A stone building with a bench

Description automatically generated

A drawing of a tower with a clock and books

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19 September 23

Monymusk Parent Council Meeting Minutes:

**Welcome and Apologies**

* Present
  + Jan Watt (Interim Chair)
  + Lauren Fergusson (Treasurer)
  + Catriona Penman (Secretary)
  + Katie Coleske (P1 parent)
  + Jill Moir (Head Teacher)
  + Jane Veitch (P1,2,3 teacher)
  + Miss Kilmurry (P4,5 teacher)
  + Mrs Farquhar (P6,7 teacher)
* Apologies
  + Catriona Bell
  + Rosemary Jamieson

**Parent council updates**

* Jan has stepped up during the EGM held the last week of term before the summer break.
  + *We need to encourage more parents to get involved and find out who might step up as Chair after Christmas break for us*
* Lauren has become our Treasurer.
* Catriona has become our Secretary.

The Parent Council FB group will be used to try and engage with parents and share ideas and plans.

Review of known funding requirements previously discussed:

Outdoor Shed update

* School still need the shed
* School to source from Costco
  + Last price known £1277
  + Include shelving units (previously priced £89 each)

Display Boards

* School would still like 6 boards

Hungry Hagis Café requirements

* Cups and Saucers

**Head Teachers Report**

* Staffing:
  + Classes remain the same as last year.
  + Due to council cutbacks
    - Mrs Cheyne 4 days
  + PEF funding
    - Mrs Wellburn 3 days
  + Rejig of timetables to allow for 64 in 3 classes.
    - 20 (P1,2,3)
    - 23 (P4.5)
    - 21 (P6,7)
* Budgets finalised:
  + £2,880/year per captia.
  + £500 for repairs and building maintenance.
  + £7,300/year people equity fund (PEF)
  + £24,500/year for Energy
    - *Question – what happens when oil prices go up? A – school energy bills are always paid.*
* Building:
  + Surveys completed across the whole shire.
    - 22 possible schools and 2 definite issues
    - Monymusk has no RATT after a check due to the gym hall.
* General Updates:
  + The smart touch boards installed.
    - Staff training on them 3/10/23
* Standards quality award has been approved.
  + We have an ambitious Improvement plan. More details can be seen on the visuals Mrs Moir has in her office.
* Priorities include:
  + Learning, teaching and development
    1. Grammar and spelling
    2. Mathematics
    3. Increase digital uptake which will need technology.
  + Leadership of change (will begin in term 3)
    1. We will share vision and value before we start.
  + Wellbeing, equality and inclusion will be split and lead by different teachers but will be across the whole school.
    1. Language (Mrs V)
    2. IT/computer skills (Miss K) -
    3. STEM (Mrs F) – Note: the textile funds will require specific details on equipment or requests for approval. Mrs F to write a list.

There was a discussion around the potential use of parent volunteers to help fill gaps made with PSA reductions in future: STEM, Art, Home Economics, Joinery, outdoor learning options. *A FB post will be a good place to start this discussion to see which parents can offer their expertise.*

Scots language school of the year

* + Last week we won the Scots language “School of the year 2023” award.
  + We need to celebrate and we need the party to be big and inclusive of the whole community (not just the P1-3) and we need to think beyond the book and award.
  + Second run of “jocks daunder…” to be printed
  + Parent council can help plan the event driven by the kids in school
* CELEBRATION IDEAS:
  + Where:
    - Marquee at the big house – we’d need Archie Grant on board for this one – Mrs Moir to get in touch.
    - Village hall – most likely option due to weather

*Post meeting update – hall has been confirmed.*

* + When:
    - Dec 1st Friday night
    - 7-9pm
  + Q – do we want a Pipe Band during arrival? – Mrs F to talk to Alford PB.
  + Needs:
    - Volunteers for set up / decorations
    - Volunteers for tidy up / clean up
  + Catering: Stovies and Mac & cheese – Mrs V to speak to Graham - Butcher in Alford

*Post meeting update – hall has been confirmed.*

* + Entertainment:
    - Music – DJ Doug from the school disco £100
    - Games – do we want games? If so what and who will run them?
    - Drink – can we get a bar licence?
  + Theme:
    - St Andrews day / Scotland / tartan
* *Q - Do we want fireworks?*
  + Kids input on everything.
  + Design web ticket interface so we have a head count – Jan to come in and help with this.

Other upcoming events

* School Disco
  + To take place first week back after October holidays
  + Playgroup 1745 start for 30 minutes with parents to stay
  + School start 1800 and finish 2000
  + Parent council to provide snacks and juice
* Christmas fayre – 13/12/23 in the morning, followed by the open day in the afternoon.
* Santa visit/gifts – 21/12/23 with a visit with the Christmas horse (Jan to provide J)
* Discussion regarding helping to advertise the Playgroup race night at the start of 2024.

Treasurers Report

* 2 weeks away from year end
  + Muddy run – final numbers not confirmed but based on last years council costs and the higher catering costs due to the extra burgers
  + Even so, ~£972.65 profit made
  + Left over burgers can be used/sold at other events
  + Questions raised – how do we advertise next year to make a bigger event?
* A full report will be given after year end.

Post meeting additions

* – a second run of “Jocks daunder…” book with award additions printed.