



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

Agenda Item	Areas Discussed	Action
1. Present	Susan Brown, Samantha Bull, Megan Davidson, Katie Finch, Claire Galley, Neil MacKintosh, Laura McConnachie, Laura McMillan, Emma Ritchie, Alyson Whyte, Russell Whyte, Elaine Walker, Ruth Walker, Julie Work.	
2. Apologies	Katrina Allan, David Angus, Janine Brand, Suzanne Brittain, Roisin Burns, Margarita Lilaysromant Laura Leslie, Vicky McBain, Vicky McCallum, Divyamalar Ramamurthy, Nicola Sutherland, Kevin Williamson	
3. Minutes	Minutes from the last meeting were approved by Laura McConnachie and seconded by Alyson Whyte.	
4. Chairperson's Report	<p>Claire thanked everyone for coming along to the meeting. She realises life is busy but without their attendance these meetings can't go ahead, and the parent council wouldn't exist, so she appreciates the attendees taking the time out to be here this evening.</p> <p>Claire gave an insight of what the Parent Council have done this year and how the funds raised by the council have benefited our school and our children.</p> <p><b><u>The Events we held in 2022-23 are:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pumpkin Patch</li> <li>• Christmas Show</li> <li>• Valentines Disco</li> <li>• Truck show</li> <li>• Refreshments stall at sports day</li> <li>• Shorts, shades and crazy hair disco</li> </ul>	



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
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- Stall at the Kintore summer festival
- Library open day event

**What the funds were spent on**

- First aid training for P5-7
- Suncream for nursery
- Ice lollies at sports day
- Netball Goals
- Football goals for school football
- Gifts and a visit from Santa for school and nursery children
- Easter Eggs for school and nursery children
- Notice boards and divider boards
- Leavers hoodies
- Donations to P7 prom
- Donation to each classes school trip

The Parent Council work hard each year to make these events happen, in turn raising vital funds for the school whilst providing fun celebrations the children enjoy. Due to other commitments, Claire will not be continuing the Chairperson role in the 2023/24 session, nor will Vice-Chair Vicky McCallum. As a Secretary was not appointed last year, we are looking for members to join our team in the following roles:

- Chairperson
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Increase numbers in the Fundraising Team

Claire highlighted if people can't commit to any of these roles, becoming an ordinary member may suit. In this role you can help as and when you are available. If you can offer any fresh ideas or help at all it would be greatly appreciated and lighten the load for the current team members.

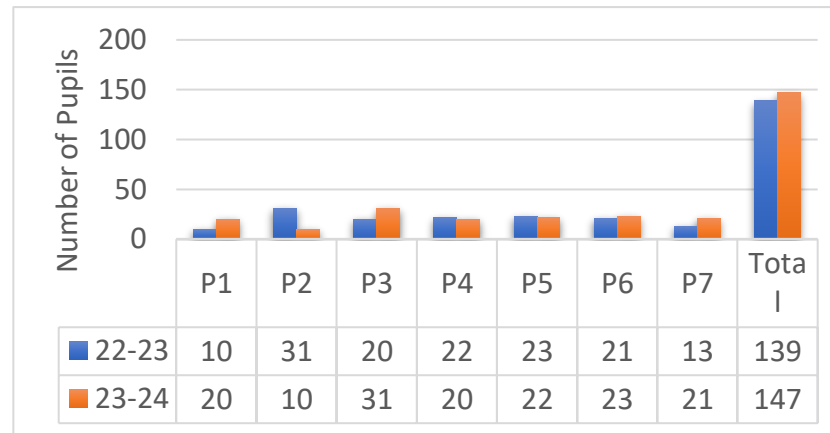


## Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

Moving on Claire reported that the zebra crossing on Gauchhill Road is nearly finished, pending the lighting being installed then it will be fully operational.

### 5. Head Teacher's Report

Katie welcomed all and thanked everyone for their support over the last year.



