

CURRIE PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

Minutes of Meeting

Date: Monday 10th June 2024

Place: Via Teams

Attendees: **Staff** – Sally Hourston (SH)

Parents – Susie Bass (SB – Co-chair); Jennifer Cowan (JC – Co-chair); Sarah Jackson (SJ – Secretary); Eilidh Dane (ED – Treasurer); Stacie Lothian (SL); Catherine Colquhoun (CC); Fiona Hamil (FH); Laura Morrison (LM); Beth Wright (BW).

Apologies: Susan Donnachie (SD – Vice Chair)

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Item No.	Minutes	Action Points
1.	<p><u>Action Points from March Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PVG – SJ is dealing via Volunteer Scotland Disclosure Services. SJ has submitted applications to remove existing applicants from the Currie PTA PVG records. It has been difficult to obtain the relevant information given some of these checks were undertaken 12 years ago. SJ is still to undertake the checks for the current members ahead of the Halloween Discos. A new online system was launched by Disclosure Scotland today so SJ will complete applications via that system. • Outdoor Speaker – the PTA purchased a Bluetooth speaker last year, on Laura Jackson’s recommendation. Mr Donaldson uses it regularly for PE. It was also used by the PTA for the Fun Run warm-up. It would not work for announcements at the May Fayre, for example. However, it was noted that a megaphone/loudspeaker perhaps works better in that scenario. It was acknowledged that a speaker may be useful for use in the playground, for Fitness Friday and for sports day. SH will revert if a speaker is required. • Sports Team Tops – as far as SH is aware, nothing is required. SJ reported that her husband had obtained full tracksuits (tracksuit bottoms and zip up tops) via the Arnold Clark fund suggested by SB for the football team he coaches and they are great – there are different colours to choose from and you can include a logo on the tops. SH will check whether anything is required. • P7 Camp – SH reported there is still a £1,000 shortfall from children who went on this year’s p7 camp but did not pay in full. The school will have to find the funds for that from elsewhere, although there is no expectation that the PTA would fund those costs. Children will 	<p>SJ to progress</p> <p>SH to contact PTA if speaker required.</p> <p>SB to forward details of fund to SH.</p>

	<p>not be able to attend next year if payment has not been made in full.</p> <p>The current p6 plan to raise funds with a bake sale and a Tesco Hermiston Gait bag pack. As things stand, 74 of the 91 p6s are signed up to attend next year's camp.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Pantos – SH will chase Linda for the panto cost [<i>Note after meeting – confirmed at £1,200</i>]. The school are delighted to be having Macastory attend again. SB offered a snack supplied by the PTA. SH confirmed that an ice cream or ice pole would be lovely. • Sensory Room – the £750 prize from Easy Fundraising has been made over to the School and is being spent on the sensory room now. 	SD to obtain snacks.
2.	<p><u>Feedback from Recent Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter Colouring Competition – SH advised that this was very popular with the children and easy to run in school. There were lots of entries and the school would love to do it again. SJ noted that it was a very low expense for us (around £15 – we used a mixture of donations and bought items to create 3 x prizes). The PTA will look to repeat this at some point next year. • May Fayre – SH, SB and JC have had a debrief already, as have those who were involved in organising the Fayre. Everyone was delighted to have raised £10,000. SH noted that many school fayres have not picked up again post covid so Currie is very lucky to have such a wonderful May Fayre. <p>SB noted that the PTA was very grateful to the 70 volunteer staff and parents who helped on the day. It is only possible to run the Fayre with that number of volunteers.</p> <p>JC will consider dates for next year. It will be held in May again with a view to avoiding other local events and also given the number of school events in June.</p>	<p>SJ to consider next year.</p> <p>JC to revert with dates.</p>
3.	<p><u>Upcoming Proposed Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fun Run – the PTA have held a sponsored fun run for the last couple of years. It has always been a very successful fundraising event, with fairly low level organisation required from the PTA. It is hoped the event can be linked to the Olympics or some other relevant theme. SH confirmed that the staff would be happy to support this. The date last year tied in with National Fitness Day, which is 18th September this year. <p>CC wondered whether we could look into something organised by Kidstri. CC's children have attended an event held by them and it</p>	SB to arrange.

