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East Dunbartonshire Council

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Baljaffray Primary School

Grampian Way, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 4RA



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Attendees (see below)

Meeting 17 Sept, Baljaffray Academy, Conference room

Topic	Minutes
Welcome and Intro	All members were welcomed to the Parent Council and apologies were noted.
Role of parent council	LF explained the role of the council to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Represent the views of parents and carers 2. Support the school in its development and improvement plans 3. Provide input into other school matters arising
AGM business	The appointment of positions of Chair and Vice Chair were discussed. LF explained that she had approached Mrs Rodden in Aug to check if any volunteers had self-nominated. None were noted and so LF offered to stand, likewise with HD as Vice Chair. The Council were supportive of both positions. LF to consult on nominations before confirming these appointments. ACTION – All to comment, if no further nominations received LF and HD will be confirmed as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.
School update	<p>Upcoming/Events this term</p> <p>MacMillan 25th Sept – Charities Beehive Fairtrade Fortnight – Fairtrade assembly 26th Sept Unicef Rights Respecting School – assessment ‘GOLD’ was awarded – 10th October Gold Play Day will be given as a result Harvest Assembly (9th October at 9.30 -organised by P2 – donations to EDC Foodbank) Parents Nights Tuesday 8th October, Wednesday 9th October Remembrance Assembly 11th Nov at 10.45 – P7 P7 Teachers – involved in moderation of writing 14th November Mural - in hand – commissioned Date 24th October for 50th Anniversary – Graffiti artist ‘Be more sketchy’ to do the mural – Craig Barrat has contacts here if required for other follow up if required. ACTION: CB to contact EP to offer support regarding mural as required.</p> <p>Staffing this Session</p> <p>Mariyah SLA resigned Mrs Shirlaw CA – retiring The committee discussed staffing changes and discussion on back fill. All Support staff vacancies are being sent into EDC but not necessarily advertised yet – delays on EDC end. Discussion over any shortages – LR confirmed 1.5 FTE short of School Learning assistants ACTION: LR to confirm if the posts have been agreed and Parent council may wish to raise the issue further eg with local MSPs.</p>

Beehives – lots of new ones. All listed below:

- Baljaffray Rights Respecting Bureau
- School Grounds
- Visual Environment
- School Sports Award
- Charities x2
- Eco Grow your own - allotment new idea
- Eco – Biodiversity
- Eco -3Rs
- Travel and Road Safety
- STEM Nation
- Special Days
- Equalities and Diversity
- Family Learning
- Communication /BSL

Discussion about how families can support. The school will issue Glow forms for parents etc to give suggestions and skills relating to the above which they can offer the school.

SIP Priorities Next Session

The Circle Framework – EDC priority for all schools. The CIRCLE resources were developed through a collaboration between Queen Margaret University, NHS Lothian and City of Edinburgh Council. The CIRCLE Framework is a way of organising and supporting input using a staged system of support, beginning with setting up an inclusive classroom. Physical environment, Social environment, Structures and routines, Effective collaborative working, Understanding and encouraging motivation.

Year 2 LfS – including meta skills and STEM



Year 3 Raising Attainment – Literacy –continued focus on reading and looking at writing (Including Spelling and Reading Schools – Miss Parker)

Not key priority for next session but strong focus will be on School Values, BPS code of conduct. (Crack down on bad language and reacting physically)

