

**MINUTES of Carmondean Parent Council Meeting held on Monday,
02.05.18**

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

Councillor Alison Adamson
Gillian Brunt
John MacKay
Cheryl McLeary
Ken Merson
Donna Miller
Laura Sneddon
Lynn Scott
Paul Wilson

INTRODUCTIONS

Gordon thanked everyone present for their attendance and introduced local Councillor Alison Adamson to the meeting.

UPDATE ON PLAYGROUND

As a temporary solution the Council have now patched up the deepest pothole nearest the top entry gate in the outer playground and agreed to do a further road sweep job to remove chips and loose gravel but we still await this. In the meantime, GC continues to receive emails from parents re their children's injuries. Councillor Adamson willing to raise this Health and Safety issue with officials and hopefully feed back to Gordon where CPS is on the rolling list of schools for a complete resurface. HT informed meeting that two Council workmen had indeed visited the school and one had taken photographs to report back to his Line Manager. GM will forward their names onto Councillor Adamson, who agreed to go through a different route in an effort to speed the process up. At the end of the meeting GM and GC accompanied Councillor Adamson outside to view the present state of the playground.

CAR PARKING ISSUE

On-going issue especially prevalent in the area up by Nether Dechmont Cottages, where cars are continually parked in spaces clearly marked Keep Clear. GC had put a comment on the Facebook page and not all the

replies were favourable. Laura Sneddon suggested children design posters which could be put up in the area. Last year there was almost an accident when a handbrake had not been applied properly and the vehicle in question rolled into another car. Had there been a child/children there, it could have been a very different story! PC asked Councillor Adamson for her assistance with this to which she replied that the timing was unfortunate as there had previously been funding available to the Police for the Park Smart initiative. The Council would generally be advised of any implementation of signs on parking restrictions by the Police. On the whole it was felt that overall signage throughout the Authority is poor when approaching schools. On the other side of the school, the residents of Camps Rigg and surrounding streets face an on-going battle with their driveways being blocked and inconsiderate parking from parents dropping their children at CPS. A suggestion was made that we get the children more involved outside within the designated parking areas but both HT and DHT said this would have a huge impact on the Risk Assessment which would be required for this. Councillor Adamson intimated she would be willing to put our case forward at the next local area committee meeting for Livingston North.

MATTERS ARISING

- HT informed meeting that she intends next session, to create items for more practical discussion as a standing Agenda - this would include School Improvement Plan, PEF initiative and an update on matters going on within the school which she would share with the PC.
- **Homework** - A couple of parents felt there should be more maths homework as too much of it in P1 is language based and repetitive. Comment had also been passed to GC that certain class projects end up being done by parents and Donna Miller (P1 parent) felt that one week there seemed to be rather a lot of homework to do in a limited time. HT said there will always be a 50/50 split of parents for or against homework - this matter to be looked at in more detail next session.
- **Playground Drop Off/ Pick Up** - Some parents had contacted Gordon saying they could not see their own children easily in the inner playground as too many parents blocking their view by being too near the fence which separates the inner from the outer area of the playground.
- **Dining Hall** - At no time has the kitchen run out of food to give to the children. They are given on their individual tray exactly what they order in the morning. Similarly, there has never been a shortage of water or milk provision for the children.
- **Breakfast Club Start Time** - Commuter parents requesting that this starts earlier to tie in with train times. AJ stated this is

linked to school starting time and if breakfast club were to be moved forward, it would have a knock-on effect in making the end of the day finishing time earlier too. HT commented on the staffing and cost implications of moving the time forward.

A.O.B.

Ken Merson asked if any parents could help with training children for the forthcoming Triathlon event? HT replied that children already receive this as part of the PE Curriculum and Active Schools are also involved but the school would welcome any parents in a position to offer assistance.

This was the final meeting of the session and as Wednesday evenings seem to be a suitable time for these, it was agreed that HT and GC will work out provisional dates for next session and Gordon will then feed back to PC members.

