**FRIENDS OF CULTERCULLEN SCHOOL**

**Staff Room, Cultercullen School**

**Monday 24th October 2016**

**18:30-19:30**

**Present:** Susan Watt (Chairperson), Jane Brebner (Secretary), Fiona Massie (Treasurer), Kirsty Kemp, Alison Gibson, Nicky Strachan, Cath Smart, Cllr Jim Gifford, Cllr Paul Johnston, Dawn Anderson, Mike Whyment & Lindsay McKenzie.

**Apologies:** Shona Gray,Mae Campbell, Angela Douglas, Vikki Janetta, Lynsey MacAllister, Gayle McCombie, Cllr Allan Hendry, Rhonda Robson, Helen McPherson, Adrian Anderson (Acting Head Teacher), Marie Gilpin & Elaine Reid.

1. **Welcome and apologies**

Mrs. Watt welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received.

1. **Minutes of Meeting on 5th September 2016**

Amendments made to Minutes and all then approved.

1. **Matters Arising**

**Susan Watt** gave an update of the plan for Outdoor Classroom/Amphitheatre as Mr. Anderson was unable to make the meeting:

* Application gone in for £10,000 to be used to create an Amphitheatre and planting area in the Community Park, which goes up to the boundary of the School grounds. This has been applied for by Scot Play
* Scot Play have then given the School a quote of £6,300 to build it.
* Another quote of £900 from PTM Plant Hire to do the work, a big difference between the 2 quotes. This has now been confirmed at £1200 (incl VAT) for works and path, with application now submitted to Hill of Fiddes Windmills following discussions with Kenny Innes. Update to be provided at next meeting.
* Look at having raised bed installed from local business Wood Re-Cyclability
* Need clarification as to what to do going forward, Mrs. Watts to speak to Mr. Anderson.

1. **Chair Report**

**Susan Watt** confirmed the following:

* She highlighted that the annual Council payment of £276.30 should be received in the next week.
* Total Income from Spree Books now standing at £120
* Attended the Cultercullen Community Park AGM, the Committee was happy with the School’s plans for the outdoor area.
* Mr. Anderson had confirmed the amount for Accelerated Reader to be paid - £748(managed to get £120 off the full amount)
* Mike Whyment was thanked for his Porridge DVD, which raised money for the school fund.
* She will be attending the Parent Council Chair meeting on Thursday 27 October 2016, set up by the Education Department and will provide an update at the next meeting.
* Parent Involvement Act 2006 and Governance Review:
* Discussions with John Swinney and NPFS (National Parent Forum of Scotland) in September highlighted insufficient communication between Government and parents.
* Outlined by the Scottish Government and John Swinney, Education Minister -“Empowering Teachers, Parents and Communities to Achieve excellence and equity in Education”, with devolving funding and more decision making by the schools and communities.
* “Call for Evidence” review on the Scottish Schools Act 2006, regarding parent involvement within the school. She highlighting the importance of completing the surveys by the Parent Council (now completed) and parents. Survey details were emailed to parents in September 2016, and also available on the NPFS website.

Discussion at meeting around this review and how to take it forward.

**ACTION:** **Susan Watt** to speak to Mr. Anderson about more information and what FOC needs to do to contribute to the Review. Comments to be pulled together.

1. **Treasurer Report**

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

FOC Opening Balance £4,944.56

Expenses -£548.43

Income +582.95

Closing Balance **£4,979.08**

Friends of Cultercullen School account £643.17

Cultercullen Football Team £360.12

Expenditure to include printing of 2,000 Raffle Ticket Books are still to be paid for.

The FOC balance is looking very healthy and **Nicky Strachan** spoke about the Library and for the Committee to look at buying new shelving for the area, particularly looking at Mobile Shelving so the area could be accessible for other activities.

Jane Brebner said that before buying new shelving the old stock should be weeded out and then look at maybe buying new stock too.

Spoke about the fact that she works for Aberdeenshire Libraries and the skills that her team could provide to improve the Library area. The Library Service could provide stock for loan for a Term or School Year.

**ACTION:** **Jane Brebner** to take this forward and speak to Mr. Anderson about what could be done to help. Also, to look at possible companies that could provide new shelving for the area and update at the next meeting.

1. **Fundraising:**

* Christmas Card making event on Sat 29th Oct from 10am to 3pm at Cultercullen School
* Bags to School - Weds 2nd November by 9:30am – Susan Watt to put out a reminder closer to the date.
* Kirsty Kemp also suggested another fundraiser that could be achieved via Facebook, something to look at for another time – Online Raffle.
* **Christmas Fayre**:
  + Kirsty Kemp to set up page for Fayre on Facebook and promote.
  + Advertising to go up around the Community – Posters, etc..
  + Christmas Raffle Tickets to get out at School - £30 worth to each family to be sold (£1 per ticket)
  + Call to be put out for Helpers to set up on the Friday night (25th November) from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Glass Raffle Prizes to be handed in that evening too.
  + 10 stalls been confirmed for the Fayre
  + Various jobs for the morning were allocated out to those at the meeting.

1. **AOB**

* Mike Whyment asked what has happened with the Climbing Wall and whether it is going to be taken down, Susan Watt to speak to Mr. Anderson about this.
* Christmas Parties confirmed and helpers needed – Tues 13th Dec (P4 to P7) and Thurs 25th Dec (P1 to P3). Christmas Presents to be brought, plus Santa contacted.
* Christmas tree - Susan Watt to approach Sinclair Contractors about getting a Tree again this year.
* Science Club - Plea for more helpers as it seems to be the same Parents helping again and again. Help during the half an hour before the session’s starts and during the Sessions. E-Mail School if anyone able to help.

1. **Next Meeting: Wednesday 1st February 2017 at 18:30 (Staff Room, Cultercullen School).**