

AGM Minutes



Wednesday 17th September 2025 in School

Attendance: Sonja Brown (head teacher), Lynsey Houston (Chair), Nash Padayachee (secretary), Ashleigh Madjitey (treasurer), Kersti Anaer-Saemann, Joann Scott (events), Emma Parker (ASN Rep), Rhiannon Klein, Olivia Enney, Jason Bell (clubs), Nora Murray Cavanaugh, Sarah Eakin, Fiona Hamilton, Suyog Parage, Julie, Gael, Roberto, Rebecca Kramer

1. Minutes from previous AGM approved
2. Chair Report (attached)
3. Treasurers Report (attached)

Constitution- Parent council representative of every parent in school

CPACC has Nothing to do with school. It is separate but represents views of parents

Fundraising and money made goes towards school spending to improve our children's school lives

Not very representative currently and we want to be as inclusive as possible.

Our constitution- max to 20 people- we want to get representatives from each year, ideally each class to make decisions on behalf of other parents, ie. Voting on what our money gets spent on and any decisions that need a vote.

Our Current WhatsApp group which we use as a general CPACC group of parents is not engaging- some parents children have left, some parents don't know why they are part of the group, some have been added and not engaged.

We want to set up new parent council group with parent council representative on how we represent our views and how we spend our money

4. Vacancies- Representatives from each year
5. Election of officials. LH agreed to stand in as Chair again, voted in unanimously. NP agreed to stand in as secretary again, voted unanimously. AM agreed to stand in as treasurer again, voted unanimously. JS agreed to stand in as events coordinator again, voted unanimously. EP agreed to stand in as ASN rep, voted unanimously

NB: our current constitution states that office bearers hold the role for 3 years. We will need to look for new people to stand in for Chair/ Treasurer/ Secretary from next year.

Chair Report - AGM (25/26)

It's been a really fast year and my children are now in P7 and P6! It feels like only yesterday that they were looking adorable in their little uniforms and I came as a parent who barely knew anyone. So I guess if you want to meet people, do this!

So, what's changed since our last AGM?

Well, I guess the best description is slow and steady!

We're making progress in lots of areas but as always, it relies on people being able to help and sometimes take the lead on a project.

Our website is looking great, Gemma has done a fabulous job keeping it up to date.

The school website is being updated by us, where possible - just because at the moment the school is down a full-time member of admin staff, but in the background we're beginning to build a website for the school that has improvements around navigation and give the admin team in school, a great starting point. The site that's been agreed that we like as a good example, is Balgreen Primary's site.

The library is going from strength to strength thanks to Alison and the lovely library team who have been sorting through what we have and clearing out what's out of date. We've just approved £2,000 to be spent on the library which includes purchases of books, some new furniture and making it a nicer space. The library is currently closed to the kids, at our request, because the goal is to launch something that the children will see as new, and hopefully it will encourage them to want to look after it too. Alison is also working on getting some pupil librarians involved in how things run, to help with things like returns. Hopefully it'll be open for welcoming the kids back from the October break!!

Clubs - Jason has done a fantastic job coordinating things in the club group and he's also been doing the Dance admin! Funnily enough it was last AGM that Jason got involved as a P1 parent! Since then though, we have Foot Forward Coaching coming to school to run a few clubs at various times and days. There was no football this time last year!! We also have just welcomed Spanish Club which started last Friday. We are also welcoming back Table Tennis after a term off as they tried to find a coach! The only club not back yet, is basketball, but I spoke to Louise who is the chair of West Edinburgh Warriors.... And a chemistry teacher, she is currently trying to seek solutions to Bens timetable from University, but they WILL be returning, it's just going slower than we would have liked. There's a parent keen to start chess up but we want to iron out some of club things to ensure we are getting it right in terms of all the information we need and are obliged to share with providers.