	<p>was very well organised with fixed bikes etc. The PTA also wondered whether there are any connections to Olympic athletes via the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bake Sale – these were done in October and February this year. Given p6’s plan to hold a bake sale after Summer we will hold off until we hear when that will be. The PTA will hopefully hold a bake sale later in the year. • Halloween Magic Shows and Discos – FH noted that P1 and P2 were a bit overwhelmed by the disco atmosphere. As such, FH’s suggestion is that we hold a Halloween Magic Show for P1, P2 and P3 on a Thursday after school (31st October) and discos on Friday (1st November) after school for p4/5 and p6/7. <p>FH is considering using both the gym hall and the dinner hall at the disco so there is a break-out space with a quiet activity.</p> <p>FH is happy to use the same disco provider as last time. SH noted that Halloween allows the children to dress up, which they love.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Pantos – see above. • Parent Social – we are hoping to arrange a parent social after Christmas. In the past we have held a quiz in the scout hall which has been BYOB. We might consider a different event – bingo, race night etc. • Parent/child social – we may also consider a beetle drive. SH noted they were successful in the past. It was a short evening of around 1.5hrs, say 6-7.30pm, so younger children could attend. • Christmas Fayre – the PTA do not have capacity to assist at this year’s p6 Fayre in the same manner as last year (the income is similar to a bake sale which requires much less effort). However, the PTA are very willing to help the P6s if they can. 	<p>FH to arrange.</p> <p>SJ to consider.</p>
4.	<p><u>Finances</u></p> <p>ED confirmed the PTA are holding £18,639 in the bank. There is £128 still to be paid from the Silent Auction.</p> <p>P7 Gifts – in previous years the PTA have gifted a high school tie and contributed to yearbook printing. Alternatives have been considered because it is appreciated that very few children actually wear ties. There is also due to be a consultation on high school uniform so the tie may change or may not be part of the uniform. Scientific calculators were suggested, but the guidance from the high school on this is unclear. Pencil cases were suggested but they get the required items at</p>	

<p>high school. It was agreed that French/Spanish/German dictionaries are probably not used now due to Apps being available.</p> <p>Given the short timeframe this year it was agreed that the PTA will fund a £10 Waterstones gift voucher for each p7 child. Consideration will be given to a tangible gift next year, or perhaps a contribution to the p7 quali. Yearbook printing is being done in-house this year. There are 69 children so the cost to the PTA will be £690 this year.</p> <p>Raised beds – <i>[Note after meeting - £200 of materials for raised beds agreed, together with discount for remaining materials.]</i> The PTA will fund the balance (max £300 anticipated).</p> <p>Playground works – the quote has been received from Scotplay. The PTA, School, Council and Scotplay have been involved in obtaining quotations. The equipment to be purchased has been approved by all and is effectively the largest piece of equipment available to a school in the area available.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that the ground preparation and installation costs are large, in addition to the equipment itself. The PTA would be delighted to fund the large climbing frame and the climbing wall at a cost of £13,642.70.</p> <p>The suggested additional stepping posts to join up a section of the trim trail will not be purchased at this time due to costs.</p> <p>SH noted that the children will be delighted.</p> <p>The required playground survey has already been carried out. JC will liaise with Margaret to check whether that invoice needs paid. JC will also liaise with Margaret to book in the work as soon as possible. JC understands they are booked up past October week now and it is likely to be towards the end of October. On the plus side, the equipment should be in place for Winter, when the fields are often out of bounds.</p> <p>Equity – the PTA provided £1,000 last year. SH noted it was gratefully received and helps to keep the playing field level. Given the above expenditure the PTA will pause on a decision for equity for 2024/25 until additional income is received.</p> <p>Class cash contributions – as above, a decision will be paused.</p>	<p>JC to purchase vouchers.</p> <p>JC to liaise with Margaret</p>
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5.	<p><u>Grant Funding</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Through Landscapes – unsuccessful (planters requested for p1/2). It is annual so SH will apply again. • Spar - unsuccessful. • Twinkl - unsuccessful. • C&B News – Nursery received £500 for their garden and p1/2 received £250 for loose parts. • Wickes Community Programme – ongoing; see above. • Waitrose – £600 received and put towards sensory garden. SB is liaising with the community team about volunteering to help weed/improve the sensory garden. • Tesco – blue token scheme applied for but can take 18-24mths to get in. • Kier Construction – BW reported that Gordon has been back in touch with Kier in relation to the p1 area. There will be 3 x p1 classes this year. 2 classes will front onto the side with the outdoor play area and the other class will come out the back onto the sloped area (which is the part which gets very muddy). Gordon will reconnect with Kier. • John Watson’s Trust – SH confirmed they have applied for assistance towards camp. • Microscooters – some brand new helmets have been donated to p1. P1/2 will also accept scooters. 	SB to continue to liaise.
6.	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>SH prefers in person meetings but is happy to have meetings via Teams, or hybrid meetings. It was suggested that the September meeting might be a hybrid. We will set dates for next year’s four meetings.</p>	