

**MINUTES of Carmondean Parent Council Meeting held on Monday,
19.03.18**

Present: Gordon Chree (Chair)
Gillian Millar - Headteacher
Matt Shanks - DHT
Claire Pringle - Acting PT (Nursery)
Aileen Jamieson - Class Teacher
Fiona Harding - PSW (Minutes)

Gillian Brunt
Kirsty Laing
Laura Sneddon
Ian Anderson

INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Gordon thanked everyone present for their attendance and offered apologies from Caroline Colquhoun, Frances and John Mackay, Diane Maden, Cheryl McLeary, Heather Marriot, and John Miller.

PARENTAL FEEDBACK

Following PC presence at last Parents' Evening and the distribution of leaflets requesting feedback from parents, GC informed the meeting that disappointingly he had received only two responses from these - one on Facebook and one by email. Parent's email raised the issue of the poor quality of the playground surface which has resulted in injury to both her children when they have fallen. This topic is already high profile on tonight's Agenda.

FEEDBACK FROM RECENT PARENT FORUM MEETING

- Attendees made aware of similar apathy throughout the Authority in an effort to recruit parents onto their respective PCs. Head of Education, Elaine Cook, spoke about the recent winter weather issues and, in retrospect, it was agreed that the notification of school closures had worked quite well. There had, however, been some conflict of opinion with the call on the Friday to open secondary schools on the following Monday but not primary schools.

GC said there had been offers to clear the paths leading to CPS but these were not followed up on as parents had expected the school to be closed - then on Sunday the Council issued a different directive indicating schools would be open, by which time it was too late to clear access paths.

- Tesco are now offering a service which embroiders school logos on uniforms through their clothing label F&F. They have two suppliers to choose from with a reward incentive in place similar to that of our present supplier - GC to email HT with details of this for comparison.
- GC asked at the end of the Forum about playground issue. In the long term our aim would be for it to be completely resurfaced but a short term project would entail a repair programme thus dealing with the various holes and dips which have undoubtedly become more hazardous over the winter.

PLAYGROUND

GC is prepared to contact the three councillors for the area and will email WL about short term repair programme to gauge response and then look at a strategy to influence people to become further involved in the bigger picture. HT agreed that it would be beneficial to get pupils' input on the state of the playground and what vision they have of it for the future. Parent Ian Anderson voiced concerns that because of the loose aggregate (resulting in a mixture of small stones and gravel), the whole area is unfit for purpose and requires a complete new tar finish. One of his own children had suffered an injury in the playground which had necessitated a hospital visit and he had also witnessed a child falling that very morning. Meeting informed that all injuries are recorded and GC asked that anyone who has further anecdotal evidence of injuries sustained in the playground contact him so he can incorporate them when he emails the Council (without, of course, using children's names). Suggestion was made to look at new build schools i.e. Simpson and Southdale to use those as a comparison with our playground. However, within our Cluster, Deans PS has recently been resurfaced - HT will contact Deans to ascertain what criteria led to them getting the work carried out. All agreed this is a Health and Safety issue and there must be guidelines in place. GC suggested it might be possible to invite Elaine Cook to visit CPS to look at playground surface first hand.

GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS

GC had been asked if it might be possible to offer group photographs to every stage rather than just Primaries 1 and 7 as the quality of those had been preferable to the individual photographs taken. GM/AJ felt in the long term that an annual group photograph might prove costly to parents but HT said she would certainly look at the viability of this.

NEXT MEETING to be held on Wednesday 2 May, 2018 at 6.30p.m. with the possibility of one last meeting before the end of the school year.

