

WEST LINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS' COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 28th April 2009

Present: Glenda Barton, Moira Brown, Tom Davidson, Colin Gambles, Gill Gracie, Mary Gunn, Margaret Hogg, Gail Jackson, Gerry McLachlan, Laura Robertson, Claire Shaw, Monica Shaw, Chris Tate, Sheila Warren and Steven Whalley (Chair).

In attendance: Hilary Elliott, Cllr Archibald, and Denise Halcrow (Clerk).

No apologies.

1 Minutes of the last meeting held on March 2nd were agreed and accepted.

2 Matters Arising

- a) **New School Consultation Meeting : outdoor leisure/sports facilities** –to be considered at the public meeting being held on 20th May.
- b) **Community Council Survey on indoor spaces** – demographic data suggests that 12 classrooms should be built and with expansion capacity for 14. CG to email Anthony Gowland about the current status of the land purchase.
- c) **Malawi Back Pack Project** – Mrs Elliott reported that Denise had asked if the School Prayer Group could take responsibility for organising this. Mrs Elliott suggested that a letter be issued to parents towards the end of June about the project, suggesting that old school bags be filled with items for school children in Malawi and returned for collection by the charity, Mary's Meals at the beginning of the new school term in August. This was agreed to by the PC.

3 Head Teacher's Report

Interviews for a janitor are to be held next week. Mrs Inglis, Mrs Scott and Mrs Dundas have all returned from maternity leave and Mrs Ryan is taking P7 2 days a week until the end of term.

The P7and P2/3 enterprise project for the Lake Victoria Disability Centre in Tanzania was a huge success, raising over £900.

The P7's are away on their residential trip to Winmarleigh this week. P5's are having 2 day trips on the 14th and 15th May to North Berwick and Seahouses. There will be an evaluation following the P5 day visits.

Sonsie Music group visited the school today, funded by West Linton Music Society which was enjoyed by all the children and staff.

P5/6 received a visit from Andrew Pryor, the Producer of Dr Who last Friday. The class have recently been involved with some film making of their own.

4 School Aims and Ethos

Mrs Elliott distributed copies of the School Aims and Ethos (for inclusion in the School Handbook) which had been updated by staff last session for comments from the PC and took a note of the various suggestions which were put forward. During the course of this, Mrs Elliott was asked about school data giving % success at different levels of attainment. This is not commonly published and is no longer a requirement as in some instances there can be problems with the identification of individuals. Mrs Elliott was asked whether she could provide a summary of these statistics for the Parent Council. She indicated that a general summary could be provided. Mrs Warren pointed out that in the very near future National Assessments would no longer be used in their present form as a result of the developing Curriculum for Excellence.

5 Working Together

Steven asked for ideas as to what the PC should seek to achieve this year, and Colin wrote all suggestions on the white board. It was agreed that communication with parents was the most important, and a sub group composed of Glenda, Laura and Gill are to report back to the next meeting with suggestions. Other key topics were Curriculum for Excellence (HE to give a short presentation to the PC at the next meeting) Music in Schools and Sports' Day/Celebrating Achievements.

6 School Centenary Report

Mrs Elliott has met with the Centenary Group Chairman, Ian Reid, Marion Moore and Chris Atkinson in preparation of the planned School Open Day on June 10th for parents and on June 12th for the community. The whole school photograph is scheduled for the afternoon of Monday 11th May on the school playing field. (Wednesday 20th May if wet.). A copy of the photograph will be given to all families with children currently attending the school. Tommy confirmed that there would be an exhibition displayed by the Historical Society in the gym hall on Saturday 13th June, followed by a march down to the Whipman Sports in the afternoon. £500 was raised at the recent Coffee Morning. The painting of the school will be presented to Mrs Elliott possibly on the 13th June.

7 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- a) Communication with parents – report from sub-committee
- b) New School – report from sub-committee
- c) School Improvement Plan
- d) Working Together – further topics
- e) Date for AGM

8 Dates of Next Meetings

Wednesday 17 June
Monday 14 September

at 7:15pm