

**FRIENDS OF DURRIS and CROSSROADS NURSERY**  
**Minutes of Meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 3th of March 2022**

Present: Lynne Giles, Sarah Stewart, Dawn Rippiner, Elaine Ingram, Bridget Rhodes, Yi-pei Chou Turvey, Catriona Woodburn, Claire Wallace, Corine Purkis, Lynne Street, Angie Rooksby

Apologies: Catie Gandhi, Aynsley Watson

**Actions**

Minutes and Correspondence

Minutes from last meeting approved

Correspondence:

- Cllr Sarah Dickinson is following on the green space and progress, we are checking if she can help with Forestry Scotland to clear woods at Crossroads
- Aynsley Watson is resigning from Parent Council
- PVG meeting scheduled between Catriona and VSA so parent council can do their own disclosures for all involved in PC and subgroups and event helpers.

YC

CW

Treasurer Update

£277.50 paid, £661.70 current balance, will check what does the school need, ea. subscriptions which reroll in March

DR

Subgroups reports

*Durris Dashers Subgroup Report*

Date of meeting: 3rd March 2022

Accounts update:

Durris Dashers is a free club run in school time so no accounts are held and no finances are required for this club

Recent Activities/Events:

Durris Dashers has not yet resumed since it had to temporarily stop in March 2020 due to the Covid Pandemic.

The club was due to start up again in late November 2021 just as Storm Arwen hit. Storm Arwen and subsequent storms in the last 3 months have caused damage in the 2 forests used for the club and we have been advised that the forests are still currently closed until a full assessment has been made and the area made safe.

I have discussed alternative options with Mrs Giles and we are looking at options to start running the club either with

- (a) an alternative running route through Woodlands of Durris, which requires an increased number of helpers due to being based on the roads; or
  - (b) running the club in the school playground at some point during the school day
- I hope to be able to resume the club in the next few weeks subject to parental help.

Planned events:

Children are being encouraged to run at the Balmoral Road race (Primary 1.5k) on 23rd April and the Active Schools Run4Fun Cross Country series.

I am unable to take any children to the annual Albyn & RGC Open Cross-Country Championships this year but we hope to be able to put together a team for this in 2023.

Issues of Concern:

None

The following are up to date:

- Risk assessments: yes
- Incident log: yes - not required until the club commences

*Durris Dolphins Subgroup Report*

Date of meeting: Thursday 3rd March 2022

Accounts update: £3,351.13

Recent Activities/Events:

Swimming has been held each Thursday night from 4:30-5:30pm except for holidays. Most children at the school attend each week and many children are starting to progress through the classes now which is fantastic given the break due to Covid.

Planned events:

No unusual events planned - only Thursday night training sessions

Hope to hold a safety session before summer to teach the children what to do if they end up in water fully clothed or in non-swimming pool environments eg the sea or rivers where they might encounter currents.

Issues of Concern:

None

The following are up to date:

- Risk assessments: yes
- Incident log: yes/no - no incidents this year to date

#### *PTA subgroup report*

Date of meeting: Thursday 3rd March 2022

Accounts update: £1,535,54

Recent Activities/Events: None. Planned xmas event was cancelled due to COVID.

Planned events: None as yet, considering summer BBQ in summer term if COVID restrictions allow. Bank account currently being transferred so signatories are updated and we have online banking.

Issues of Concern: None

The following are up to date:

- Risk assessments: yes/no/NA – N/A as no planned events as yet.
- Incident log: yes/no – To be commenced prior to first event

#### Head Teacher Update

Staffing – Mrs Shelley Tuck has settled in well, with us daily, 4 hours a day

Forest Schools – still awaiting Forestry Commission update on using woods, but not looking hopeful due to further two storms at end of January, hopefully for term 4.

Rights Respecting – all classes have revisited their class charters. Continuing with Article of the month to highlight articles for all children.

Positive Behaviour Policy – draft was open to all Parent Forum to comment on. Policy now on website, no longer in draft.

Spending – spent money on two small storage units for playground, more tarps, lots of crates, planks, wooden blocks – all for playground. Also spent on – metre sticks, clocks, bookshelf x2 (one for library and 1 for class), beanbags for reading corners.

Inset training – Feb – Talk for Writing – working on our Reading Spine and incorporating Non-fiction blocks to tie in with our fiction blocks. Also looked at next steps for Rights Respecting

Nursery – Talk for writing, updating library and outside area being revamped

Covid-19 update –re-start Masterclasses and Pupil Working Groups – as classes can now mix inside. Assembly back on too. But not mixing between schools.

IT refresh – four new chrome books and 4 new iPads now in school

Wonderful Wednesdays – using skills from all teachers – CW Digital Literacy, LH French, RP Music and LG Physical Education – All classes will rotate around and have lessons focussed on these curricular areas. Utilising areas of skill/expertise of staff to a better advantage. Starting in Term 4

Parent Council help wanted! Would like to investigate using the land just outside the school grounds at the back gate, along the school wall. Our plan would be to have raised beds built so each class could have a bed for planting. Would this be something that the PC could take forward with Kirkwood Fyfe and investigate its feasibility? Also check if need assessment since it's outside the school, and check with residents if they like the idea.

SS

<p>Durris Parish Church – celebrates the building being used for 200 years in June 2022. Working with Jean Boyd, the local minister, for children to all take part in a drawing competition to form an art exhibition as part of the weekend of celebrations. The church is also keen to financially help with the Raised bed project, should we gain permission from KF.</p> <p><u>Nursery update</u></p> <p>-Numbers: 17 children and 2 more after Easter, Intake high next year with families from Crathes and Durris.  -In-service day: works about garden space, more free flow and the Community Council will allocate a grant for play area  -Raise beds needs to be replace- proposition of a job list so the families can help  - CALAMARI SHANARRI: good work this term  -IT refresh: Whiteboard, laptop, clever touch smartboard, order of 4-5 new iPad but on waiting list</p> <p><u>Separate items of business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive Behaviour Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Time to update and survey sent to parents with balanced and constructive feedbacks. Policy is now updated and finalized.</li> <li>- Comments from Mrs Masters QIO: the approach should be the same for all kids, making the charter visible outdoors and in (already actioned) and exclusion at very last resort</li> <li>- HT comments: External agencies access if necessary, behaviours take time to change, parents should contact school if feel necessary.</li> <li>- Feedback to pupils and “closing the loop” so all assured that even if action is not visible, there is action – all reports and concerns are taken seriously (action ongoing by school staff)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Parent council policies agreed – with disclosure document storing to be added to data protection policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PC to organise Code of Conduct to be signed by volunteers,</li> <li>- Disclosure, Data Protection, PVG all to be locked in cabinet</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Childcare - invite subgroup formation, hopeful for action come August. Need to check price and help from Cllrs for use of the facilities, survey to check parents' interests,</li> <li>• Green space update/raised beds – new action (see HT report above)</li> </ul> <p><u>AOB</u></p> <p><u>Date of Next Meeting:</u> 21/04/2022</p>	<p>EI &amp; YC</p> <p>CatW</p> <p>EI, CP, YC</p>
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