

Sciennes PS Parent Council Meeting

Thursady 19th January 2024 @ 7pm

via MS Teams

Voting attendees:

Caroline McKellar, Chair
Leda Sharkey, vice chair
Grant Catto, comms group
Anoushek Salahshour, Co Treasurer
Elinore Mc Givern, P1 Rep
Franca Macleod, P4 Rep
Gidona Henderson, P6 Rep
Shane Buckeridge, P7 Rep
Claire Carr, Fundraising & Events Co-Convenor
Rachel Gregson, Fundraising & Events Co-Convenor
Christine Knox, P5 Rep
Lena Lornez, P2 Rep
Chigdem Arslan, ASN Rep

Non-voting attendees:

Sharon McGhee, HeadTeacher
Lucy Gallagher, DHT
Carolyn Anstruther, DHT
Jenni McGrouther, Principal Teacher
D Gladstone
Amanda Vardy, clerk
Victoria
Mark
Susie Braha
Sandy Bloomer
Afreyi
Batoul Teibi
Amy Anderson
Stems Florist
2x Unknown Guests
Cllr Pauline Flannery
Cllr Steve Burgess

Welcome

Caroline opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone and thanked the local councillors for attending and their continued support. Caroline gave a brief overview of the meeting agenda.

Succession Planning.

- New Chair & Vice Chair required before the end of the session to facilitate a smooth handover

Apologies

Leanne Boyle, Co-Treasurer

Previous Minutes

Approved

Headteacher Update

Sharon McGhee

- Massive Thank you to PC for a phenomenal Winter Fair
- So wonderful for the fair to be so inclusive and supporting the children with additional support needs
- P1/2 Winter show was a huge success
 - Whole school assembly at the End of the year was very enjoyable
 - P7 did the school proud at the JGHS concert at the Usher Hall, a wonderful evening
 - Overview of the Role of the Head teacher (within the Learning community)

- o Meeting with the Learning Community, JGHS Feeder schools
- o Learning Community Plan
- o Depute Head teachers meet as a group
- o Learning and Teaching consistency across the community group
- o Transition Planning, Nursery to P1
 - o P1 families to be contacted next week to be offered a place at Sciennes in August
- o Transition Planning, P7-S1
 - o Wellbeing Hub to support children with different needs and all mental health challenges
 - o Transition teacher who works closely with Lucy
 - o Visits to school (frequency varies with the needs of the child)
 - o Meetings with current pupils
- Building Resilience
 - o 'Skipper'
 - o 12 themes to Build Resilience
 - o Challenge your Mindset – current theme in school to be encourage at home too
- Supporting Additional Needs
 - o GIFREC
 - o Support for Learning/Leadership team work together
 - o Range of Support needs
- Weekly video to all children is very well received
 - o "It's me, Ms McGhee!"
- Keeping Safe
 - o JRSO
 - o Video for families
 - o Quiz/survey
 - o High Vis Jackets
 - o Positioning of cones to be reviewed
 - o Better signage
 - o Encourage prompt arrival at school
 - o School staff have been manning the position
 - o 30 respondents to the survey have indicated they may be able to be involved in the Safer Streets initiative
 - o Good support from the local traffic patrol officer and the local police
 - o 26 vehicles in 1 week breached the rules
 - o 'SuperHero Day' Planned
 - Open Discussion re Safer Streets
 - o *Cllr Pauline Flannery – are there enough cones? , Is the signage unclear?*
 - o *Caroline – better signage nearer the school*
 - o *Sandy Bloomer – taxi drivers are abusive and never follow the rules*
 - o *Sharon – all situations will be tackled by the school staff as they arise and repeat offenders will be challenged*
 - o *Sharon – Comms to go out to give an 'Overview' of the rules*
 - o *Cllr Steve Burgess – should not have to police the streets at the start and end of the day to keep the children safe!*
 - o *Councillors will request better signage*
 - o *Councillors will do a site visit at various times during the week to get an idea in real time of what goes on and then formulate an action plan with the school and meet with the JRSO*
 - o *Fact finding mission to gauge level of the problem*
 - o *Sandy – push for full road closure, involve Cllr Scott Arthur*
 - o *Cllr Steve Burgess TRO going through at present, closure to motor vehicles this year.*

