



Bruntsfield Parent Council 13 May 2020 via Zoom.

KG outlined meeting agenda and protocols.

Part I – Covid-related school closures, home learning and transition to reopening

The first part of the meeting considered the transition into Home Learning since the school closures and the prospects of a return to school. KG asked the Headteacher and elected representatives to provide updates.

1. Daniel Johnson MSP – view from Scottish Parliament

- DJ reported back on Scottish Parliament and Education Committee.
- EC has met twice and is only just commencing work in defining the role of Education Scotland and how the roadmap for return to school cascade down to CEC.
- No clear answers yet.
- Very unlikely there will be a return to schools before Summer Holidays.

2. Councillor Ross - CEC

- Speaking on behalf of all 4 ward councillors.
- Council operating under interim arrangements. Fortnightly meetings of 17 council meetings.
- Drafting plan for way forward on all services including schools.
- Update from Head of Education on Return to schools: modelling scenarios but won't make thoughts public until it receives advice from SG.
- National timetable not clear yet. Officers are looking at transitions (P1 and P7)
- There isn't anything not in public domain.

3. Carol Kyle (See [parent-council-meeting-13-may-2020.pdf](#) for full update from CK)

Next academic year:

- P1: 2 x 25 class 1 x team teacher class of 40. Virtual tour to be organised.
- Have to wait for council to understand timings.
- P2 to P3: - 3 x classes of 30 plus composite (stay the same).

Home learning:

- Parents should be reassured that the children were in a good academic place on leaving – rated very good by HMI.

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- Need to focus on other learning opportunities and await update from CEC

4. Summary of key questions from parents:

Moving to Teams 365 – focus will be on uploading work for teachers to see. Will link parents together to ensure everyone can use Teams.

Potential use of other spaces to expand capacity? Councillor Ross – Council would prefer not to use alternate spaces but for BPS, given capacity, it must be under consideration.

St Oswald's – steering group now a formal company. Keen to expedite application with Council.

P7 transition - will invite P7s back when it's safe to do so.

Kidzcare – keeping parents up to date via email.

What is being done in relation to supporting mental health? Council had put resources relating to mental health on its website. This was seen as being insufficient by the parent forum.

Part II Main meeting

1. Introduction and approvals

- JF confirmed that constitution enabled a meeting via videoconference and that a quorum was present
- Minutes of 5 February 2020 were approved as accurate.
- The meeting noted that decisions taken by Office Bearers between meetings to cancel clubs and pay tutors until Easter holiday were appropriate.
- The payment for a Zoom subscription was approved (KG to be reimbursed).

2. Finance – clubs (NT) (N.B. Forecasts should be treated with caution as tutor costs and expenses fluctuate.

Parents were thanked for not claiming credits for missed sessions before Easter Break.

Overview of recent activity

- Paid most of Winter term invoices. Small number still to be received. Only two clubs running during summer term so no formal budget calculated. Continued liaison with shadow treasurer (Cindy Coleman).

Current Balance

- The BoS (Clubs) account has net balance of £28,208.31 at 10/05/20.

Future Costs

- Still some outstanding winter 2020 costs (approx. £1,400).
- Summer term costs just for two clubs running online.
- Current credits approximately £800 on Wild Apricot system.

Income and budget – N/A

End Term Balance/Future Cash Flow

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- End June 2020 cash position is estimated at approx. £25,000 (based on paying all outstanding invoices, running two clubs online and paying all credits back in some form).
- No income assumed for Autumn term 2020 at present time.

Next/Ongoing steps

- (i) Pay monthly invoices.
- (ii) Ensure reporting is done each month in format required by the accountants.
- (iii) Liaison with clubs team on transfer to class4kids and stripe where required.

3. Finance - Events (CR) (N.B. Forecasts should be treated with caution as tutor costs and expenses fluctuate.)

- RBS Account as at 2 Mar 2020 (no statement since then, only paper updates are possible currently):
 - Bank balance at 2 Mar 2020 - £22,111.72
 - Calculated available balance at 13 May 2020 (bank balance less outstanding cheques (£4858.32), less funding commitments (£5,842.40)) – £11,411.00
 - Petty Cash Balance - £60.00
 - Allowing for unspent commitment + contingency of £5,000, approximately £6,000 is available for support of new projects.
- Online banking on way
- Funding request for Drumming - new drum kits – see paper on website.
 - Approved but kit to be ordered and paid for only once clubs return.

4. Update on spending

- Clubs Yoga (CP) – works better for older year groups. Back up for resilience. Good feedback
- Scottish Orchestra (AT)– went well, SO came in a supplied songs then came back with performers. Very good engagement. Want to repeat if we get the chance.
- Accelerated Reader (MW) - took some time to get it off the ground due to building work. Training sessions underway. Books labelled. Online alternatives being explored to get it going. Needs better space to use once schools return. KG keen to see results given value of spend.

Summaries for Playblocks and Numicon to add

5. Learning and Teaching Sub-Group.

- Steering group with education slant that NT had planned to bring back. Particularly important now to help on transition back to school.

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- Need volunteers to help set it up. Not a large time commitment and would suit parents with expertise in education.

6. Clubs update

- Summer Term cancelled.
- 2 tutors offering clubs online through C4K (Ballet and Creative Writing)
- Autumn clubs and support for tutors – need to monitor situation.
- Consideration needs to be given to Lets application for next academic year. Council not in a position to respond to requests at this time.

7. Events

- No summer fair.
- Winter fair - decision to be taken once return to school is clear.
- Online Art Auction is being progressed. Many thanks to Fiona Reid for finding a way to make the auction work.

8. Travel

- Thanks to **Maeve and Kristoffer** for monitoring the consultations and feeding back to the Parent Council.
- The current closure provides an opportunity for Council should commit to developing safe routes that will be pedestrianised and cycle priority during peak travel times for schools.

9. AOB

- KG asked for volunteers to help fill and shadow office-bearer roles to make sure the Parent Council could continue to operate next year and beyond.
- The Parent Council thanked KG for organising such a successful meeting in challenging circumstances and for helping to communicate the current situation.
- Next meeting in June via Zoom (date TBC depending on when updates were available).