

Minutes for LPPC Meeting

6.15pm on 21st January 2015

Apologies:

Headteacher Report:

1. The school roll remains at 321.
2. The whole school trip to see the BFG at the Lyceum had been a great success.
3. A new janitor, Billy Hill, has been appointed on a permanent basis.
4. Changes are being made to the 'school fund' (monies that are separate to the school's allocation from the Council). As such AF will report more formally on this to future LPPC meetings.
5. The requirements relating to school websites are being changed which will require some alterations to the current website.
6. Work to change Room 2 from a classroom to an activity room started today and this is having a short-term impact on the After School Activities scheduled for this space. It is hopefully only going to take a couple of days to make the alterations necessary.
7. It is expected that the school structure for next session will remain at 13 classes (given the current anticipated figure of 60 P1 pupils for session 2015-16). This would result in the following:
 - a. 2 x P1
 - b. 1 x P1/2 composite (10 x P1 pupils and 15 x P2 pupils)
 - c. 2 x P2
 - d. 2 x P3
 - e. 2 x P4
 - f. 2 x P5
 - g. 1 x P6
 - h. 1 x P7.
8. Given the current P7 numbers being unusually small, the above would still see the school roll rise by 45 children. It is not anticipated that this would result in additional Teaching Assistant allocation.
9. Free school lunches are now offered to all P1-3 pupils which has resulted in a significant increase in uptake. There are some logistical difficulties which need to be ironed out in relation to this. It was noted that no additional administrative time has been allocated in relation to this change. AF would put a note into the newsletter to clarify that there is an option to opt-out of the Friday packed lunch. It is hoped this would reduce the amount of food waste the kitchen is currently facing. AF would also mention that meal selection forms can still be found at the School Office for those who have not yet done this.

Duncan Place Resource Centre Update

Kirsty updated the meeting on plans relating to the DPRC. Key information included:

1. The temporary unit (TU) to house the school's nursery would be in place by early March. Work will begin in relation to services required for this (sewage, electricity etc) on 9th February with

the units themselves being craned in during the February break. Jo Bissett and her team would then be given time to set up the nursery and children would be welcomed when it was ready. For the remainder of this session the nursery would remain at 20:20, but from August 2015 it would become 30:30 with additional staff allocation to make this possible. This was welcomed by the group.

2. Bollards to close off the end of St Andrews Place should go in at the same time as the TU to allow pupils to have use of the 'turning circle' and easier access to the grass on Leith Links. At present this arrangement was on a temporary basis (for the duration of the temporary unit on-site), although LPPC would continue to campaign for this to become permanent. Again this was welcomed.
3. It was noted that the DPRC Management Group are appealing the Children and Families Committee Meeting decision of December 2014 to demolish the building. At present, however, plans are proceeding on the assumption that demolition will take place (probably during the summer holidays).
4. Andy Gray (CEC Head of Schools and Community Services) is arranging a trio of meetings (to be attended by Kirsty Chatwood and Jen Shepherd representing LPPC, Alasdair Friend as HT, two members of the Duncan Place Resource Centre Management Group as well as other key people from within the Council) to discuss intermediate and long-term plans for the DPRC. (These plans will relate to what is required by the school and the community, regardless of whether we end up with a new build, or a renovation of the current building.)

CLASP Pay

It was agreed to increase the pay for CLASP staff providing childcare at LPPC meetings from £15 to £20. Jen Shepherd will organise childcare for the next LPPC meeting.

Sainsburys Grant Application

Kate McDonald would complete this grant application with a focus on improving the music provision within the school. This could include, for example, the purchase of additional instruments, or support for a school choir.

Parents Room

In order for this room to function as a crèche space, volunteers were requested to rationalise the Christmas Fair items etc. Anyone able to help out in the mornings (directly after school drop-off) of Wednesday 28th January and Friday 30th January, this would be greatly appreciated.

LPPC Communication

It was noted that communication about LPPC meetings and activities needs to be broader than is currently the case. Notice of meetings could go into the school newsletter. They should also be posted on the LPPC Facebook page. In addition the noticeboards should be re-activated. Rachel Hein would take responsibility for taking photos of LPPC members so that parents would have a better idea of who to approach for additional information.

Safe Crossings

The Council has agreed to place a safe crossing at the Great Junction Street end of Henderson Street. In addition, plans for a four-way crossing at the Foot of the Walk are at the final design stage. This should allow for safer crossing between the Kirkgate and Duke Street.

Leith Decides

Bryony and Rebekah have submitted an application to Leith Decides for £1000 to revamp the P1/2 playground. Volunteers are requested to help at the stall on 7th February. In addition, parents are asked to get their children to draw pictures of what they would like the playground to look like which can then be used on the stall itself. It was agreed to put a note into the newsletter to publicise this event, and to request support in the form of votes. The link for people to vote online should also be given making clear that the deadline for this is 30th January and not 7th February.

Bake Sales

Wendy requested a text message go out to remind parents of the Bake Sales. It was further suggested that P7 pupils, or others, be present at the end of school on Fridays to remind P1/2 parents of the Bake Sale so that they don't leave the playground via the tunnel and miss it.

Scottish Opera

It was agreed to support this event with £800.

Marathon

Melisa would take responsibility for organising relay teams for the Edinburgh Marathon 2015.

Active Schools

It was noted that some of the activities this term have been oversubscribed though some pupils have been given places for two activities whilst others have not been given a place at all. AF would investigate this.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 11th March 2015 at 6.15pm