**Present**

Claire Horsburgh (Chair Person), Judith Anderson, Trish Robertson (Councillor), Jenna Gray,

Katie Banks, Melissa Mitchell

Aileen Mackay (Head Teacher), Jim Lyon (DHT), Ruth Tough (Teacher Rep)

**Apologies**

Lynne MacDonald (Teacher Rep), Fiona Devlin, Elaine Smith

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Agenda Item and Discussion | Action |
| Review Appointment of Office BearersReplacement for Judith’s role but not enough members to elect | *Moved to next meeting* |
| Head Teacher Update/ReportBetween 24 and 30 new children have arrived since August in the school and 18 to ELC, which is near to a whole class size, meaning classes are getting fuller. We do not get the budget for new children coming in and just have to ‘make do’. We have space both indoors and outdoors, but budget is becoming an issue.AM at a budget meeting today with the Council and the outcome is not good. Expectations for other agencies is ‘unbelievable’ at what we are now expected to deal with – things are going to look different going forward. AM already spending a lot of time with parents who need support for their children for various reasons, but if that stops then behaviours from children could escalate and would have no option but to exclude them from the premises. What HT have been told is that ‘no money is ring fenced’ *JA – so the council can take money back or just not give money?**JG – is there an application route?*PEF money (dependent on children’s needs in the area, including the work the Family Team do) will be affected.Dianne Brand (ELC) due to retire in Christmas but this may not be replaced. PSA posts have been pulled but allowed to employ two PSA’s on a daily basis but they have no official contract – unsure whether this will be the same for the ELC post.*JG – and the new budget won’t happen until August next year?*I will do my level best to protect all children and staff. For example, we have children with diabetes, epilepsy and other medical needs in the classes so we have Teachers having to meet learning as well as medical needs instead of an extra PSA to help with this. Moral is low in some ways but not in terms of meeting needs for the children, still very much motivated to help them learn. *KB – with the likes of PEF, is staffing stretched thin? Could there be a volunteer programme for helping with library trips etc?*In the last 3 week I have met with 19 parents who all need support in different ways because it is impossible to get appointments with GPs, Social Work and school is the next place to go for advice. My day gets longer and longer, and I miss out on doing things for the children which I don’t want to do.*Members all comment and agree - It’s not sustainable or healthy*We have to stick together as a community when its all happening. Considered opening the school on a Saturday to help parents who needed to drop in for advice.*JG – this is the new norm that is being accepted with more and more cutbacks. Going over and above without questioning.* *JL – a lot of goodwill but when people get pushed to the point of not being acknowledged or appreciated it is hard.**JG – almost a given that people will go over and above. Is there anything we can do? Volunteering or going on courses?*We were told as HTs there was to be no lobbying. We are all so stretched no matter what we do. It has now become an expectation.*CH – you have our support with what we can do, and we can spread messages of support.*We need good role model parents to speak about how normal being with your children are and whether it’s a good or a bad week, we need to share that so people don’t think they are alone in experiencing this.*KB – was at the homework club and met another Mum, discussing autism and now have someone to speak to and message just to ask how they are doing.**JG – we were nearly going down the mental health route with my little one (P1) who has a phobia of blood and it took Mrs Goodall who also has a phobia to manage to put a plaster on and now its great. Mrs Munro and Mrs Goodall sent me some great stuff on grounding and different techniques to help which was much easier than going to the GP which proved unhelpful. We were so worried about her behaviour and holding up others who need more support. You sometimes just need reassurance from others that its normal.*Relationships is the key to everything, and our staff are great at building that with the children in their class, no matter if its 2 days a week in class or 5 days.AM happy to explore options, whether its different drops in and a cup of tea for parents to come and chat – at different times of the day or on a weekend..*Members agree not a Saturday, that’s your time. An evening instead.*PMHW has found that parents have the tools needed to be able to help their children with any needs, no extra professional needed which is healthy. Relationships with their teachers and parents are key too.Would prefer if parents came to let off steam here in a safe environment without the pressure of note taking or being judged.*Kara – could have anonymous questions or comments for discussion?*Can use a Jamboard which doesn’t show who has posted different items and share it on the page. If we have a core of PC representatives to help support with a ‘solution focused’ type discussion which we can put together training for. | CH to reach out on Facebook page to invite parents to a drop in event |
| Chairperson’s ReportSchool Autumn DiscoGood success overall – estimate 250 children came through the doors.Judith is writing up ‘how tos’ for how to set up different items for the school disco as she is moving on from her role – how to organise the float, what you will need for each disco.Update on MoniesGiven £1,900 from the Ward Discretionary Fund and £250 per class (£4000) for their class educational trips.P1 have been to the Fire Station already with their trip money – so much more understanding of the learning going on in class and extending their vocabulary at the same time.FundraisingChristmas-February – looking at another disco in Term 3 (not the first week back after the holidays) on a Thursday/Friday evening rather than a Tuesday evening. Going to book in advance – both February and Summer (Friday night again).Renewed our gambling licence so will have raffle tickets for a cash prize before Christmas. Also doing a draw on the family weekend Treehouse stay that Aileen won and has since donated.Raffle tickets can be collected at the school office to sell – can email in to say that children can collect from office and PC reps will be available on set days at the Office to sell.Teas and Coffees at the Christmas shows – 12th, 13th & 14th December.*Open to ideas for other fundraising ideas.*Sports Sub-Committee / Sports KitCommittee was set up at last meeting.Have 2 options for sponsors – a business and Arnold Clark.*JG - Is there money for coaches/helpers to have a jacket or jumper?*Lynne Parke has done an audit of the sports kit that we have currently in the school – no club will be left scrambling for kit or equipment.*JG – hoping to work with the school for MFR Cash for Kids and do a Jingle Jog 2k (4 laps of the park) with the children and/or staff, £2 entry (to cover cost for medal and rest goes towards MFR Cash for Kids). Would like all family members to be involved – can order reindeer ears for 59p but sell for £1.* *Do parents know they can come and ask the school for help if they are struggling at Christmas and be put forward for MFR Cash for Kids.**JA – can we give back to MFR? Donate toys or do a toy swap?* | CM to double check the offer from Arnold Clark and get back to AM about what is needed ordered.AM to purchase 5 blue high vis jackets from H.I.SPC can put on hot chocolates3rd December – 10.30am - 12AM to post again on the blog to remind anyone who is struggling to reach outAM to organise on 8th December (evening) toy drop and swap in the Community Room for parents to come in. |
| AOCBCurricular update from Aileen at the next meeting. |  |
| Date of Next MeetingTuesday 24th January 2023. |  |