**FRIENDS OF CULTERCULLEN SCHOOL**

**Staff Room, Cultercullen School**

**Monday 5th September 2016**

**18:30-19:30**

**Present:** Susan Watt (Chairperson), Jane Brebner (Secretary), Fiona Massie (Treasurer), Adrian Anderson (Acting Head Teacher), Kirsty Kemp, Alison Gibson, Nicky Strachan, Cath Smart, Lynsey McAllister, Rhonda Robson, Shona Gray, Elaine Reid, Cllr Jim Gifford, Cllr Paul Johnston, Marie Gilpin & Helen McPherson

**Apologies:** Mae Campbell, Mike Whyment, Angela Douglas, Vikki Janetta, Lindsay McKenzie

1. **Welcome and apologies**

Mrs. Watt welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new School Year. Apologies were received.

1. **Minutes of Meeting on 13th June 2016 (AGM)**

Amendments made to Minutes and all then approved.

1. **Matters Arising**

**Mr. Anderson** was to investigate any grants available to improve the external environment of the school. He gave an update at this meeting as follows:

* + Met with representative of Scot Play and Kenny Innes from the Cultercullen Community Project.
  + Looking at applying for award of £10,000 to be used to create an Amphitheatre in the Community Park, which goes up to the boundary of the School grounds.
  + This would be available for the whole community too. Other options of Play Equipment and Mini-Beast Trails.
  + £3,000 would require to be matched funded through FOC or from alternative sources.
  + There was a discussion around where tap into funds - Shona Gray spoke about matching funding through her work DNV GL up to £1,500 and Cllr Gifford spoke about the Formartine Area Top-Up Money (can be used for a Community Project like this and of benefit to the School).
  + Look at speaking to an Elaine Brown in the Ellon Office about these funds available.
  + Mr. Anderson was to finish application for Award and submit.

1. **Chair Report**

**Susan Watt** confirmed the following:

* Mrs. Watt spoke about attending the Wind Turbine Meeting on the 17th August 2016. Highlighting that money is available for projects, so the school would need to apply before the 1st November. The next meeting is Wed 13th November 2016.
* She highlighted that the annual Council payment was still to be received. Funding for the new School Year at the moment is for Education City due Feb 2017 and Active Literacy for Accelerated Reader due Nov 2016. Details to follow.
* Mrs. Watt wished to thank Shona Gray for her match funding from her work DNV GL on money for the Sponsored Cycle of £150 and also Helen McPherson for the cakes and fine pieces sold at the End of Term Picnic which raised £143.50.

1. **Treasurer Report**

**Fiona Massie** confirmed the balances of the following accounts:

FOC Opening Balance £3,472.45

Friends of Cultercullen Fundraising Account +£3,017.12

Expenses -£1,545.01

Closing Balance **£4,944.56**

Friends of Cultercullen School account £643.17

Cultercullen Football Team £360.12

Football will continue through the winter months at Meldrum Academy to be paid by Active Sports so is **FREE** to the Football Team this year. No Hire Charges.

Marie Gilpin has kindly offered to take on being the Treasurer for Cultercullen Football Team – Thanks to Marie.

Nicky Strachan/Cath Smart put forward a Big Thanks to Lisa Stewart’s company, **McGregor Glazing** for the purchase of the Football Tops.

1. **Head Teacher Report**

**Mr. Anderson** confirmed the following:

He would like to take the school to the Touring Pantomime at Pitmedden School in December, instead of Aberdeen this Year. FOC would look at funding the Bus.

He wished to Thank Mike Whyment for producing the DVDs of Porridge. There has been a good response to requests for the DVD and they will be sent out soon.

Parents Interviews will be organised for September 2016 and dates will be issued soon.

Following discussions on the School Improvement Plan, the following was highlighted:

* + Changes will be made to the Improvement Plan
  + Key elements are in line with HGIOS4 and the delivery of Health and Wellbeing in the School.
  + Literacy, Numeracy and Health & Wellbeing were highlighted.

There will also be an Audit on the Red Folders including capturing Children’s achievements outside of School - Meaningful achievements to the Child.

Mr. Anderson will give updates on the School Improvement Plan in the Newsletter that generally goes out every month.

Formartine in Bloom committee came to the School and were very impressed with the arrangements and commented how Cultercullen has improved every year.

1. **Fundraising**

* **Christmas Card making event**

Angela Douglas is happy to do Christmas card event again this year. It will take place on Sat 29th Oct from 10am at the school – possible shorter time this year?

Parents and children can come along to the school and make a picture, which will then be made into a Christmas card. If you can’t manage, then you can make the picture at home and give to Angela.

Coffee/Teas made available to those that come along.

Get in contact with Udny Station Pre-School and Playgroup and make them aware it is happening

Thumbprints of all pupils will be taken to create a Christmas tree for the School Card too.

* **Christmas Fayre**

Discussion around the Christmas Fayre which will take place on Sat 26th November from 10am to 12pm (Playgroup having joint event with the Christmas Light Switch on, on Sunday 20th November).

Parents are encouraged to collect raffle prizes and publicise Fayre. Tables will be available at a cost of £10 per stall. To ask those who take stalls to donate towards the Raffle – small one of their choosing. There would be 10 to 11 Tables available.

Following discussions, it was agreed to go with the one Raffle this year. Big Prizes to be indicated to Nicky Strachan who gets the tickets printed by Mid-October.

See how it compares to last year and the amount raised.

Entry price will remain unchanged, with £2.50 for Adults, £1.00 for Concession and children free (includes Coffee/Teas). Cakes will be available so no need to provide biscuits.

The usual fundraising activities will take place also on the day such as Lucky Dip, Guess the Whisky, Face Painting, etc.

1. **AOB**

Mrs. Watt made everyone aware of an Aberdeenshire Council Cycle event happening at Ellon Academy on Sat 1st October, includes Zorbing, Bouncy Castle & Climbing Wall etc. Further information will be sent out nearer the time.

Mrs. Kemp spoke about the Website and updating the Friends of Cultercullen information and also if there was any new events or information that needed updating to email her.

Mrs. Smart spoke about Lego Event happening in Edinburgh on Sat 3rd December and they had a Place on it, along with funding towards fees and travel. Pupils will attend.

1. **Next Meeting: Monday 24th October 2016 at 18:30.**