed what the parent council usually pays for – the P7 ceilidh, one nursery trip and the bus to the Panto in Dec. 	
5.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SP mentioned we need an audit of the parent council accounts. SP will ask Billy (P3 parent), who works at Santander. 	SP
6.0	Head Teachers Report	
6.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School news is being shared on the school website with the Head Teacher's blog (Cooking Classroom, Maths Week, Play Rangers, Colony of Artists, Collective Gallery). Media attention over our Maths Week activities (Edinburgh Evening News) 	
6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a lot of positive feedback from Meet the Teacher Sept. 4. It could be longer next year to ensure people have enough time to chat to the community members/school representatives who came (minister from Meadowbank Church, SP, IN). 	
6.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a lot of positive feedback from the Save the Date note that was emailed out. The school is making a big effort to inform families when events/special days will happen and it's very much appreciated. 	
6.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The after school club (Scoosh) is moving all children to Nelson's Hall. The Care Inspectorate have been asked to come in and tell us what we have to do to have the club based here at Abbeyhill. Previous issues have been based around toilet access. 	SK
6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanks to all parents for such positive contributions to school (our new projector, playground tidying and line painting, offers to support with clubs and trips, painting the area under the hall). 	
6.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New clubs will start soon and we are developing community relationships (Chit Chat Club, Talbot Rice, The Mindful 	

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	Enterprise, the Collective Gallery, Outdoor Learning Challenge)	
6.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special input from P5! Some of the P5 students sent a lovely video to ask if the parent council would organise a Talent Show this year. After the meeting, VH, CK, MC and SP agreed to work together to organise this. 	
7.0	Events	
7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Colony of Artists is coming up Sept. 22 & 23. IN spoke about some of the exciting projects the Abbeyhill students have been working on. See more in item 12. 	
7.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Halloween Disco is set for Friday Nov. 2, P1-P3 will be 130-245pm, P4-P7 will be 3:30-5pm. SP has booked the disco, Mrs. Pender and Miss McCourt. Parent council will pay them (£40/each). KR will take the lead on decorations. There will be a den/room for making crafts or doing something other than the disco because there are typically some kids who are too nervous to go in to the disco. Tickets will be sold for £3 each. 	KR
7.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burns Night. There was a discussion about trying to accommodate more people since some families that wanted to come missed out last year as it sold out after a couple weeks. We'll revisit this closer to the time of the event. 	
8.0	Food at Abbeyhill	
8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food at school is a big focus this year. There will be an opportunity to see what the kids are eating with a 'Parent Lunch.' Feedback after the lunch can be given to Pauline Pryde, Catering Manager at City of Edinburgh Council. 	SK
9.0	Parental engagement	
9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More families are engaging on Facebook, both on the Parent Council page and separate groups that some of the classes have formed (P1 & P2). AP and her husband Dave are going to take over the parent council noticeboard. 	AP
10.0	Availability of loose parts play equipment at lunch/breaks	
10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This wasn't discussed unfortunately but can be discussed at the next parent council meeting. 	CK

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11.0	School recycling/food waste	
11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CK tweeted at Edinburgh Council on the parent council's Twitter account to ask about how to get packaging recycling (green bin) and food waste bin at Abbeyhill as currently there is only paper recycling.• They promptly responded and gave us reference numbers for both bins. Packaging bin is 705124 and food waste bin is 705237.• SK has already heard from them regarding the food waste bin and has agreed on a size and is awaiting its' delivery.	SK
12.0	Curator-in-residence report	
12.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IN provided an update on what projects the artists-in-residences are currently working on and the grants that are funding them.• IN previewed several exhibits that will be taking place at the Colony of Artists Sept. 22/23.	
13.0	Uniform sales	
13.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• KR will organise these. The dates are as follows:• 1. Parents Evening Oct. 24/25 (collection of items for sale will be Oct. 10-12)• 2. Wednesday, Jan. 16, 8:45am-9am in playground by trim trail (collection Jan. 9-11)• 3. Wednesday, May 1, 8:45am-9am in playground by trim trail (collection April 24-26)• 4. Summer Playground Party (date TBD, beginning of June)	KR
14.0	Full Fat Milk	
14.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feedback can be given to Pauline after 'Parent Lunch' (see item 8).	
15.0	After school club	
15.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Head Teacher's report (item 6.4). SK doing everything she can to get an after school club at Abbeyhill.	
16.0	Mental health counsellor	
16.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Now that the Scottish government has agreed to implement mental health counselling in all secondary schools, some	

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	parents have expressed an interest in having this in primary school as well. SK said the organisation Place2Be is working with some Edinburgh primary schools but is expensive. She is confident that Abbeyhill students that need help are being identified and given mental health support.	
17.0	MUGA Application	
17.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Getting a MUGA at Abbeyhill remains a priority and we will continue to look for funding.	
18.0	Any other business	
18.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Drummond student heads of school, one of whom went to Abbeyhill (Angel), will be coming to our next meeting. They will speak at 6:30pm. CK to promote this on the parent council Facebook/Twitter so families, particularly with P6 and P7 students, can come and ask questions etc.	CK
18.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Drummond head teacher (Jodie) and the two student heads of school will come to the P7 ceilidh.	
18.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Janitors House – KR is still working on this. It will come down at some point in the near future – most likely during summer holidays as it will take time to remove.	KR
18.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">MC brought up kids playing with pretend guns. SK will speak to MC about this to reach a solution.	
18.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">KR will lead on the school calendar fundraiser again this year. Thank you KR!	KR
19.0	Next Meeting Date (AGM)	
19.1	Wednesday Nov. 14th 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. P7 Classroom	