RSV Meeting
Thursday 11th May 2023
Teams, 7.30pm
Minutes

1. **Welcome**
   - Thanks to all present, special vote of thanks to Kate from the Community Council.

2. **Headteacher Update**
   - RPS have had a very positive start to Summer term.
   - 2 Loose Parts Play Boxes have been created, one in top playground, one for kickpitch. Football has moved to the field. Mon-Wed the pitch is divided into 2 small games with the goal posts set up + nets on the main goal posts for a bigger game on Thursdays.
   - P5/P6 show TWIST! was very well received, garnering enthusiastic feedback from the parent body. RPS looking at making the P5/P6 Show a permanent feature of the calendar.
   - Glee Choir seeing great success in national competitions.
   - Dates for the term to be detailed in newsletter of 12/05/23 – trips, school photos.
   - Very pleased with relationship with Seagull Trust

3. **Proposed New High School**

A new high school is proposed in Kirkliston, to include Ratho, Ratho Station & Newbridge within its catchment area.

- **Kate** indicated that the village councillors had been taken by surprise by the information, and are seeking views from parents + prospective parents. Ratho has not been officially notified and information had to be sought out.
- **Emily Turnbull:** The information comes from the Queensferry report and the proposal is for the High School to be complete by 2028, so current P3s would be the final intake to Balerno High School. The projected capacity for Kirkliston HS is 600, however this would be doubled to 1200 in order to accommodate pupils from a wider area. In a recent consultation relating to the proposed West Of Edinburgh High School, Ratho Parents indicated overwhelmingly that they wished to stay within the Balerno catchment area. A particular concern is that of requiring to cross the A89 / Newbridge roundabout.
- **PG** found out via personal contacts, was able to source a copy of the report Future Secondary School Provision for Kirkliston and Queensferry Areas - City of Edinburgh Council - Citizen Space. Contacted Robbie Crockett at the council & Julie Duncan [CHECK NAMES]. They have stated that the plan is not settled and they are seeking feedback from the parent body. The proposal stems from concerns in Kirkliston that Queensferry not fit for purpose anymore + Kirkliston roll to small. Council will ask the community – there will be an information hub, a drop in session – parental representatives will be invited. The proposed site is that of the current Edinburgh Leisure Centre to the west of Kirkliston. This site is only big enough to hold a school building, but not any other facilities such as sports facilities as one might expect from a modern High School.
- **Kate** would attend such a meeting. A question to pose is why is Ratho being bundled in with Ratho Station and Newbridge when these communities do not otherwise blend. Parent views need to be gathered.
- Janice McIntosh suggested widespread sharing of the information.
- **PG** school channels can be used – RSV to help in creating a survey that can be emailed to the parent body with the report. PG will share.

- **Rvanzyl** noted that the process feels clandestine & would like see much more awareness raising. Noted difficulties at the Newbridge junction, which will only get worse with new buildings in the area & planned growth for Kirkliston.
- **Emily McMorris** has gathered informal feedback from the parent body, who are against the proposal thus far, raising concerns that siblings could be separated, there would be buses going to both schools from the village for a number of years. Kirkliston raised the issue that the High School would be too small, however this would be the consequence for Balerno too should Ratho be changed catchment. Within the report, which seems to be focused on Kirkliston, Ratho seems to be included within the same breath as Ratho Station and Newbridge as a way to make numbers without full consideration.
- **Emma Lloyd** was at Kirkliston Primary School when the report was made public. The news was a surprise there, and generally not welcomed in the current format.
- **Kate** noted that this issue has arisen before. Education at the Council don't engage often with the Community Council. It is not finalized, however it is key that everybody makes the point firmly at every opportunity – consider transport, after school activities etc. The report focuses on how it affects Kirkliston now how it would affect Ratho – the Community Council will need to make the case. Kate can post the report on the Ratho Community Page. To look into contacting the local private nurseries in order to canvass prospective parents. Community Council will discuss on Monday 15 May 2023 – will note that informally parents have indicated that they do not wish to change catchment.

4. **Sports Day / BBQ / Picnic** A "sausage sizzle" is proposed for after Sports Day, to make it a fun extended afternoon for the kids. This will need to be a Community Let – **PG** to organize. A risk assessment will need to be carried out + bad weather plan. The school hall could be used to eat. BBQs would need to be borrowed. If the weather was very inclement would need to be postponed together with Sports Day. 9 June clashes with S1 parents info + Gala rehearsals for P1 + P7. **CR** to reach out to Scout Leaders for advice / support as experienced with large BBQs / have shelters. **RSV** have stock of crisps & juice. **RSV** to reach out to Ratho Zero Waste Group about running a Uniform table to include lost property + donated items.

5. **RSV roles 23/24**
   A number of RSV role holders are stepping down at the end of the session. All are happy to support their successors during the handover. Current role holders to provide a description of their roles to help people considering the role. Being role holder is great opportunity to gain insight into the school, the community and get involved. **PG** will include a note in the newsletter.

6. **AOB**
   PG funding requests: P6>P7 black jerseys.
   Summer trips are all booked, with £100 requested per 11 classes to reduce costs.
   Mr Chalmers helping to develop STEM hub into a library. RPS hoping that RSV will consider a future commitment to supporting the library. **CR** has offered to organize a visit for the RAG to visit Scottish Poetry Library and meet the librarian.
   Clarification sought – does RSV cover the cost of P7 outing?
   Help needed: parents are needed to support school photos on 24 May – Emily McMorris + Emily Turnbull have offered to help, 2-4 additional parents are sought. Emily McMorris to attend new P1 parent orientation.
   AGM to be held in person on 22 June 2023