

Parents Association AGM Meeting Minutes

Date: 10th Oct 2017

Attendees:

Ger Symth; Mariajean Geary; Audrey Dillon; Brid Ryan; Anne Hopwood; Mike Quaid; Suzanne O'Connell; Irene Lowe; Keelin Allen; Sharon Deedigan; Tara Quinlivan; Damien Carroll; Aileen Bourke; Tracy Fitzgerald

Apologies:

Catriona Fitzgerald Clancy; Pauline Gaffney; Anne-Marie Bermingham; Karen Williamson; Joyce Healy; Audrey Considine

Ger Symth (Joint Chairperson) - Opening comments

- Joint Chairperson Ger Symth opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.
- She thanked Mr. Ruane and all the staff for their help through out the year in supporting the endeavours of the Parents Association.
- She then handed the meeting over to Mr. Ruane.

Mr Ruane (Principal)

- Mr Ruane opened his comments by thanking the Parents Association (PA) for the invitation to speak at tonights meeting. The role of the PA is very important and has a great relationship with the school. There is a huge amount of good will between the staff and the PA. All want what is best for the children - the same end point.
- The role of the PA is a support role and there are many events that wouldn't happen without the Parents association support, in particular fund-raising.
- The PA also provides consultation on Policies such as the uniform policy. While drafts are available for all feedback often comes through the PA.
- However Parental complaints are not within the scope of the Parents Association and should be dealt directly with the school. The class teacher being the first point of contact. Most complaints are dealt with at this level with a few being referred further to Mr. Ruane.
- There are currently 355 pupils at Parteen National school as of the 30/9/17. This is an important date as the teacher numbers for next year are based on the school enrolment as of this date. As it stands this number falls short of what is required to sustain our current number of teachers however in the budget just published today (10/10/17) the pupil teacher ration has been reduced by one. We are therefore hopeful that this will positively impact Parteen NS and that we will maintain our teacher numbers for next year-2018.
- Fund-raising for the Astro Turf Pitch should be completed this year. The Parents Association committed to raising 30k over 2 years, later extended to 3 years.
- There has been a number of security upgrades to the school. A new CCTV system has been installed, there are signs throughout the school property making people aware of same.
- There is also a key fob system being installed for the whole school.

Parents Association AGM Meeting Minutes

- There are a number of services being provided by the school now.
- The morning club has been quite successful and will continue again this year.
- The homework club in the afternoons for students from 2nd class upwards. This is running very well being coordinated by Ms Deirdre Curtin plus 3 other teachers.
- The infant club has started this year for Juniors and Seniors from 13:40 to 14:40. This is been run by Mary Keogh of Tiggers Nest.
- All of these services are being provided at very reasonable fees.

- Thanks to our dedicated staff we are able to offer a number of other after school activities

-
- We would particularly request that pupils are picked up promptly from all these extra curricular activities.

- A number of policies are up for review this year most especially the Healthy Eating Policy.
- All parents will be asked for input into this.

- Literacy lift off has been in the school for the last 2 years and is working very well. We have spent 7k on books. We have also spent a further 7k on a second set of junior readers to the keep the momentum going.

- We recently had a second whole school evaluation which once again was hugely positive.

- The magician Paul Beatty will be coming to the school on October 26th to perform a magic show for all students.
- Friday October 27th will be the Halloween dress up - this will be a fund-raising event in aid of the astro turf.

- Parents are also reminded that children should not be dropped off before 8:50 in the morning. On wet mornings the policy of dropping at the door is working well and corridors are being kept free for pupils only.

- Mr Ruane also reminded parents that children should adhere to the school uniform at all times.

- Finally Mr Ruane thanked the Parents Association once again for their hard work and ably assisted by BOM member Mr Mike Quaid presented each of the officers with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.
- Once the members had composed themselves they thanked him profusely!

Parents Association AGM Meeting Minutes

Q&A – Meeting opened for Questions and Answers

Q 1

Parent: Will the graded readers be coming home with students?

Mr Ruane: Yes they will be!

Ger Symth, joint chairperson, thanked Mr. Ruane for his time and attendance at the meeting. After Mr Ruane's departure the meeting continued with the election of officers.

Election of Officers 2016/2017

Since all existing officers were willing to continue in their roles and as there were no objections or interested candidates all were deemed re-elected for the coming year.

