



Midmill School Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm
Community Room, Midmill School

Agenda Item	Areas Discussed	Action
1. Present	Katie Finch (Head Teacher), Emma Ritchie (Chair), Susan Brown (Vice Chair), Russell Whyte (Treasurer), Neil MacKintosh (Secretary), Suzanne Brittain, Nicola Sutherland, Paulina Burnett, Samantha Bull, Megan Davidson.	
2. (a) Apologies	Vicky McCallum, Alison Whyte, Becca Cruickshank, Claire Galley, Elaine Walker, Laura McConnachie, Laura McMillan, Kevin Williamson, Vicky McBain, David Angus, Laura Leslie, Divyamalar Ramamurthy, Megan Davidson, Janine Brand, Katrina Allan, Margarita Lilaysromant, Ruth Walker, Vicky McCallum.	
(b) Resignations	Katrina MacIntosh, Roisin Burns	
3. Matters arising from the previous minutes	<p>It was highlighted that Balance of the parent council account was stated incorrectly in the previous minutes as £10,067. It was identified as a typo and created a small difference. The correct up to date balance is stated below in the Treasurers report section.</p> <p>Minutes from the meeting held on the Wednesday 31st January 2024 were approved by Susan Brown and seconded by Neil MacKintosh.</p>	



Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

	<p>Football nets: look to have been damaged again and this needs to be looked at. However, Laura McConnachie was told by Aberdeenshire Council that they would pay to replace them when she asked on behalf of Kintore United Football Club.</p> <p>P5 football strips: Kits for the football team have been ordered and paid a total £505. – COMPLETED</p> <p>It had been brought to the attention of the Chair of the Parent Council that the “You Move” logo had been printed on the back of the strips by mistake. The previous design had been used which had been sponsored at the time, by Mark of “You Move”. The Chair highlighted that this was a genuine mistake which Mark was not associated with and it was felt by the council that given this no changes to the kit would be taken as this would be costly and given the time Mark puts into coaching and organising the team that this was not necessary.</p> <p>Soundssystem: still looking for additional funds. Per previous minutes Katie requested and received an itemised quote. Russell is exploring the possibility of an application for a 50% grant towards the cost. Katie will forward this to Russell to assist his application.</p> <p>Friendship Benches: Paint can be paid for by the council for the friendship benches. £80.</p> <p>On-Line Safety: Katie Finch has been in touch with Charlotte Lever from cyber safe Scotland to see if they would do an in-person session on online safety, Charlotte has said she could come at the start of next term. Also a cybercrimes officer has said he could come to the session.</p>	<p>Headteacher Action: to send through itemised list to Russell Whyte to help him with grant application.</p> <p>Headteacher Action: Poll to go out from Katie to the class WhatsApp groups. To find out when would be a good time for an evening session for parents.</p>
<p>4. Chairperson’s Report</p>	<p>Christine Maclennan of Aberdeenshire Council has sent a link of a recording from the “Growing up on the internet” session for parents. The link is available to any parent on request.</p> <p>A date is required to be set for the first Parent Council meeting after the Summer break. This is primarily so that the date can be published within the information given to new incoming P1</p>	<p>Headteacher, Chair and Laura McConnachie Action: to pull together the info for the book.</p>



Midmill School Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm
Community Room, Midmill School

	<p>parents. A date was agreed and set for Wednesday 28th August. Laura McConnachie has kindly put together an information poster to also include which informs new parents of the work that the council do and to encourage new members. The AGM date was also set for Wed 25th September.</p>	
<p>5. Head Teacher's Report</p>	<p>HT Report</p> <p>Priority 1 - Attainment in Writing and Numeracy</p> <p>Miss Baillie has been working to update our Assessment calendar and develop a structure for portfolios of evidence of pupil's learning. These have been shared with staff for feedback and will be in place for the start of next session.</p> <p>Mrs Taylor has developed literacy boxes that will be placed in each class to offer additional support for any learners with literacy tasks.</p> <p>Homework Surveys are now complete, and I have shared some of the results with the Pupil Council. I am looking forward to meeting with the parent group in coming weeks.</p> <p>Priority 2 - Review Curriculum Rationale in line with Vision, Values and Aims and Development of a Relationship Policy</p> <p>Vision Values and Aims to be shared with Pupils at Assembly on Friday. I have a copy here to share with you and will go out in Midmill News this week.</p>	



Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

At Midmill School our vision is to inspire hope and foster a lifelong love of learning, empowering our community to create a brighter future for everyone.



Priority 3 – Use of Play and Outdoor learning to improvement engagement and development of skills for life

Aberdeenshire Council have now developed a Play Pedagogy Hub which Midmill staff have had the opportunity to access and reflect on during recent collegiate meetings. Research shows that children learn best through first hand experiences and play fully allows this, educating the whole child, as they develop social, emotional, cognitive, creative and physical skills. Through play, children determine and further their own learning. It allows them choice to explore their ideas and interests,



Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

challenge their thinking and solve problems along the way. This is an area we are keen to continue to develop at Midmill School.

Future use of un-used half of school:

I met with the Inverurie Office Programme team today and I am now being fully consulted on proposals that some council departments may be moved to the un-used portion of the school and they will meet with me on a regular basis.