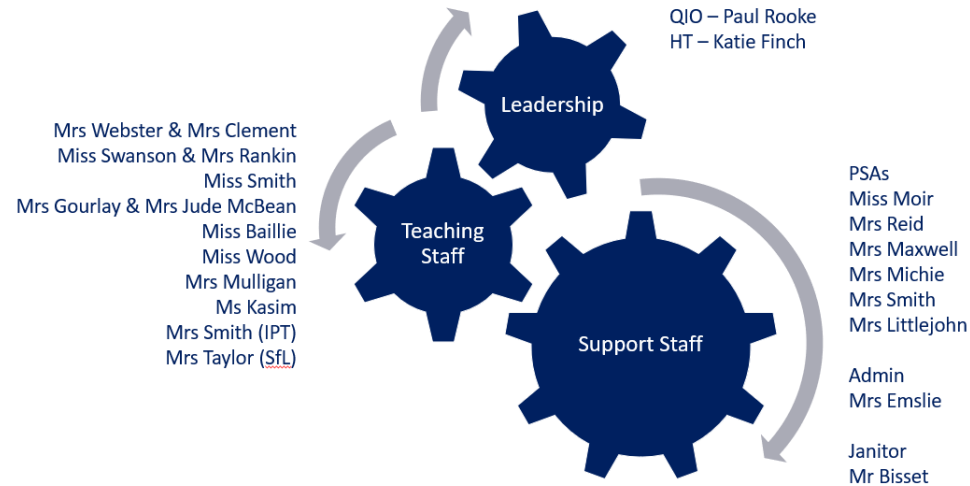
Katie shared the school roll for last year and this year.

The roll has increased but the pace of increase has slowed as we have more pupils leaving in P7 now - 13 last year which is more than we have ever had before.



## Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

### Our School Staff



We have had some additions to our staffing this term.

- Class teachers – Mrs Gourlay
- Returns from Maternity Leave – Miss Swanson, Mrs Rankin and Mrs Taylor.
- We have appointed Mrs Smith as a full time PSA with PEF
- Last year our PSA hours were 93 hours per week. This year with the addition of our PEF post we will have 98 hours. This is the 5 additional hours we have from Mrs Littlejohn



## Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

### Review of 2022/23

Priority	Impact
<b>To improve learning and teaching through introduction of learning pathways in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.</b>	Staff and pupils more aware of UNCRC, SHANARRI and how that relates to learning and wellbeing.
	Learning pathways used by all staff in literacy and health and wellbeing and Northern Alliance Numeracy Pathway used to support learning and teaching. This has provided a clear pathway for staff and learners in terms of progression through the curriculum.
	Literacy Learning pathway has been used for P1-7 and will support in handover to staff to ensure learning is pitched at the correct level.
	Pupils have enjoyed using new numeracy resources to support their learning.
	Attainment at P1, P4 and P7 has improved in reading, writing and numeracy and stayed the same or improved in Health and Wellbeing.

- Staff working group created to support improvement and development of learning pathways across the curriculum.
- Health and wellbeing plan linked to SHANNARI, Decider Skills and UNCRC across three years.
- Literacy and Numeracy learning pathways shared with staff at the Aug 22/23 Inservice Day.
- Literacy Learning Pathway used across Session 22/23 and updated to related to Midmill throughout the year.
- Continued moderation activities within School and at Cluster level to support assessment.
- Numeracy resources reviewed and additional items purchased to support teaching of Numeracy.
- All new staff given training on restorative approaches, nurture and emotion coaching.
- All parents invited into school for literacy lesson throughout the year in each class.
- International Day of the Family celebrated and all parents invited in to share pupil learning linked to UNCRC.



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

- Find Out More Session on UNCRC for parents.
- Assemblies linked to SHANARRI and UNCRC.
- Cluster Collegiate on Restorative Approaches and wellbeing.
- Improved attainment in P1, P4 and P7 – reading writing and numeracy

Attainment Over Time – P1

<b>Reading</b>			
<b>Primary 1</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021	76.2%	76.0%	77.0%
2021-2022	86.0%	77.8%	
2022-2023	90.0%		

<b>Writing</b>			
<b>Primary 1</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021	76.2%	73.0%	74.0%
2021-2022	75.0%	74.8%	
2022-2023	90.0%		



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

<b>Maths</b>			
<b>Primary 1</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021	85.7%	81.0%	81.0%
2021-2022	86.0%	81.3%	
2022-2023	100.0%		

Attainment Over Time – P4

<b>Reading</b>			
<b>Primary 4</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021	68.4%	75.0%	73.0%
2021-2022	83.0%	75.0%	
2022-2023	87.5%		