Road Safety - I wish I could say there's been loads of progress over the past year but we've kind of reached a point where there's not much more that we can do. The main barriers are the council, and I'm still nagging them on a regular basis and asking for further discussions too because of the Harrison Rd closure and the proposal that the bridge is likely to have a 7.5 tonne restriction on it, when it does reopen! Other than that, we have new Junior Road Safety Officers, we now have our Parking Buddies which are designed to deter cars from parking irresponsibly and we are on the list for living streets schools campaign to encourage alternative transport to school. I'm also meeting

with the transport convenor and our local councillors on 17th September before our meeting. CPaCC is also a stakeholder for bridge progress, so we're kept as up to date as our local councillors.

There were loads of events last year - Halloween parties, Christmas market, ceilidh and of course the summer fair. Thanks Joann for coordinating and thanks to Alex for the Christmas market coordination. These events aren't just about fundraising, but also about coming together within the school community and meeting new people. Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time.

So, now onto this year... and there's only really been a month since school started the new year but things on the council side of things, have been busy.

Part of the role of chair, is to attend meetings with other parent councils and the city of Edinburgh Councils education department. There has only been one so far, this year and the two things I wanted to ask about where the plan to ban mobile phones in primary schools from November and to ask for some information on how the supreme courts decision around gender defined spaces, is to be implemented specifically related to toilet provision. Both of which have received media attention.

First off, the ban - for primary schools, the decision is made and without any consultation unfortunately. However, the next part of the process is for Linda Lees who is the head of Wider Achievement & Lifelong Learning, and her team, to present what a ban will look like. There's a lot of unanswered questions and concerns. For instance, how can a ban be implemented if a child is travelling to school and parent wants some reassurance. We don't want a ban burdening admin teams but equally what do you do with phones when they arrive in school? Craiglockhart's policy is that smart watches go on flight mode and phones are handed over to the class teacher, so it's unlikely to drastically change anything, however I asked about some kind of disclaimer for that scenario as it really isn't the staffs responsibility to look after these things either. So, things aren't as cut and dry as has been promoted by politicians and local media. The presentation is due in November.

For high schools - even more questions but this will go to consultation to inform a decision. Costings are also a factor as the proposal is to use the pouches that are being used in two high schools at the moment. There's already been some ground work on this getting feedback from students at the schools who are using them. They're also not as tamper proof as first thought either but again, more work to be done. Politically there's support for a ban but based on the meeting with parent councils, it feels very divided on the parent front.

Linda Lees attended the meeting to discuss the phone ban, so she took a lot of our questions. So I'm hopeful that views from all sides have been heard. There was also the point that the exceptions tabled by the Conservative Party, will only add stigma to children who really wouldn't want other kids to know that they're perhaps a young carer etc.

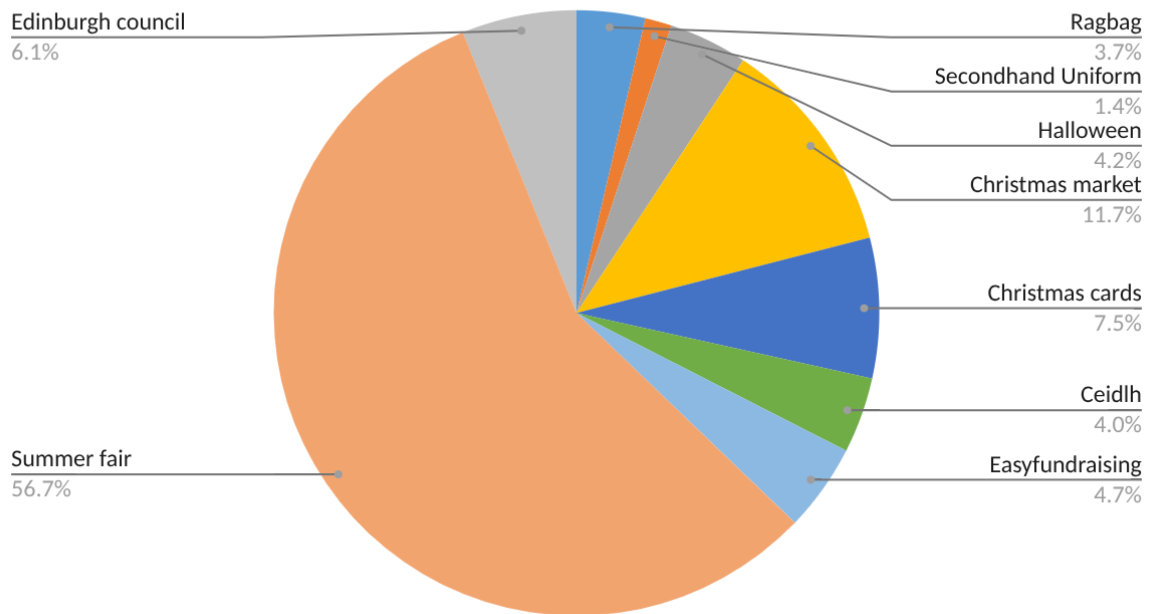
Toilets - The councils legal team advised the Education Committee that there is no other option, other than to adhere to the decision made by the supreme courts. Across the school estate, schools have been asked to complete multiple surveys asking about current provision, to identify which schools may need support with implementing changes to meet this legal requirement. I've asked for further clarification of what the council are aiming to provide but it looks like male only, female only, gender fluid and accessible.

