

Minutes

Strathblane Parent Council

Thursday 3 December 2020, 1830hrs

1. **Welcome and apologies** Victoria
2. **Minutes/actions of last meeting** Victoria (5 mins)
3. **Christmas and COVID update** Sharon (15 mins)
4. **Playground safety** Alistair (10 mins)
5. **AOB** All (5 mins)
6. **Next meeting date**

**In Attendance: Victoria Carson, Lucy Sinclair, Heather Smith, Katie Goodier, Alistair Pickard, Anne Young, Anne Spencer (DHT), Sharon Cassidy (HT)**

**Apologies: Jenny Dawson**

Welcome - Victoria: Welcome and thanks to everyone for joining. I just want to acknowledge that these are not easy times and hope everyone is keeping well and safe. Minutes passed from previous meeting.

 Christmas and Covid Update -Sharon: Dates and events stand as last newsletter. Children donate £1 for Christmas event. Co-op ordering boxes of crisps and drinks. Christmas biscuits will be made by catering staff. Small donation from PC would be appreciated. Teachers will organise prizes and get them wrapped.

School show – Mrs McCormack is enjoying the experience of making the show. There are practical issues in it’s recording around the school. The show is being recorded – not to be shared. It may be available from google classroom but we are still trying to find the best outcome as there are differing points of views.

Xmas decorations are going up.

Victoria: Thanks. Didn’t realise there were issues around the school show and the sharing of it. Appreciate the efforts to come to agreement. The children appear to be enjoying making the show and having fun with it. Thanks to Mrs McCormack for the work on the show.

Sharon: Level 4 restrictions affect staff more for paperwork and recording of things – for children, there is not so much difference. SPS has not had any cases of Covid with children. Some staff self-isolaating at times. Out of level 4, indoor PE can come back if going back to level 3 on 11th December. If so, games for parties may allow more options. When children watch the show, we will have popcorn.

Lucy: What funds are required from PC?

Heather: Would £100 be sufficient like last year? And we can supply sweets left from Halloween and buy popcorn. I will sort £100 funds with Mrs Barratt.

Victoria: Children at home appear happy with school measures – not hearing complaints. How are teachers doing?

Sharon: The impact is on activities. Where normally meetings would be held – every step has to be accounted for, if there is an incidence of Covid. People are in good spirits, when kids are happy, it makes everyone happy. They appear genuinely appreciative. Wee comments from children really help.

Victoria: Wellbeing of teachers is paramount to the wellbeing of everyone.

Alistair: Internet – what’s the situation in the school?

Sharon: Meeting was held today. It will take time to get City Fibre. MMI group and BT have done an audit about cabling and trunking – it’s further down the line due to cost. Balfron High school are going to City Fibre – there is a meeting due in February. It gives two thirds of connectivity back to the primary schools connectivity.

Victoria: Is there anything further the PC can do?

Sharon: We will continue to chase up improvements in connectivity. The service desk system is in need of improvement.

Playground Safety – Alistair: General Ground Group held a good meeting on Monday evening. Lucy Telling is going to chair the group with Alistair and Katie on the group. The RoSPA report was sent from Mrs Cassidy. There are issues on the report showing up now, however were not showing up previously. The RoSPA report is carried out annually – one inside report and one outside report. Regulations may change which flags up issues now which wouldn’t previously have been required. As things tighten up due to incidents, many items need replaced indoors, which previously may have been a repair.

School grounds – what action is required? Regular maintenance programme has been in place with our Welly Days. Covid has stopped that. Higher risks should be made a priority and actioned first. Internal diameter in tunnel is an issue and will be changed. Currently it is cordoned off. Tyre pyramid needs topped up. Grounds group will approach these tasks once regulations allow them to meet up to organise a modified ‘Welly Day’ working group. **Action plan to be supplied to Mrs Cassidy from Grounds Group.**

Victoria: Does this report show feedback for improvements? Does this help support a case for more budget to be invested in the school?

Sharon: Capital Budget is what would be considered. An audit requirement is to be wind and watertight which showed as “satisfactory”. Less funds to capital assets. A feasibility study was carried out about for a new school building, then council re-allocated funds and it wasn’t happening any more.

Victoria: Issues with budget show just how valuable the grounds group is. Thank you.

Sharon: Thanks to everyone on Grounds Group and everyone on Parent Council. The kids keep us smiling every day. Have a lovely Christmas everyone.

Victoria: Thanks to everyone on the group and thanks for all collaboration.

**Next Meeting: 6.30pm on Thursday, 25th February 2021.**