<b>Writing</b>			
<b>Primary 4</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021	42.1%	68.0%	67.0%
2021-2022	54.0%	67.0%	
2022-2023	79.2%		



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

<b>Maths</b>			
<b>Primary 4</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021	52.6%	75.0%	72.0%
2021-2022	54.0%	73.0%	
2022-2023	83.3%		

Attainment Over Time – P7

*(some data not included due to small numbers of pupils that year)*

<b>Reading</b>			
<b>Primary 7</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021		76.0%	76.0%
2021-2022		78.0%	
2022-2023	84.6%		

<b>Writing</b>			
<b>Primary 7</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Ashire</b>	<b>National</b>
2020-2021		67.0%	69.0%
2021-2022		71.0%	
2022-2023	76.9%		





**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

Maths			
Primary 7	School	Ashire	National
2020-2021		72.0%	72.0%
2021-2022		76.0%	
2022-2023	76.9%		

**Review of 2022/23**

Priority	Impact																																						
	Tracking of pupil wellbeing has improved or remained the same from session 21/22 into session 22/23.																																						
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Class</th> <th>Year</th> <th>HWB</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">P1</td> <td>21/22</td> <td>90.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23</td> <td>90.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">P2</td> <td>21/22</td> <td>90.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23</td> <td>90.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">P3</td> <td>21/22</td> <td>87.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23</td> <td>90.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">P4</td> <td>21/22</td> <td>91.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23</td> <td>95.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">P5</td> <td>21/22</td> <td>65.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23</td> <td>91.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">P6</td> <td>21/22</td> <td>84.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23</td> <td>90.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">P7</td> <td>21/22</td> <td>66.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23</td> <td>92.3%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Class	Year	HWB	P1	21/22	90.0%	22/23	90.0%	P2	21/22	90.0%	22/23	90.4%	P3	21/22	87.5%	22/23	90.0%	P4	21/22	91.3%	22/23	95.4%	P5	21/22	65.0%	22/23	91.3%	P6	21/22	84.6%	22/23	90.0%	P7	21/22	66.7%	22/23	92.3%
Class	Year	HWB																																					
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<b>To improve pupil wellbeing and interactions through outdoor learning opportunities and play.</b>	Members of staff keen to engage in professional enquiry linked to wellbeing and Outdoor Learning and continue to develop understanding of play pedagogy.																																						



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**Community Room, Midmill School**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff Working Group created for outdoor learning.</li><li>• Staff Working Group created for Play.</li><li>• Outdoor Learning:</li><li>• OL progression developed for Midmill School</li><li>• Worked towards our RSPB Wild Award.</li><li>• Eco Group has worked to introduce a clothing rail so all pupils are able to engage in OL and clothes can be reused.</li><li>• Green Spaces Group has developed a sensory garden.</li><li>• Grab and Go boxes for each coloured area has made learning outdoors more accessible for all classes.</li><li>• Each class engaged in growing and planting.</li><li>• All Pupils engaged in replanting trees in Gauchhill wood following storms last year.</li><li>• Play</li><li>• Cluster Collegiate on Play – KAPLA bought for each class to support learning through play.</li><li>• Play working group has visited other school to gather information on how play is being used across the school.</li><li>• Tracking of wellbeing above – P7 and P5</li></ul> |  |
|--|---|--|



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

Priority	Impact
<p><b>To improve pupil participation and engagement in their learning and whole school improvement.</b></p>	<p>When pupils were asked what had gone well this session. One of the most popular responses was Pupil Voice or Citizen Groups. This has given pupil the opportunity to share their ideas to improve our school.</p> <p>In Self-Evaluation from staff the opportunity to use the circle resource in pairs and evaluate how inclusive our classrooms are was beneficial and having the opportunity to engage in peer observations.</p> <p>Attainment has improved across the school this session.</p>
<p>Pupil Voice Groups / Citizen Groups set up for all pupils. There are 9 different groups across the school which meet every two weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play Leaders</li> <li>• RRSA</li> <li>• Eco</li> <li>• Green Spaces</li> <li>• House Events</li> <li>• Pupil Council</li> <li>• Road Safety</li> <li>• Health and Wellbeing</li> <li>• Digital Leaders</li> </ul>	



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

Pupils were able to choose the group they wanted to be part of and meet to discuss and implement improvement plans across the year.

