



**Present:** Lillas Lovie (Chair), Louise Duckworth (Head Teacher), Clare Whitehead (Secretary), Heather Davidson (Teacher), Jackie Beaton (Teacher), Vicki Smith, Elaine Fraser, Nicole Gildea, Lorraine Wildblood

## 1. Welcome

Lillas welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Julie Cruickshank, Gemma Dey, Natasha Pawlukiewicz

## 3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March meeting were approved.

## 4. Chair's Report

### Aberdeenshire Food Fund

- **Snacks**

There is still £605.82 to be spent.

There has been a low uptake of fruit particularly among the p6/7s. The popcorn and breadsticks were more popular.

There is a backlog of leftover snacks building up in the staff room, and it was decided that rather than continuing to buy more supplies, what was already there would be used up first. Mrs Duckworth agreed to assess what was available and make up menus based on that for the next few weeks.

- **Breakfast Club**

There is £600 available to spend on Breakfast Club. It is going to run for 1 week in May and 1 week in June; weeks beginning 17<sup>th</sup> May and 14<sup>th</sup> June and will be available for all pupils

including nursery. Due to Covid restrictions, it is not possible for volunteers to go into the school to run the club, instead breakfast bags will be sent home with pupils. The bags will contain items such as crepes, fruit, cheese, raisins and porridge bars.

It was agreed that some information about the contents of the bag will be sent home in advance to allow pupils to opt in rather than every pupil automatically getting a breakfast bag.

- **Gardening**

Nicole Gildea has met recently with Mrs Duckworth, Carrie Jackson and Cammy Fyfe to discuss what they want to do with the garden. Again, due to Covid restrictions, the volunteers will be unable to be in the playground with pupils until after the summer holidays. Nicole, Carrie and Cammy are going to do some clearing to prepare the area for after the summer. Mrs Duckworth asked if some of the money for the grant for the gardening club could be used to buy some trees from the Woodland Trust. She suggested a fruit pack that includes apple, rowan and plum trees. The pack has 15-20 trees which can be planted at anytime of the year, and she could do this with the pupils. It was agreed that this was a good use of the funds.

**AP** Liliias will post on Facebook asking for more volunteers.

The Memorial for Mrs Cowe is now complete and Liliias will pass on the signatures of pupils to Gillian Ingram who will engrave them onto the Memorial.

- **Hygiene Course**

Elaine Fraser, Lorraine Wildblood and Gemma Dey are signing up for a food hygiene course.

### **Outdoor Classroom**

The outdoor classroom is now complete and has already been utilised by teachers and pupils. Stephen Clark worked hard to erect the classroom and now just has the benches to make. He has this in his diary but is currently busy with other work so it may be some time before he can complete the work.

It was discussed whether the classroom needs named, Mrs Duckworth said she would ask the pupils for suggestions.

Replacement logs are to be supplied by the tree surgeon when he has them in stock.

## **Outdoor playground equipment**

Funding options haven't been sourced yet. Liliias has a spreadsheet with the items that the Parent Council would like to provide, which comes to around £1000.

### **5. Head Teacher's Report**

- **Active Schools**

Despite the lockdown level in Aberdeenshire predicted to drop to Tier 2 on May 17<sup>th</sup>, there is still not much scope for restarting activities organised by Active Schools. No bus trips are possible and sports day won't be held in the traditional way. Classes may go to the park and do sports day type events, but parents won't be involved.

- **School improvements**

Pupil profiles have been relaunched. Children will be asked to reflect on their learning and identify next steps, with support from staff. These profiles will be used more fully in the future.

- **P1 transition**

New p1 parents meeting will be held on Zoom. All the new p1s are in Ballater nursery which makes school visits much simpler than if they were coming from other nurseries. They are coming in for the next 6 Friday mornings.

- **Police dummy**

John Bannerman has been organising the donated police dummy, which has now been clothed and named Greta by pupils. It is initially going to be placed at the sharp corner outside the school and pupils will be taken out to see it and discuss road safety.

- **Sunflower growing competition**

There is a village sunflower growing competition that pupils will enter. They will be given a sunflower home in a pot to grow.

- **P7 leaving plans**

No plans have yet been made for the P7s but Mrs Duckworth is going to meet with them and discuss what they would like to do. Their leaver's hoodies have arrived. It was suggested they might have a day at the park with a barbecue and invite Cheryl from Shorties to come along with ice cream. Other options such as asking entertainers to come in e.g. zorbing or a circus act are difficult due to Covid restrictions and health and safety guidelines.

Vicki asked if Mrs Duckworth was going to do a picture collage again, which she said she would consider but the reason she did it last year was because the pupils weren't in school for their final term due to lockdown.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

The bank balance is £5113, £1630 of that is Aberdeenshire funding. The only unknown cost coming up is the benches for the outdoor classroom.

## **7. Voting in Vice Chair**

Lorraine Wildblood was nominated as Vice Chair by Clare and seconded by Liliias.

## **8. AOCB**

Liliias and Lorraine are going to start netball club. They need some more volunteers and can then get started, and will aim for a 4 week block in June.

Liliias expressed her thanks to Elaine, Vicky and Lorraine for all their work preparing the snacks and breakfast club, and to Nicole and Carrie for their work for the gardening club. This was seconded by Mrs Duckworth.

Next Meeting: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 7pm