At present nothing has been agreed and moves are only at proposal stage.

I have raised concerns regarding the move in terms of people who would be in the building, impact on Mrs Emslie and Mr Bisset and PVGs.

- The access to Midmill is planned for officers of the council only. No clients, no public. Teams have been advised that they will be required to book other space in buildings such as Family Resource Centres for meetings with clients.
- We have taken an action to consider the post requirements for the teams and the aim is not to impact on school staff at all – mail would not come to Midmill it would be managed by the facilities team and then delivered to individual teams, phone calls would be managed. There is also an offer for the Area Manager to facilitate a campus management board that I could take any concern to regarding usage.
- This would not be a permanent solution to the Inverurie offices. A permanent solution will be considered and this is in a 3-5 year time frame. Relating to school roll, for instance, there is a planning application for the Midmill town park site for 157 houses at the next area committee meeting, this is built into to the school roll forecast. The school roll will be closely monitored so that any changes to office use can be made.
- All teams that have been considered for allocation to Midmill are teams that must go through the PVG check system.

The final decision regarding proposals will be made at Business Services Committee.



Midmill School Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm
Community Room, Midmill School

	<p>Staffing Annual Staffing process has been started. We have some fixed term contracts that are due to end this Summer, I have put my requests into the Central Team regarding staffing. As soon as I am updated on whether we will be getting a probationer etc. I will let parents know. This is a difficult process to match probationers to schools and any additional staff due to rolls decreasing. Appreciate patience in terms of this process.</p>	
<p>6. Treasurer’s Report</p>	<p>£848 out to Ripples for Leavers Hoodies (we got money in for pupils second hoodies) Profit from Truck Show - £291.96 (Russell, had originally said £271.96) £354 out to Ripples for netball kit £100 out for the Leaver’s Event £359 out to M&M Theatrical £500 out to pay for buses for various school trips Also paid for some prizes etc for the stall at Kintore Summer Festival. These were paid for at the same time at the Truck Show expenses Current balance £7,650 Has the First Aid trainer been paid?</p>	<p>Russell Whyte Action: Has this been invoiced and/or paid out?</p>



Midmill School Parent Council Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm Community Room, Midmill School

<p>7. Class Representatives' Update</p>	<p>Question was raised regarding whether pupils are allowed to cycle up from road on the furthest over path where there is a worn out cycle path sign painted? The feeling is that you are allowed, but care should be taken when cycling down the path and people should not cycle any further than the cycle shed area.</p>	
<p>8. Fundraising Update</p>	<p>Events run since last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Grampian Truck show, Thainstone. 27th/28th April 2024. Had mixed success due to a combination of stand location and the general weather on the day. However, there was interest and the stand was busy at times during the event. Leftover prizes and the spin the wheel that was built for the stand will go towards other events. <p>Other events coming up are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th June Summer festival, Kintore Playing fields. Adult and kids tombola, beat the goalie, Aberdeen mascot possible attendance. Looking for donations for the tombola. • 21st June 2024 the summer disco on the for which there will be a call for volunteers to help with set up, running and breakdown. <p>Proposed events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray Thompson Comedian for parents would split 50/50 with the Parent Council. Reserved for Saturday the 14th September. Public hall in Kintore. Applying for a drink licence. <p>Additional Matter re fundraising committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraisers to look into pricing going forward to ensure a better return on the events. This was asked for, as the returns seem low on some of the fundraising activities that are aimed purely at fundraising. Other events, such as the kids discos, where the aims are not just fundraising, the council felt low returns are fair. • There has unfortunately been a lack of volunteers for the Summer Fest at Kintore and was also the case for the Truck show. However, it was also raised that there is a system for thanking those on the Parent Council Messenger Group after events but there may not be a system in place for thanking those outside of the group (i.e. one off or new volunteers 	<p>Elaine Walker organising.</p> <p>Headteacher Action: To put a thanks out to those who volunteered on the Newsletter.</p> <p>Fundraising Team: to check.</p>



**Midmill School Parent Council
Minutes of Meeting – 29th May 2024 at 7.00pm
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	<p>not in the messenger group). If Thanks can definitely get to these people too then they might be more likely to volunteer again.</p>	
<p>9. AOCB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midmill Velo-Hut 2nd workshop 28th June 2024 3-5.45pm • Midmill Velo-Hut forming an Unincorporated Association, forming Constitution to go for grants and funding. Will be looking for at least a couple of people to help with the running next year. • “Midmill’s Got Talent” The house events group have organised this, just to explain to parents that is why parents may be seeing their children doing lots of practicing. • Leavers party to be on the 28th June at 6pm at Kintore Golf Club. • Staff keen to have a defibrillator installed for the school. But no further progress noted as Laura McConnachie. <p>The next meeting is scheduled for <u>Wednesday 28th August 2024 @ 7.00pm</u> in the Community Room at Midmill School. – Everyone Welcome</p> <p>AGM Proposed <u>Wednesday 7pm 25th September 2024 – Everyone Welcome</u></p> <p>Meeting closed at 8:57pm</p>	