Jen Sutherland our EP delivered training on mediated learning developing understanding of teachers as Activators not Facilitators.

Following LTA input during Inservice Days from Mark Burns and Shirley Clarke, staff developed a teaching evaluation toolkit and have engaged in peer and self-assessment of learning and teaching. During the February Inservice Days staff used the circle resource to evaluate how inclusive their classrooms were and specifically evaluation the engagement of one pupil.

Wider Achievements

- Charities supported by the school over the last session included:
- Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day
- Catalyst Storehouse Foodbank
- Every class has been able with the help of the Parent Council to go on a trip this year to extend their learning. We were also able to work with a local ranger to replant some of Gauchhill Woods after it was damaged in the storm.
- Pupils have benefited from a wide range of extracurricular clubs and activities including Running Club, Judo, Gaelic Club, Tennis Club, Craft Club, Netball Club and School Football, some of these are run by Active Schools and some by Staff.
- All classes took part in Enterprise Activities. Some of our primary 6/7 pupils took part in the Europe Quiz. They competed against the other schools across Aberdeenshire.
- We were able to take part in the Big Hop HARE design and our HARE is on display in the Bennachie Visitor Centre before it will be returned to school to display.
- In Term 1 all P6 and P7 pupils were able to attend the Davis Cup in Glasgow and met Judy Murray. Following this Judy and Jamie Murray came to deliver tennis sessions in Midmill School in November and we were able to arrange for tickets for pupils to attend the Battle of the Brits tournament in Aberdeen.



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

- Our P7 pupils were able to go on a Residential Trip for the first time since Covid this year which was a great experience for all.
- We also had our first Christmas Show since Covid when our P6/7s performed Holy Joe and the rest of the school were part of the choir.
- Our Parent Council organised a visit from Santa, two whole School Discos, First Aid training for P5-7 and a Pumpkin Patch.
- We were able to Parents back into the school building for Assemblies live lessons and to celebrate the International Day of the Family.

Feedback from Parents, Pupils and Staff

We gathered data from parents, pupils and staff using wee HGIOS themes of our relationships, our learning and teaching, our school community, our health and wellbeing and our successes and achievements. The next few tables show the responses across parents, pupils and staff  
Out of 6.



## Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

### Our Relationships...

Learning in Midmill School helps pupils to consider how to build positive relationships and to discuss their feelings and emotions.



Great to see how close the scores are on this. Whole school nurture approaches and ensuring pupils and families feel as though they belong is very important at Midmill School.

Some of the observations from QIV

Children are respected and they don't feel that they are different. School feels like a family.

- Warm welcoming ethos across the school and in each learning environment
- Positive interaction between staff and children, demonstrating mutual respect
- Staff know the children well, they are cared for and supported in their learning appropriately



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

**Our Learning & Teaching...**

In Midmill School pupils get to make choices about their learning.



The second statement was focused on learning and teaching. In Midmill School pupils get to make choices about their learning.

It is not surprising to see a lower score here from staff as people often are more critical of themselves.

This is an area we would like to continually develop so pupils are more aware of where they are in their learning and able to make educated choices about their next steps.

**QIV Visit**

- Carefully structured and quality learning and teaching
- Good modelling of learning
- High quality questioning and effectively used



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

**Our School Community...**

Staff at Midmill School do their best to encourage active travel to school.



The next one was our school community: Staff at Midmill School do their best to encourage active travel to school.

I am delighted to see the high scores in this section following the introduction of the WOW Tracker in school. A massive thank you goes out to the parents on this as you support your children to make active choices in the way they journey to school. SO far in the month of September 70% of all journeys to school have been active journeys. This is over 20% increase since the introduction of WOW Tracker

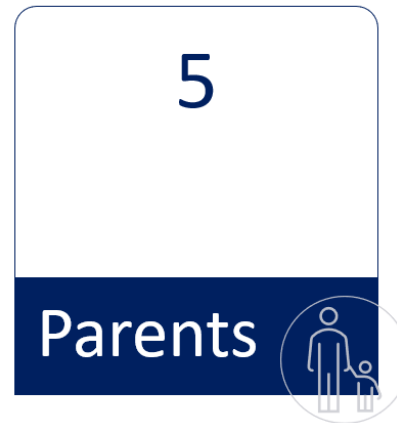




## Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

### Our Health & Well-being...

Learning at Midmill School helps pupils to develop skills to meet challenges and manage change.