Ger Symth & Audrey Dillon (Joint Chairs), Anne Hopwood (Treasurer) and Mj Geary (Secretary).

Mj Geary (Secretary) – Minutes Review AGM 2016

Mj Geary (Secretary) read the minutes of the previous AGM (06/10/16). Since there were no queries or objections the minutes were adopted having been proposed by Mj Geary and seconded by Mike Quaid.

Parents Association AGM Meeting Minutes

Anne Hopswood (Treasurer) – Financial report 2016/2017

Income & Expenditure Account September 2016- 2017

Opening Balance 6th October 2016

2,014.88

EXPENDITURE

Bank Charges		58.02
Calendar's '16 Joe Neville	Chq 419	735.00
NPC membership	Chq 420	100.00
Refreshments Confirmation/Easter Eggs	Chq 421	157.52
Refreshments Communion's/Graduation/school Walk	Chq 422	254.28
Brennan's Liability Insurance	Chq 423	185.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		1489.82

CLOSING BALANCE AS OF 29th September 2017

525.06

- There is not a huge amount of expenditure by the Parents Association. Our biggest outlay is for the school calendar. We have checked out other alternatives and this quote is competitive. The funds we raise from the calendar fund all the refreshments through out the year.
- We pay membership to the national Parents Association.
- We also have yearly insurance which covers us for holding events such as the School Walk.
- All other monies raised are put towards whatever the current fund raising initiative is. For the last two years this has been the Astro Turf pitch. We are now approximately 4k away from completing our commitment to this project.
- The school run this year was scaled backed to a sponsored walk as the costs incurred by holding a run (prize money, stewards, additional catering) were significant and the financial return did not justify holding it again.
- It was suggested that a Defibrillator for the school may be a good fund-raising initiative. This is currently under investigation. There are a number of open questions including cost and storage.

Parents Association AGM Meeting Minutes

Parents Association AGM Meeting Minutes

<i>Ger Smyth (Joint Chair) – The Year in Review 2016/2017</i>
--

Parteen Parents Association had another very busy school year both from a fund-raising and hospitality standpoint. Below is a quick synopsis of the activities of this year. It is important to note that all the activities the parents association are involved in are for the good of every child in the school. The parents association is completely voluntary and is dependent on parents to give their time in order for any of these events to take place.

Fundraising 2016-2017

Month	Activity	Funds
October	Clothes recycling	1809
October	Halloween dress up	500
December	Xmas Cards	1479
December	Colours Day	530
March 16 th	Cake Sale	1380
April 7 th	Easter Raffle	590
May 12 th , 15 th , 16 th	Clothes recycling	500
May 28 th	School Walk	2700
On Going	Tshirts	TBD
	Astro Turf Total	9488

Hospitality/Activities

Month	Activity
October 14 th	Astro Turf Official Opening – Refreshments
October – 3 days	Clothes recycling
December	Book Fair
April 4 th	Confirmation - Teas & Coffees
April 8 th	Easter Eggs for Juniors
May 12 th	Junior Infants Welcome - Teas & Coffees
May 20 th 10am; 12pm	First Holy Communion – Teas & Coffees
May – 3 days	Clothes recycling
May 28 th	School Walk
May/June	Selling Tshirts
June	Junior Infants Part 2
June 13 th	Sports Day
June 19 th	Edward Lynch
June 23 rd	Book Rental
June 28 th	6 th Class graduation – Teas & Coffees

Parents Association AGM Meeting Minutes

Joint Chair Ger Symth continued by briefly outlining the proposed fund-raising activities for the coming year.

Fundraising 2017-2018

Month	Activity	Funds*
September	School Calendar	800
October	Xmas Cards	1500
October	Halloween dress up	500
December	Cake Sale	1000
Feb 14 th	Colours Day	500
March 16 th	Cake Sale	1000
April 7 th	Clothes recycling	1000
May 3 rd	Colours Day	500
May 27 th	School Walk	2700
	Projected Total	9500

* Projected funds based on 2016/17

Chairpersons Closing Comments

- Anyone interested in helping in the future, either by joining the committee or assisting at some of the hospitality events, was invited to provide their details on the list provided.
- As all business was now complete the Joint Chairperson Ger Symth closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance.

MEETING ADJOURNED!