Parent workshops

	<p>Keen to offer suggestions for possible parent workshops. School looking for ideas/volunteers to run. Suggestions from the school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Media (PC Darren Todd contacted – hopes to attend Parents Night) • Restorative Practice • Phonics / Spelling / Reading Tips <p>Discussion of other suggestions followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music lessons were discussed. Currently provided by Mr Carsen and other music lessons by Mr Barclay& P4 Beat Buddies • Reading recovery is financially draining for the school – partially funded by Local authority and PEF funded – Mrs Cowan’s time. Noting PEF funding running out 2025/2026. Consider a train the trainer approach – for this time next year – recommendation and get PVG clearances done now. • Mental wellbeing as a topic – in hand and sensory places is being addressed with current practices and areas for support • Ways to increase engagement (currently about 30% of parents and carers who engage with requests from the school. Council advised LR to check mechanisms for who is primary contact versus whole school communications <p>Question were added following Mrs Rodden’s report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairtrade fortnight – ED can we look at it from a different angle and look at local produce to be the focus and away from sugary snacks – wrong message for the kid. Howard the farmer was a good example of impact. It was agreed to look at this for next year and link to local producers. • Enquiry about spiral maths results. LR Confirmed that– positive results and children are remembering the techniques.
Outdoor shelter	<p>LF outlined the history of the outdoor classroom/shelter and plans to install, issues with previous contractors and the remedial actions now underway. East Dunbartonshire Council EDC is managing the contract, their School Planning and Improvement manager, contacted LF and LR on 15 Sept to confirm that the construction company have submitted the required documentation for the building warrant including a structural engineers report due to the size of the structure. All these steps were not carried out previously when the original structure was put in place by school.</p> <p>EDC advised that they should have sign off from Building Control on this, within the next two weeks and that he will be checking up on this, then the construction can begin. With regards to construction the relevant RAMS will be in place to carry out during term time. In a phone call with LF, Oct holidays were agreed as the target for completion. Further updates will be shared by LF. ACTION: LF to provide update</p>
PTA update	<p>First meeting held in Aug 2024 Money ca £14k in the bank Lots of monthly events are lined up including chippy hike (65 kids attended) Christmas fayre and funding pantos Family night last weekend for Scottish themed event in Jan 25 in St Andrews hall The PTA has funded new lights sound system/hoodies ski team/comedy show/ and other activities.</p>

	<p>Requests to PTA made by the school include: Waterproofs for outdoor learning requested/digital display – spec being sent. ACTION: CB to look into the quote to check if spec is appropriate at £1500 etc</p> <p>PTA website will be live soon – booking etc and feed into a shared calander – subscribe to google calendar – ACTION: CB to discuss with school</p> <p>Edrington funding welcome and generosity acknowledged by the Council.</p> <p>LF asked ED to thank the PTA, crediting their wonderful fundraising achievements and hard work.</p>
STEM Nation award	<p>The School is aiming to secure the STEM Nation award this year. EP explained that 3 elements missing for Baljaffray to be eligible. Areas still to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity and equality • STEM family learning • STEM partnerships <p>Members of the council were asked for support. Glow forms will be issued to provide parental input and involvement.</p>
Home Learning	<p>The topic of home learning was discussed and concerns about attainment gaps since covid. Members of the council suggested that the School’s home learning policy is reviewed. It was stated that there was some confusion on the policy following the recent ‘Meet the teacher event’. LR confirmed that reading at home is actively encouraged and that the school give homework to children who needed additional support. Sways newsletters also provide general support links to help with home learning if necessary.</p> <p>LR confirmed the last consultation on the subject had high engagement and may now be a time to revisit this discussion – trends are apparent.</p> <p>CB suggested tracking children to higher completion would be advisable – if we start to implement homeworking.</p> <p>Other ideas to consider don’t want to put unnecessary pressure on the children at home. Ensure Good tracking provided through the Homework process.</p> <p>Optional is better for home learning but incentives do make a difference to the children</p> <p>P5 home learning was discussed – clarification required for P5 homework.</p> <p>ACTION: LR to consider approach and timing for Home Learning consultation.</p> <p>Clarification on P5 home learning activities to be issued.</p>
AOB	<p>ED reported that Parents in Ledi Drive have officially requested a lolly pop person at crossing at the bottom of Ledi Drive. The council has stated that this responsibility falls to Baljaffray to sort. ACTION:LR to look into this.</p> <p>Parent Pamela Graham has offered support if the school are needing any support through the Church. It was also noted that Rev Trish Archibald is also on the Parent Council and would be another source of support.</p> <p>The meeting dates for this school year are as follows, agenda will be issued ahead of the meetings, format will vary between in person and on line:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sep 17 2024 @ 7pm • Nov 19 2024 @ 7pm • Jan 21 2025 @ 7pm • Mar 18 2025 @ 7pm • May 20 2025 @ 7pm



Close

- No further items the meeting was closed.

Membership

- Chairperson Linden Fradet
- Vice Chairperson Hazel Dawson
- Parent Member Craig Barratt
- Parent Member Emily Dewar
- Parent Member Graeme Glen - apologies
- Parent Member Sharon Middleton - apologies
- Parent Member Sandeep Pandya
- Parent Member Gavin Ross
- Parent Member Sreenu Vattipally
- Parent Member Gary Granger
- Parent Member Craig Barrat
- Parent Member Sandeep Pandya
- Parent Member Florin Pintilie - absent
- Co-opted Member Rev. Trish Archibald - apologies
- Staff Member (Head Teacher) Lesley Rodden
- Staff Member (Depute Head Teacher) Elaine Paterson
- Staff Member (Depute Head Teacher) Lynn Parker