Statement number 4 was linked to our Health and Wellbeing: Learning at Midmill School helps pupils to develop skills to meet challenges and manage change.

This is something we continually want to develop.

Since coming out of Covid, the number of pupils presenting with wellbeing concerns has increased dramatically. This has been reported in the news and when you hear about the waiting lists for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Support.

More of this is landing on Schools to support.

AFC CT worker employed this year to support pupil wellbeing in school.



## Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

QIV

- Teachers and PSAs are fair and they care, a really strong thread coming through
- They enjoyed their citizenship groups that they were involved with
- The children think it is a good school – learning is matched to their needs and there is opportunity for challenge.

### Our Successes & Achievements...

At Midmill School pupil achievements are recognised, valued and celebrated which helps to build self-esteem and confidence.



Finally, our successes and achievements: At Midmill School pupil achievements are recognised, valued and celebrated which helps to build self-esteem and confidence.

This is an area we have worked on this session with our Shine award to celebrate achievements outside of school. It is brilliant seeing the skills and achievements of our pupils and being able to celebrate those in school.



## Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

### Feedback on Priorities for Session 2023/24



#### Parents

- Homework
- Relationships
- Wellbeing
- Better Playground Play



#### Pupils

- Play
- Trips
- Health and Wellbeing
- Skills
- Rights Respecting School Award



#### Staff

- Develop relationship policy
- Further develop Midmill Skills
- Wellbeing
- Learning and Teaching with a focus on Assessment



#### Quality Improvement Visit

- Continue to develop consistency across the school, use the planners being developed to support this process.
- Continue to develop assessment to support pace and challenge in all areas of learning.

As part of the questionnaire we asked for feedback on what people felt our priorities should be this year.

As you can see there were some similarities across parents, pupils and staff.

These are no in any order and not a full representation of every response but a summary of the views that were shared.

These views were considered alongside QIV and we developed three priorities for this session.



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

**Improvement Priorities 2023/24**

- **Improve engagement and attainment levels in writing and numeracy through development of high-quality assessments.**
- **Review Curriculum Rationale including Vision, Values and Aims and Relationship Policy to link more closely with UNCRC and Nurture Principles.**
- **Continue to research and embed play and learning outdoors across the school to support pupil engagement and skills development.**

Our priorities for this session are to :

- Improve engagement and attainment levels in writing and numeracy through development of high-quality assessments – this includes review of homework.
- Review Curriculum Rationale including Vision, Values and Aims and Relationship Policy to link more closely with UNCRC and Nurture Principles.
- Continue to research and embed play and learning outdoors across the school to support pupil engagement and skills development.

We would love you to be engaged with this. I am so thankful for all the support the Parent Council offered us last year and I am looking forward to working together with you this session.



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

6. Treasurer's Report

Russell Whyte, Treasure reported:

As treasurer of the Parent Council, I requested that Gary Clacher carry out a financial check of all transactions to and from the Midmill School Parent Council bank account held by Bank of Scotland under Account Number 17345269. Gary Clacher is unconnected to both Midmill School and Midmill Parent Council.

This check was carried out on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at The Royal Bank of Scotland, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2 Marischal Square, Broad Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1BL. All transactions were found to be in order.

**Income and Expenditure Account**

**2022-2023**

<b>Balance of Account at 31 July 2022</b>	<b>£3,999.28</b>
<b>Income to 31 July 2023</b>	<b>£10,600.68</b>
<b>Expenditure 31 July 2023</b>	<b>£9,282.37</b>
<b>Balance of Account at 31 July 2023</b>	<b>£5,317.59</b>

<b>Assets</b>		
	<b>Clothes Rail</b>	<b>£10</b>
	<b>Filing Cabinet</b>	<b>£20</b>
	<b>Gazebo</b>	<b>£240</b>

*Unsure if should be listing assets as school property)*

<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>
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## Midmill School Parent Council

### Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm

### Community Room, Midmill School

Account Signatories: Russell Whyte (Treasurer), Lesley Kerr (Ordinary Member) and Vicky McCallum (Fundraiser)

A new signatory for the account is required as Lesley is no longer a Council Member.

