



PARENTS' FORUM

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 29th September 2014, at 2.00pm

Present: Stephanie Cartmel, Phillippa Culshaw-Roberts (Parent), Nicola Park (Parent), Jenny Beswick (Parent), Becky Quayle (Parent), Jessica Pritchard (Welsh Assembly Government), Julie Birchall (Road Safety Officer for Conwy), Kathleen Hampson (Senior School Support Officer), Christina gentleman (School Liaison Officer), PCSO Craig Berry, Cllr Bill Darwin, CSO Phil Roberts, Jo McEwan (Family Liaison Officer & Nurture TA for Ysgol Maes Owen).

Minute taker: Kathleen Hampson (KH) – senior school support officer

1. Welcome to new members of the Parents Forum

Mrs Cartmel welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made.

Mrs Cartmel explained that a Parent Forum meeting is held each half term. Members must feel free to put things on the Agenda e.g. uniform, fund-raising etc., even if they are unable to actually attend the meeting.

Mrs Cartmel stressed that there is a Code of Conduct to adhere to.

Members were told who the Parent Governors are on the Governing Body.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2014

Minutes were agreed by Phillippa Culshaw-Roberts and seconded by Nicola Park.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Parent Class Representatives

Mrs Cartmel spoke about the important role of Parent Reps. and explained that sometimes a parent may prefer to speak to a Parent Rep about any concerns rather than a member of staff.

Parent Reps. are usually available at class pop-in times & coffee shops.

A photo of the Parent Reps is usually displayed on the classroom door. Mrs Cartmel checked with members present that it would be alright to display a photograph for that purpose.

5. Transport to School

Members queried use of the path which leads from Towyn Road into the Junior School playground. SC explained the difficulties experienced when unauthorised users of the path enter the school grounds. For reasons of Health & Safety the gate at the end of the path is locked approx. between 9.15am – 2.45pm.

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that parents of Traed Bach class would be surveyed to ascertain how many would regularly use the path during the school day (for end of Nursery morning session / start of Nursery afternoon session).

Mrs Cartmel highlighted the benefits of “Walk & Talk” i.e. when parents walk to & from school and have the chance to chat to their child about their day in school.

The possibility of a “Walking Bus” was discussed. Julie Birchall explained that this would need to be well planned and volunteers must have a DRB check. Kerbcraft volunteers might also volunteer to supervise the Walking Bus.

Jessica Pritchard, Julie Birchall, Cllr Bill Darwin, PCSO Craig Berry, and CSO Phil Roberts (off duty) had attended the meeting with particular reference to Road Safety / Transport to School / Travel Plan.

It was recognised that matters relating to the schools’ Travel Plan are regularly reviewed, but things have definitely moved on. The traffic situation outside school is much better than it used to be. A lot of money has been spent on safe routes to school and people were certainly using the paths at one time.

Jessica Pritchard said that there is a possibility of funding from the Welsh Assembly Government available for our schools to assist with Road Safety and that was the purpose of her visit to the meeting today .

Concerns about cars parking near the Magpie & Stump pub (near to access path to school) were expressed. CSO Roberts will investigate.

Members present were informed about the new traffic arrangements which are in place outside Ysgol Glan Gele, Abergele.

Concern was expressed about parents parking illegally on the area in front of the barrier into Morfa Leisure Centre. This poses a real risk to pupils & parents. Bill Darwin explained that a safety warning sign had been on the barrier but it had been vandalised. Mr Darwin will arrange to have the sign replaced.

Members agreed it would be useful to have a zebra crossing painted across the road at the entrance to the Morfa Leisure Centre.

The possibility of using the car park of Morfa Leisure Centre for parents to park was discussed. However, real concerns were expressed as it would affect the safe route to school and there would be insurance issues also.

The letter from Julie Birchall which was issued to parents of both schools during the summer term will be re-issued.

License plate numbers of cars which are persistently parked illegally outside school will be printed on the school newsletter.

It was suggested that a meeting could be set up for parents of Ysgol y Foryd and Ysgol Maes Owen to discuss road safety matters such as the walking bus. Please notify e-mail Julie Birchall regarding this.

6. Dates for Diary

- Aspiration Day – Friday 3rd October 2014
- Parents’ Open Day & Autumn supper – Thursday 16th October 2014
- Healthy Living Day – Friday 17th October 2014
- Governors’ Annual Report to Parents and Harvest Songs – Thursday 23rd October 2014, 1.30pm.

Meeting closed at 4pm.