



Airyhall School Parent Council



Meeting 2015-16: 25 November 2015 Minutes

Chair: Mark Sambrook
Secretary: Katrina McKay
Treasurer: Stuart Young

<i>Parent Council [PC] Members Present</i>	Jacqueline Allan; Stuart Corsar; Allan Frances, Alissa Galbraith; Katrina McKay; Mark Sambrook; April Schelbert Sarah Smith; Stuart Young; Cllr Angela Taylor; Cllr Ian Yuill; Duncan Wiseman
<i>Staff Members Present</i>	Alison Thomson (Head Teacher); Donna Polson (Depute Head Teacher); Leigh Houston (Depute Head Teacher)
<i>Apologies</i>	Victoria Oumarou; Cllr Gordon Townson; Rachel ?? (Cults Primary PC)

1	WELCOME & APOLOGIES	The meeting was opened by the Chair, who welcomed everybody and thanked them for their presence	MS
2	Approval of Previous Minute	It was noted that Cllr Townson's name was spelt wrong and Cllr Yuill was incorrectly recorded.	KFM
3	Matters Arising from previous meeting	<p>Goal Posts on the grass- The fence has been heightened but the goal post is yet to be replaced.</p> <p>Survey regarding the new homework days – this will go out in the new year.</p> <p>Housing Development – will remain on the agenda for future PC meetings.</p> <p>Art Project – the first meeting has been held with the artists and an email was sent out to all parents inviting them to participate in the project. The response was very positive.</p> <p>On going issues with safety in the school car park – MS and AT have reviewed cults safety DVD and MS is in contact with cults to create a modified version for Airyhall. The pupil council will be consulted in new year to help develop the DVD.</p>	<p>AT</p> <p>MS</p> <p>AT</p> <p>MS & AT</p>
4.	Accounts	Having received £516 from ACC, the current balance is £717.05. The school is due £179 for the laminator, so the balance will be £538.05.	SY
5.	Modifications to the road layout beside the school	<p>Safety concerns were raised about the new road layout proposed for Counteswells Road. MS to contact Colin Burnett regarding the erection of railings outside the school to protect children and the proposed new pedestrian crossing for Counteswells Road.</p> <p>It was also noted that the 20 mph signs at both ends require work to make them more visible. Cllr Yuill and Cllr Taylor to follow this up with Richard Nicolson.</p>	<p>MS</p> <p>Cllr Y & A T</p>
	Santa's Grotto – Sat 28th	Volunteers were required for the Grotto at the fair, sufficient	JA

	Nov	numbers volunteered.	
	Countesswells Development	<p>Two public meetings were held at Airyhall and collated a number of concerns that were raised by parents regarding the provision of education for Airyhall children at Braeside School.</p> <p>MS reported, however, that discussions at the public consultation meetings held on November 24th, indicated that the proposal had been misinterpreted.</p> <p>Cllr Taylor reported that the intention was always for Airyhall pupils to stay at Airyhall, and for Countesswells children to attend Airyhall until they reach 30-50 pupils. Once they reach 30-50 pupils they will move to Braeside. Cllr Taylor will send a letter of comfort to all Airyhall parents by the end of the week assuring them that Airyhall children were never intended to be educated at Braeside.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the provision of extra classroom space to accommodate a further 66 pupils at Airyhall. AT reported that the extra classrooms would require renovations to the cloakroom area upstairs, one of the GP rooms (currently used for science, art, music tuition etc) or an area of the community wing. The final decision about which spaces are to be lost, however, is yet to be made. PC will be updated.</p> <p>Cllr Taylor and Cllr Yuill assured those present that the new primary school in Countesswells must be complete by the time the 500th house is built (regardless of the No. of children occupying the houses), as this is a legal obligation. Since the builders currently only have planning permission in principle, it is likely to be 2017 before building starts.</p> <p>Amid concerns about the zoning of children and the potential for parents to appeal the decision for their child to be moved from Airyhall to Braeside (once the number of required children was met), Cllr Taylor assured parents that a new catchment zone would be created for Countesswells children. Parents of Countesswells primary will be informed from the outset that they are zoned to Braeside and will be relocated there as soon as the requisite number of children is met. If they check their school zone on the ACC using their post-code it will say Braeside. Airyhall zoned children will have priority, and Braeside will be opened as soon as the requisite number of Countesswells children is met. Siblings for out of zone children will undergo the same process as usual.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the timeframe required to make Braeside fit for purpose and the long-term plans for Braeside. Cllr Taylor assured those present that it would be fit for purpose in time for its opening but there was no intention to reopen it long-term.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the potential issues, which may arise</p>	<p>Cllr AT</p> <p>AT</p> <p>Cllr AT</p>

		<p>when parents are informed that their children have to move from Airyhall to Braeside. It is likely that parents will appeal such a move. Cllr Taylor indicated that AT would have to manage this if/when the situation arises.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the separation/splitting of resources that have been paid for by money raised by Airyhall PTA. The school is very well resourced and would not wish to lose resources. Discussions were held around separate PTAs and PCs for Airyhall and Braeside to ensure that there was no conflict of interest.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the provision of afterschool club for those attending Braeside. It was indicated that this is the responsibility of the afterschool club.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the availability/recruitment of teachers to fill the extra posts at Braeside. Cllr Taylor and Yuill discussed the systems currently in place to promote the recruitment and training of teachers (including the DLITE scheme, new incomers scheme, global recruitment strategy and affordable housing scheme). Cllr Taylor informed us that the new teachers would move with the children from Braeside to the new school at Countesswells and that a new Head Teacher would be appointed prior to the move to allow a smooth transition/handover. Until then Mrs Thomson would manage both sites.</p> <p>Given all the concerns raised, Cllr Taylor agreed to take Euan Couper-White (head of policy, performance and resource) to a subsequent PC meeting to advise on the operational issues for Braeside and the new school.</p> <p>The parent council will follow up on the letter proposed by Cllr Taylor to encourage parents to comment on the proposal.</p>	
	AOB	MS attended PC meeting at Kaimhill and invited their parents to come to our PC meetings and let us know if they need further assistance	
	Meeting Closed		MS