

## CULTS PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018, 7-9pm

Red Unit, Cults Primary School

### Attendees:

Iain Mearns (IM), Katrina Stewart (KS), Tiana Walker (TW), Jen Gilmour (JG) and Caroline Johnstone (CJ).

### Apologies:

Agenda items	Updates and discussions	Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>Iain Mearns (Chair) welcomed attendees to the meeting. We welcomed new member Jen Gilmour to the forum and already appreciate Jen's contributions. It was however very disappointing not to see any other parents there.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Mark Raistrick and Sonya Angus.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Previous meeting minutes</b></p> <p>The previous meeting in March was an extraordinary meeting on internet safety with a guest speaker, therefore capturing minutes were not seen as necessary.</p> <p>Minutes for the travel survey held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April with parents, Aberdeen city council and the local police force were captured and have been seconded.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Head Teacher Update</b></p> <p>A Stirling based company has been selected for future online uniform orders. This will offer parents the same brand as the current uniform and provide the school with a more efficient process of managing orders and deliveries. A stall will be set aside at the summer fair to purchase items of uniform from current stock.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to package up unused or second-hand uniforms (without school logos) to schools in undeveloped countries. Committee looking for volunteers to lead this initiative.</p> <p>An exciting new service is now available for parents to ensure communication between school and parents is easier and more effective. <i>Groupcall Xpressions</i> is a service created by the award-winning school communication company Groupcall limited. This may save the school up to £1,500 per year in text messages. Text messaging system will still be active for emergency messaging.</p> <p>This app of free of charge to you and can installed on your mobile phone or tablet. Search of the app Groupcall Xpressions or login into the following web browser <a href="https://xpressions.groupcall.com">https://xpressions.groupcall.com</a> or login in at <a href="https://login.groupcall.com">https://login.groupcall.com</a>.</p> <p>Consult with the school reception for more information on the use of this. IM tested this out. Both parents can login with the email address and phone number registered on the school database, however the current groupcall messages don't appear to present. Perhaps the school has yet to commit to the system.</p> <p>Request made for the PTA facebook page to be changed from page to group status, allowing members to post without the need for administrator approval.</p>	

	<p>CJ shared a consultation on the Northern Alliance <a href="https://northernalliance.scot/about/">https://northernalliance.scot/about/</a>.</p> <p>This is a education partnership between 8 local authorities in the North of Scotland: Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Argyll and Bute, Highland, Moray, Orkney, Shetland and Western Isles. The NA is designed to improve the educational and life chances of our children and young people, to remove the barriers to learning and improve children's outcomes, the collaborative seeks to build on the strengths of shared service development, create professional networks and deliver continuous professional development.</p> <p>The NA propose a number of priorities and workstreams, from which the parent council were asked to comment on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emerging Literacy</li> <li>• Numeracy and Mathematics</li> <li>• Leadership Development</li> <li>• Early Learning and Childcare</li> <li>• Performance/Data sharing</li> <li>• Children's Services Planning</li> <li>• Modern Languages/1+2 development</li> <li>• Poverty/Closing the Gap development</li> <li>• Future Delivery Models/Estates</li> <li>• IT Transformation</li> <li>• Equalities</li> <li>• Systems Improvement</li> <li>• Community Learning and Development</li> </ul> <p>There will be more information shared as the NA progress and implement their plans.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Grounds Team Update</b></p> <p>Over the Easter holidays, new paths were created around the southern playground. These appear to have been very popular with children, especially with those in wheelchairs. We're also encouraged and delighted to see these being used by teachers and pupils as they challenge each other to the "daily mile".</p> <p>In the summer holidays, the chosen landscaping vendor (Papillion Designs and Landscaping) will return to create the "quiet zone" next to the red and green unit playground. This will allow for a peaceful area next to school for children who wish to escape from the noise of the rest of the playground.</p> <p>2 noticeboards have been fixed to exterior walls either side of the friendship bench in the playground. These will be used to advertise and promote activities within the Parent Council and the Parent Teacher Association.</p> <p>Thanks to PTA funds, netball markings have been painted on the red unit playground by Deborah Chang and our Janitor.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Travel Team Update</b></p> <p>A revised travel survey was opened to parents and carers on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and then closed on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April for analyses and distribution. A meeting was held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April with parents, Aberdeen City Council and the local police force to discuss the results and share critical actions. 44 survey forms were completed and</p>	

	<p>handed back to the committee and 28 people attended the meeting.</p> <p>7 actions were highlighted including the installation of bollards to prevent parking on verges, enforcement of a right turn only from the school perimeter, improved access to church parking and incentives schemes to encourage walking to school to name but a few.</p> <p>There has been a marked improvement in parking behaviours since fines have been handed out and double yellow lines painted along the perimeter road. The committee continue to encourage parents to monitor and provide timely feedback.</p> <p><b>The minutes from the Travel Team meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April will be posted on the school website</b></p>	IM
6.	<p><b>Parental Engagement Summary – Exercise</b></p> <p>KS prepared a summary of the parental engagement survey taken on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018. With few parents in attendance, the committee decided to defer sharing these findings with parents until the next meeting.</p> <p>In the meantime, these are some of the questions we have been asking each other in order to enhance parental engagements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What information do you need to help you understand and support your child’s learning at home and in school?</li> <li>• Are current methods of communication between home and school effective?</li> <li>• Supporting your child when things aren’t going well. What support and resources do you need as a parent?</li> <li>• As your child grows and develops, what support do you need as a parent to help you?</li> <li>• How can school use your skills to support children’s learning in the class/ community?</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Nuart Mural Proposal</b></p> <p>After consultations with the committee members and parents / pupils during the parent’s evenings on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018, discussions have been held with Shona Byrne, Senior Project Manager at Aberdeen Inspired on the proposal of a giant mural to be painted on the exterior of the sports hall.</p> <p>Our intention is to invite Mary Butterworth (curator of the “painted doors” project) to visit the school and host dedicated workshops with pupils and teachers with the aim of delivering a unique and inspirational piece of artwork.</p> <p><b>Contact to be made with Mary Butterworth, to cost this project and set workshop dates before the end of this academic year</b></p>	IM
8.	<p><b>Future Committee</b></p> <p>Guidance within parent council constitution dated August 2013, dictates that the maximum term of office for any PC office bearer is two years, after which time, elections for these positions (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) must be held at the next annual meeting.</p> <p>IM (Chair) and KS (Vice Chair) have both held office for 2 years and these positions will be elected at the annual general meeting to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018.</p> <p><b>If any parent or carer wishes to volunteer for either of these roles, please inform a</b></p>	

	<p>member of the committee as soon as possible, in order for us to coordinate the election process.</p> <p><b>Advertisements for the positions of chair and vice chair to be posted on the noticeboards</b></p>	<b>IM</b>
9.	<p><b>Future Parent Council Meeting Dates 2018</b></p> <p>Tues 18 Sep 2018 AGM  Tues 06 Nov 2018  Tues 22 Jan 2019  Tues 19 Mar 2019  Tues 28 May 2019</p> <p>Any parent of a child at Cults Primary/ Nursery is very welcome to attend any Parent Council meeting</p> <p>The Parent Council can be contacted on: <a href="mailto:PCCultsPrimary@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk">PCCultsPrimary@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk</a></p>	

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