Any further questions for the HeadTeacher to be directed to the admin@sciennes email address

Group Updates

Playground Update

Caroline

- Extending playground into road area permanently
- Working hard with local councillors, a very supportive team
- No further meetings to date – new meeting to be arranged
- Restricted access during school hours – full road closure during those hours
- 2 part closure process
- Active Travel – not begun the TRO design yet, will work with the PC/school on this
- TRO being progressing
- TRO partial closure – one path of public access – if this is the only option achievable then it needs to be done right
- Formal closure of the road expected by end of June 2024
- TRO plans to be shared – closure to traffic during school hours- parking suspended
- Further TRO can be submitted with the amendments when the other one is in place
- Additional TRO would be a parallel process
- An ETRO (Experimental TRO) which requires no legislation can also be applied for and these last for 18 months
 - Close area from school to nature strip during school hours
 - Discuss with local councillors & chair of travel committee
- Heras fencing to remain in place until TRO is finalized
- Physical barrier to be determined at the design process
- Pedestrians/Bike lane to be channeled along the nature strip side of the pavement
- Fire/Ambulance happy with TRO plans
- ETRO and TRO are separate processes
- ETRO requires to be sponsored by local councilors – school to champion this.
- *Cllr Pauline Flannery – happy to continue to support*
- *Sharon – What as a school community could we do do help?*

Comms Update

Grant Catto

NO UPDATE

Fundraising and Events

Claire Carr/Rachel Gregson

- Very successful Winter Fair raised £11099
- School shop available via the new school website
- eCommerce site on website
- School badges for sale - sold on ParentPay
- The devolved responsibility to year groups is working well and will be continued.
- 2024 plans to be finalized next week – events TBC
- Some upcoming events
 - Bake Sale P2/P5
 - School Disco P6/7, poss P4/5
 - Summer Fair – 1st/8th June TBC
 - Photos – 1st/2nd May – volunteers needed
 - Uniform Sales
 - Equipment Sales ie Sports, outdoor wear, Lagganlia/Benmore items
 - *Caroline – Staff group photo would be good to have this year*
 - *Lucy – P7 YearBook – parent is graphic designer who has offered a basic layout for yearbook which can be personalized as required. Lucy to liaise with Josie to get more information*

Football

Gordon Stove

No Update

Eco Group

No Update

Clubs

Caroline on behalf of Janine

- Clubs continue to run well, filling up and very popular
- Please remember to register on the website and then pay via ParentPay – some registrations and payments still outstanding
- Info on Sciennes Website
- Any questions please email Janine via the sciennes clubs email

Fruit Group

Josie Pilcher

No Update

Treasurer Report

NO UPDATE

AOCB

- Annual diary of events to be published
- Sharon happy to meet to discuss the Annual events plan and have this published
- P7 performance dates
- Sports Days
- Cllr Pauline Flannery – please include local councilors in the update so we can attend
- Can we have the dates of the fundraising meetings so that we can drop in and see what is involved in the group? Would encourage new parents to join if they knew what was involved.
- Chigdem Arslan , ASN Rep – Update
 - New ideas to reach out to parents with children with ASN
 - PC contact
 - School contact
 - Support for siblings
 - Library for parents/families
 - Informal meet up with parents
 - Sciennes is a very supportive/inclusive school
 - Liaise with Claire and the Fundraising team with any suggestions for school activities

Succession Planning / Vacant Roles

- Leda resigning from Vice Chair role at end of session , New Vice-Chair required
- New Vice Chair to work with Caroline for 1 year before Caroline resigns from the role of Chair at the end of session 23/24, Vice- Chair to take over role of Chair when Caroline leaves.
- FFS – Fundraising person required could be a current member of the Sciennes PC Fundraising group.
- Football Group Treasurer

Caroline closed the meeting at 8.30pm with Thanks to everyone who attended.

Next Meeting date TBC

Actions from the Meeting

- Ms McGhee to send out Comms re Safer Streets
- Grant to liaise with the school around the Safer Streets rules and update on Website and WhatsApp
- Fundraising Group to outline the role and expectations of the volunteer for the school Photographs
- Chigdem Arslan, ASN Rep to be included in Agenda each meeting going forward
- Grant to send out comms re Diary of Events for the Year