Treasurers report 2024/25

We started the year with £13,581 and ended with £17,567. The bank balance is currently £18,052.

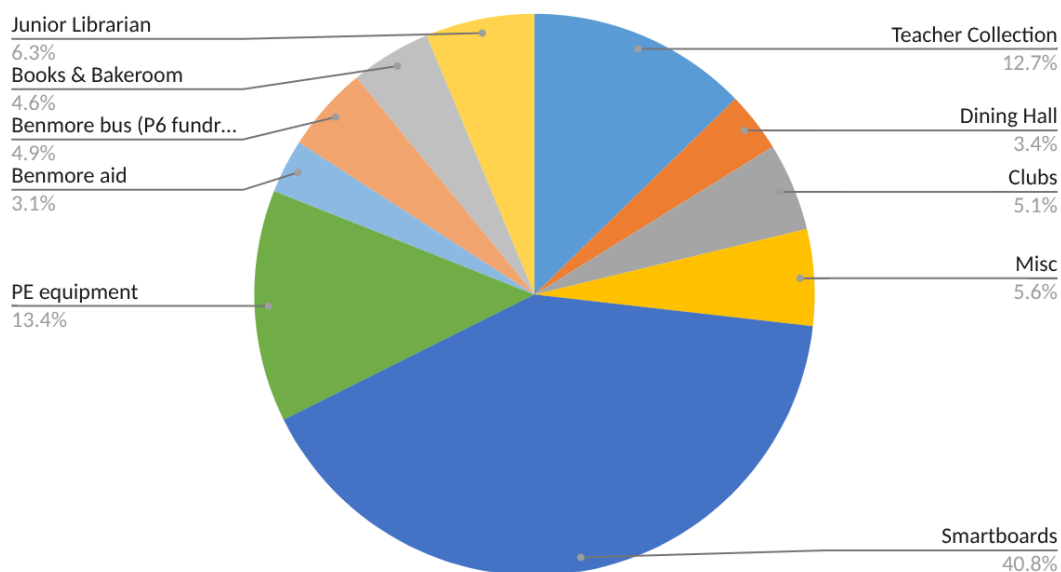
Our income was £14,336 which includes £4,168 from an old RBS account. When that is excluded we earned £10,168, 57 per cent of this was from our summer fair, the next biggest earner was the Christmas market.

CPACC fundraising 2024/25 - £10,168.04



We spent £9847 in 2024/25. The biggest expenditure was on smartboards (40 per cent) and PE equipment (13 per cent)

CPACC Expenditure 2024/25 - £9847.89



Note - the teacher's collection was collected instead of class christmas collections in 2023, it was spent on redecorating the staff room in 2024

Future expenditure

We have committed:

- £2000 to the library for book boxes, new non-fiction books and rugs. There may be further expenditure once the library is up and running.
- £2398 for playground repairs, we agreed this in early 2025 but have yet to be asked to pay for it by the school.

Other

We are considering opening an easy access savings account to earn interest on the balance in the account. We propose putting £10k into a savings account but we think its important to keep all funds instantly accessible in case it is needed with short notice.