



# GLASSFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting

held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 7.30pm

(via Zoom)

**Members present:** Gordon Innes (Chairman)  
Christine Hall (Secretary)  
Anne Anderson  
Jennifer McEwan  
Donna Troughton

**In attendance:** Audrey Donnelly (Head Teacher), Joanna Pegg, Yvonne Waring, Laura Davidson and Rev Shaw Paterson

### 1. Welcome

Gordon welcomed everyone to the meeting, held again via Zoom because of the current restrictions still in place in visiting the school as well as meeting in groups.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Lee Rogers, Les Hoggan and Janet Ballantyne.

### 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Anne proposed, and Gordon seconded the Minutes from the previous meeting.

### 4. Actions from Previous Minutes

- Lee confirmed the bank signatories had been changed
- The School confirmed they had purchased 2 kindles and the PC has bought 6 more at a very good price along with covers.

### 5.

### 6. Correspondence

- There was no correspondence needing attention.

### 7. Fundraising

- £210.00 from the rag bag bin street collection in November and the bin will be emptied as and when required with another street collection arranged for mid-March.
- We are still restricted in what events we can arrange so Ragbag is likely to continue to be our only fundraising income this year.

### 8. School Recovery Plan/ Business

- The Parent Night consultations by phone went well and had a good uptake



- The snapshot jotters were well received and had many worthwhile comments in them
- There was a 60% return rate for the reading surveys which was excellent – the Reading Ambassadors will review the responses and plan their next step from there.
- The new Kindles and covers have arrived and have already been put to good use.
- Eco Committee – There were lots of activities in November based on Cop26 to raise awareness of various issues which was very worthwhile. And some outdoor activities also.
- Over 200 trees have been sourced which will arrive in March and require parental input to be planted.
- Swimming lessons have been organised for P6 and P7 and it is good these are taking place before transition activities.
- Funding has been received from the Council as part of the Cost of the School Day kit and this will be used for activities like paying for the swimming bus so there is no cost to the children.
- The Pupil Council arranged a very successful Foodbank Collection – 2 carloads of food was uplifted today, and this will make such a difference to some local families. A collection such as this makes it clear to our pupils that there are some people who need a help this way and helps them be more empathetic.
- The school also collected over 80 coats and jackets which were passed on to The Rotary Club to be distributed – a fantastic amount from our small School and village.
- Audrey has agreed the purchase of 2 bikes from EKOK bikes. The cheque from Active Schools has been received and requires a cheque from the Parent Council for £275 for the balance. These bikes will be kept by EKOK till the Spring and then they will be well used in the Bikeability classes.

#### Covid 19 protocols

- There have been lots of challenges regarding Covid, in relation to pupil and staff absence, PCR testing, isolations, ever changing guidance as well as the general worry and anxiety surrounding the whole pandemic. Every family has been affected at some point with either a requirement to isolate or to take a PCR test. The staff are to be commended on their constant quest to provide as safe an environment as possible for the children and staff to work in. And also, in interpreting and putting into practice new guidelines weekly (or so it seems).
- The outdoor Carols event scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> Dec unfortunately had to be cancelled and the school has suffered some criticism as a result of this. However, Audrey in conjunction with the staff had no choice but to cancel it in light of new guidance from the Council regarding school activities. This decision, as are all decisions within the School, was not taken lightly or easily but the safety of everyone is paramount and even more so a week before Christmas.
- It was decided at the end of last week to re-introduce the ‘bubbles’ within School to limit inter class mixing and the children continue to adapt well to the changes. This will not affect the rest of the Christmas planned activities which are all going ahead.

#### 9. Any Other Competent Business

A question was raised as to why Glassford does not participate in some events that other schools appear to support such as odd socks day, world book day or Hallowe’en. It was explained that the ‘Cost of the School Day’ work meant that the schools focus had to always be on making everything affordable and not excluding any pupil based on cost. Even a dress down day historically meant some children just did not attend that day rather than wear something that wasn’t deemed acceptable. These type of events or days generally don’t contribute to the child’s overall learning or education,



and this is after all the aim of School. Other schools may appear to participate in these 'days' but all schools should be following the same guidelines as we are.

#### **10. Date & Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Glassford Parent Council will be Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at 7.30pm. It will be confirmed closer to the date if this will be permitted on School premises or be held via Zoom.

Gordon then closed the meeting at approximately 8.30pm with thanks to everyone for attending.

