

Strontian Primary School and Nursery Parent Council AGM

January 24th 2023 Strontian Primary School

Apologies: A Carmichael, S Garven.

Present: Mr Millar Craig, Mrs R Patterson, V Balnaves Aitken, Laura Wilson, Jamie McIntyre, Jamie Tait, Zoe Cull, J and Laura Sutherland.

Acceptance of previous minutes

Approved by Laura Wilson and Laura Sutherland

Jamie McIntyre and Jamie Tait talk about the Strontian Community School Board

Meeting started with a talk from Jaime T and Jaime M. They gave a short history of the origins of the primary school. Both were instrumental in getting the school built and both are on the Strontian Community School Board in the roles as Directors. However with their youngest children now in the senior phase at AHS they are keen to connect with parents at the P.C. and to get to know new parents with a *view to getting parents to take on the responsibilities of supporting their community school.*

Currently V.B.A is a co opted member of the SCSB and D MacKorkindale a Director. *The board needs more parental support and more numbers, there are some issues that need to be taken on.*

Recently , the school playground has had some drainage issues successfully resolved.

The front area of the school requires some work, idea is to create a wild flower area with paths running through it. Raised beds could also be used? Up to parents working with the school.

Back area of school possibly looking at developing heather on back bank, and bushy shrubs such as willow.

Grass cutting is not carried out by H.C. as they deem the school grounds too dangerous. This position has not been accepted by SSCB. SSCB have joined forces with parents/staff to cut the grass/ rushes using their own equipment, H.C. are aware of this. *More parents are needed to help with this.* Possible opportunity to use Grounds Maintenance money from HC for SSCB and PC funds. Negotiations are ongoing *and parents are needed to help support these issues.*

Groundworks, a discussion followed. This depends on how the grounds are developed and could be low maintenance.

MMC mentioned a possible more sculpted area around the rock area out front with paths through the wild flower meadow.

Discussion on stone circle area.

The school was built for the community and parents now need to take responsibility for it. Who can commit?

A 15 year mortgage on building which can become houses or developed in the future. H.C. have agreed to this 2027/8 breakpoint on this- PPI coincides with the PPI at High School / Possibility of moving SP into AHS/ general feeling of the community not for this.

If this does happen in 2028 the PS can be divided into 4 houses. SCSB prefer to stay based at the PS.

Discussion on SPS future. School profile etc.

Head Teacher Report.

(I can copy this in or attach)

Shelter for SPS

2000.00 donation for shelter at SPS rest has to be fundraised. 2 donations from Nimble Fingers.

New shelter has to meet HC building constraints. Could be a lean to? Off the shed? Too close to building? What next? Raise thousands or local contractor? Freestanding up the hill? To discuss.

Parent Council Updates

Appointment of new office bearers.

Matt Simpkinson as new Treasurer (*Laura Wilson steps down*)

Proposed by V BA and J

Zoe Cull new secretary (*Laura Sutherland steps down*)

Proposed by V BA and J

Clarification of Sub Groups/ Committees

These were decided at September PC meeting/see minutes from 06/09/22

PolyTunnel / L Wilson / Laura Sutherland

Parties /K McDowell and H MacDonald

Fundraising / A Herman

School Maintenance/ A.Hughes

Need more names for this group/ more parent volunteers.

Possibly rename School Grounds Maintenance and Landscape Development.

PC to arrange a walk around to see what jobs need to be done. Pre Spring? A BBQ where people can sign up and commit to helping out.

Fundraising and event management

Belated thanks to KM and SM for Halloween fundraiser and money raised for PC.

Should Fundraising/event management be two separate groups?

Nursery/ Digital Profiles

Some issues with logging in and accessing DP.

Mrs P happy to go over this with parents and look at Digital Profiles. Parents to agree time with Mrs Patterson.

Matters Arising

Teachers/school role, looking good at moment.

Treasurer's Report

(I can attach or copy in)

Easy Fundraising

955.31 raised so far. Sign up and use it.

AOB

LS raised attention towards the school/ nursery Polytunnel Partnership Agreement between Lochaber Environmental Group and PC, 19/02/18 (see attachment). Main points were that the PC is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Polytunnel.

Date of Next Meeting.