

## KS4/5 School Council Meeting Minutes.

Date of meeting: 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### Present:

Mr Hill                                  Deputy Headteacher  
AH  
BM  
IP  
FHR  
RW  
CT

### Apologies:

Andrea Birkett                          School Business Manager  
Mr. White                                  Assistant Headteacher

RR, BN - taking part in an observed lesson

### Agenda:

#### Function of the School Council:

Councilors were reminded that the function of the school council was to represent your Year group and to raise any issues that are heard so we can help make small changes if possible. Small ideas can make big changes. Any ideas should be brought to the meetings even if the School Council representatives do not agree with the ideas. Every student in the school has a voice. Each representative will speak to their year group in department activities or registration to explain their role and how they can make changes.

There will be a board in the reception area of the school with photos and names of all the school council members. This board will show all the achievements from the school council this year.

- Today we are going to do our first 'whole lesson' School Council meeting - As the council this year have so many ideas, we are running out of time in our usual slot so we are going to try whole

lesson meetings to give us more time to explore agenda items in depth.

- Parent Tours

There will be parent tours this year - usually every month. Many of last year's council helped out. New councilors were told that in order to be selected to help with the tour, members need to attend all lessons and wear school uniform (Or if 16+ be smart on that day). Mr Hill took a list of those that were willing to help. (These are AH, BM, BN, and FHR. IP, RW & RR would like me to ask again later in the year)

New Ideas:

Badges have arrived and been distributed.

- Post 16 New laptops & chargers. Mr. Hill explained how IT resources are allocated and continuously updated. The council agreed they get a good deal compared to other schools they know about through friends and family.
- Make up club - Friday afternoons
- Bring back own devices club - Mr. Hill to speak to Ms. Birkett & Mr. White.
- More school trips - variety. After some discussion to explain the difference with Educational Visits and Reward Trips it was found that the council wanted more variety in reward trips. Mr. Hill asked everyone to go back to their year groups / Key Stage and find and research some new possible venues for rewards. Mr. Hill explained that some trips are not viable due to cost or safety reasons but he would be happy to receive all suggestions for discussion.
- KS4 common room - - Mr. Hill to speak to Ms. Birkett & Mr. White.
- Textiles for 16+ (BN)
- New equipment for outdoor gym. The council believes the outside gym needs replacing not updating. Councilors were asked to look up equipment and come back with examples and prices. Mr. Hill to take this to SLT to see how much funding we might be able to get for this.
- Sort out the goat enclosure - if not needed now can we expand the MUGA? Not sure how this is coming along. Mr. Hill to find out for next meeting.

- Refresh the nut walk - Yes - Lots of students would like to be involved in refreshing the nut walk. Mr. Hill is trying to work out the logistics of this so we can get as many people involved in this project as possible when the weather improves in the Summer Term.
- Phones allowed for proper use (calculators etc.)
- Put a roof on the animal pen. Make the door stronger. Add cameras. This is all being looked into by the site team already.
- Wear your PE kit to school. Students already can on days they have PE
- Music / radio in the gym - Great idea - Mr. Hill will take this to Mr. White and the PE department.

At this point we had to close the meeting as we ran out of time!!

We had a long discussion around 'smoothwall' as a lot of the students were finding websites blocked that they were trying to use for coursework. Mr. Hill explained the current situation and why it is so important and assured the Council that it is constantly being looked at and updated - we have to strike a balance between safety and accessibility.

Previous New Ideas Not yet discussed fully:

- Climbing frame for the MUGA
- Get some covers for the MUGA equipment - protect from rain.
- New school buses - Electric
- Get rid of the bike crate and make a better one with a rack for the bikes
- Can 16+ students have their lunch with the older students?
- The tables outside Cedar need - updating / refurbishing / maintaining or removing.
- Can we vary how the year groups are called for taxis - especially in the summer?
- Bring back desk mounted pencil sharpeners!
- Pool table
- Air Hockey
- Are we celebrating the anniversary of St Philips? We should have a special lunch at least!!

More New ideas!!

- KS5 - New sofas in the common room
- Bring your dog to school day (I answered this straight away and said this is never going to happen! We discussed what it would be like having loads of dogs on site - after a funny discussion it was agreed by all that it's not a great idea!!)
- Inflatables day to celebrate St Philips' birthday.
- Charity idea - War affected children. **The students were clear this was any child affected as they were aware that they did not want to 'take sides'.**
- Is there a map or Plan of the school?
- A games room for KS4/5 students - Could we have an outbuilding on the edge of the field for this like Debbie's hut?
- Can 16+ have 5 minutes extra at break?
- Updating and replacing the outside tables
- White board pens
- Tables outside that have some shelter for days when it is a bit drizzly.
- Weights in the gym
- 5G
- A dance teacher
- Climbing Wall
- New driers in Girls toilet in Cedar

When we discussed the end of Willow building a lot of students said they would like to be involved in the demolition! Mr. Hill explained why this would be very, very unlikely but he will talk to the school to see if students can watch (or it is filmed if, more likely, it is during a school holiday

The School Council Noticeboard will be updated with photos of new members and their suggestions and ideas.  
Minutes will be published on the website

Date of Next Meeting:

- TBA -