Since the financial check, there have been the following movements:

- Money coming in for Pumpkin Patch tickets (£7 per ticket)
- Money also coming in from Christmas Fayre stallholders - £15 a time
- £71.21 that was raised from teas and coffees at library open day
- £450 spent on netball equipment for the school
- Current balance is £4,874

#### 7. Election of Ordinary Members

Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Susan Brown	Elaine Walker	Alyson Whyte
Claire Galley	Russell Whyte	Laura McMillan
Laura McConnachie	Russell Whyte	Claire Galley
Laura McMillan	Alyson Whyte	Claire Galley
Alyson Whyte	Claire Galley	Elaine Walker
Russell Whyte	Laura McMillan	Laura McConnachie
Elaine Walker	Susan Brown	Laura McMillan
Emma Ritchie	Laura McMillan	Alyson Whyte
Ruth Walker	Laura McConnachie	Elaine Walker
Sam Bull	Elaine Walker	Claire Galley
Neil MacIntosh	Claire Galley	Laura McMillan
Megan Davidson	Alyson Whyte	Claire Galley

Janine Brand stepping down as Ordinary Member



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

The following Ordinary Members were not present, but can be voted it at the next Committee Meeting if they would like to remain:

Katrina Allan
David Angus
Suzanne Brittain
Roisin Burns
Laura Leslie
Margarita Lilaysromant
Vicky McBain
Vicky McCallum
Divyamalar Ramamurthy
Nicola Sutherland
Kevin Williamson

8. Election of Office Bearers

As previously discussed, the roles of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary are to be appointed. Interested parties can making themselves known at the next meeting and will be voted.

Russell Whyte is happy to remain as Treasurer.

New Class Representatives may need to be appointed due to the change is composite classes and the new P1 intake.

Ways of increasing interest in the roles were discussed, such as encouraging those to stay in the role for two years, or vice-chair becoming chair after one year.

The consensus was that terms should not be put on volunteers as there are many other factors.



**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

	<p>Previous chair Susan reiterated that you do not need experience for the role, and having someone in each role allows everyone to focus on their own position. Everyone is supportive and helpful.</p> <p>It was highlighted that the Fundraising team organise the events, and are supported on the day by other members, but the events are not the sole responsibility of the Chair/vice. Their main role is to oversee the meetings and be a liaison with Miss Finch.</p> <p>We are a Parents Council not a PTA, nor is the group a registered charity. The advantages of becoming a charity are not that beneficial to the group, and any money received from gift aid would be spent by paying for an accountant.</p> <p>It was recognised that the constitution may need updated as it has not been considered since the Parent Council started.</p> <p>Methods to attract new members were discussed such as having open coffee mornings, adult only fundraisers. It was agreed the information about the council should be shared with Parents/Carers again, perhaps by Class Reps when they are appointed at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>9. AOCB</p>	<p>Claire expressed her thanks on behalf of the Parent Council to Miss Finch and the staff at Midmill for doing their best to keep the school open during the strikes this week. It is very much appreciated.</p> <p>It was enquired if there had been any progress regarding installing a sound system in school, which the Parent Council will purchase. Katie advised that someone from company 3.16 came to advise what could be done. He advised it would be tricky as the hall is a soundproofed room, but he will come back during a whole school performance to see if his system what would work. Possible provide something moveable for using in different locations or could possibly link to the tannoy system. Susan thinks this has been done before.</p>	





**Midmill School Parent Council**  
**Minutes of AGM – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm**  
**Community Room, Midmill School**

<p>Local company Rood Signs will provide a quote for signs to be installed in the carpark ie 'drop off only' and 'no parking' signs.</p> <p>It was enquired if there was any feedback from Aberdeenshire Council following the survey issued to parents and children regarding the school meals provision. Katie will enquire and ask for findings to be issued.</p> <p>Many children have been complaining at home of the portion size recently and that they are still hungry. Some parents feel the menu is very repetitive.</p> <p>The cooks are restricted on what portion size should be given and that it should be the same amount per child, regardless of age. The menu now runs on a three-week cycle, as opposed to four weeks, which make the meal choices feel more repetitive. Katie advised that some pupils are in too much of a rush to go out and play and do not finish their dinner.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 8:35pm</p> <p>The next meeting of the Parent Council is scheduled for <u>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October @ 7.00pm</u> in the Community Room at Midmill School.</p>	<p>Katie Finch</p>
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