

South Neighbourhood Group Meeting

St Thomas of Aquins High School

17 November 2014

Chair: Moyra Wilson, Senior Education Officer

Minutes: Liz Leslie, Queensferry High School

Attendees:

Alexander Ramage, Parent Council Rep, Prestonfield Primary School
 Alison Noble, HT, Sciennes Primary School
 Amanda Bissett, Parent Council Rep, Gilmerton Primary School
 Marion Hemingway-Brunt, Parent Council Rep, Liberton High School
 Ian Willis, Parent Council Rep, Royal Mile Primary School
 Bryan Heaney, Parent Council Rep, St Peters RC Primary School
 Ross Hunter, HT, Gracemount High School
 Stephen Harrold, Parent Council Rep, Gracemount High School
 Louise McSorley, Parent Council Rep, Prestonfield Primary School
 Lucy Blackburn, Parent Council Rep, Liberton Primary School
 Charles Warlow, Parent Council Rep, Preston Street, Primary School
 Joanne Thin, Parent Council Rep, St Thomas of Aquins RC High School
 Abigail Burnyeat, Parent Council Rep, Bun-sgoil Taobh na Páirce
 Richard Darke, Parent Council Rep, Gracemount Primary School
 Mark Roberts, Parent Council Rep, Bruntsfield Primary School

1.	<u>Apologies:</u>	Action
	Ailsa McIntosh, Taobh na Páirce Paul Preacher, Holy Cross Primary School Jamie Deas, Buckstone Primary School Valerie Duhig, St Marks RC Primary School Claire Wheeler, Parent Council Rep, Sciennes Primary School	
2.	<u>Minutes of Previous Meeting</u>	
	Page 1 Agreed Page 2 Agreed Page 3 Agreed Page 4 Grounds for Learning will be continuing. There will be a report on this to Education, Children and Families Committee in December. Page 5 Moyra confirmed that childcare vouchers can be used for school clubs	
3.	<u>Directors Report</u>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Billy McIntyre gave a presentation at the last CCwP on Rising Rolls, Children and Families Estate, Local Development Plan and Free School Meals. 2. Next Education, Children and Families Committee is on 9 December and the papers will be online on 2nd December 3. Online School Payments – following the pilot (Sciennes Primary took part) it has been decided to roll this out nationally in Spring 2015. Pilot schools found it excellent and parents love it. Covers many options i.e. trips, events communication 4. Parking at Schools – Moyra conducted 2 meetings on this issue and the end result is that Convener Paul Godzik put forward a motion to council to allow CCTV evidence to be used to deal with parking infringements at schools to be investigated and this has been agreed. Alison Noble said that Sciennes were thrilled to be considered 	

	<p>as part of the School Streets Project as a minority of parents are causing huge safety issues by parking inappropriately and speeding. Consultation starts in September. Alison will keep the group updated. Delivering Local Transport report is available online.</p> <p>Queries from this section were as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Royal Mile Primary School – the parliament building has street bollards for security, could these be extended to the school to close the road at peak times? -Liberton High School – what actions will be taken for schools on main streets that can't be closed? -Is there a possibility of further waves being rolled out as some schools did not get an application in on time? -Are unsuccessful schools automatically put forward to next wave or do they need to reapply? <p>Moyra will take these back to the Road Safety Team and report back.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. I plus 2 Languages – this is to be put on the agenda for the next CCwP 6. Budget Process – all PC chairs were invited to a budget consultation on 11th November at the City Chambers and attendance was good. Budget proposals can be found at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/budget. Staff and residents are being encouraged to use the online budget planner. Although the schools budget has been protected, parents need to keep feeding back their views in order for this to continue. Consultation open until 19th December. Those of the group that attended thought that overall the process was better than last year, well managed and enjoyable. The feeling was that it had been a positive and useful night. PC Chairs to share with parents and encourage participation and feedback. 7. Scottish Learning Festival – Greg Dimeck of Gracemount PS gave a presentation on “The School at the Heart of the Community” 8. Improving School Websites – MW to provide more details of training etc. which is mainly for staff but web manager happy to help parents. MW will provide link to website documentation. 9. Achievement Awards – very successful evening. There will be more categories for parental awards next year. 	<p>MW to refer queries back to Road Safety</p> <p>PC chairs to discuss with groups and encourage parents to contact the council or use the planner</p> <p>MW to send information to parent councils who have enquired</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Free School Meals for all P1 – P3 Pupils</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is effective from 6th January • All primary schools have been surveyed and 8 schools require additional capacity and 4 need additional space. An application has been made to the Scottish Government for funding for this. • Furniture has been ordered where necessary and will be delivered to schools before January. • There will be no entitlement to free school milk for all P1 – P3 • Headteachers will decide whether meals will be pre-ordered to cope with demand • There will be no hot meals on a Friday unless already provided for • Special dietary requirements will be catered for • Emergency meals will be catered for and no child will be left 	

	<p>with nothing to eat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moyra will send all primary schools a question and answer sheet to deal with queries about this initiative following this round of neighbourhood meetings. <p>Queries/points on this item:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Positive action funding – how will this now work as it is currently based on FSM figures. The criteria may now be those on free school milk and clothing vouchers. Moyra will contact HTs about this in the New Year - Sciennes would encourage families to order together - Already a problem with food running out. How will this be addressed? - Royal Mile Primary asked if the healthy and less healthy choices could not be in competition i.e. have a day with all healthy choices and a day with less healthy Moyra will ask Billy McIntyre for an update on all these queries 	<p>MW to send out Q and A sheet to PC Chairs</p> <p>MW will invite Peter Watten to CCwP</p>
5.	<p><u>Better Relationships, Better Behaviour, Better Learning</u></p> <p>This document on restorative practices and positive behaviour management was sent out to HT's in draft seeking feedback. This has now happened and it has now been sent out to all PC Chairs looking for parental feedback by mid-December.</p>	<p>MW to send to PC Chairs for feedback</p>
6.	<p><u>Severe Weather</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All HT's have been sent "Ready for Winter" packs and there is a contingency plan in place to try and keep schools open at all costs. • The decision to close a school will lie with the HT (or designated deputy) following risk assessment and discussion with a senior manager • The council will use a variety of media to keep the public informed e.g. tweets, radio, Facebook and centrally sent out texts 	
7.	<p><u>Placements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions week for new P1's completed and all catchment P7's will automatically transfer to their catchment secondary school. • Out of catchment requests to be in by 24th December. These can be done online. 200 received already. • All registered catchment pupils who are physically living in the house by 28th February will be guaranteed a catchment place • No guarantees for siblings • After an appeal, an additional pupil can be added for that year • Same process as last year • A report on admissions and placements will go to committee in December 	
8.	<p><u>AOCB – Neighbourhood Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gracemount HS – looking for an update on the traffic road order query that was raised at last meeting. Moyra to follow up. • Gracemount HS – it was reported in the media that the Leisure Centre was to close but Richard advised that this was not the case. Alex to raise at CCwP. • CATS review is only for secondary schools as primaries are not designated as community schools. Secondaries will have 5 community hubs. • Issues about getting supply staff. Karen Prophet is looking at 	<p>MW to follow up</p>

	<p>this and a new round of recruitment has started to populate the supply list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Darke attended the Academic Service at St Giles Cathedral which he thought was a very good event but poorly attended. Could the date for this service next year be published • St Peters RC PS asked for more information on communication policies and websites and Moyra provided this. 	<p>MW to check if dates can be published</p>
<p><u>Date of Next Meeting Monday 9 February 2015</u></p>		