

Agenda

South Morningside Parent Council Meeting

Monday March 3rd 2014 at 6.45pm in Staff Room

- 6.45 Welcome, attendees and apologies
 - Review & Approval of Minutes of January 27th meeting (Secretary)
- 6.50 Review of matters arising & actions from last meeting (Secretary)
- 6.55 Report: Chair (paper submitted)
- 7.00 Report: Head Teacher (paper submitted)
- 7.10 Report: Treasurer (paper submitted)
- 7.15 Review of Funding Requests (paper submitted)
- 7.25 Standing Agenda items
 - a) Accommodation update (**moved to Requested Items**)
 - b) Clubs Group update
 - c) Fundraising update
 - d) Morningside Community Council update
 - e) Transport update
 - f) Playground update
 - g) Communications update
- 7.40 Requested Items
 - a) School lunches (Chair / Stella Sinclair)
 - b) Situations vacant (Chair)
 - c) Session dates (Chair – paper submitted)
 - d) School security (Craig Hilton / Mrs Grierson)
 - e) Accommodation update (Howard Kippax – paper submitted)
- 8:15 AOB
- 8.20 Close

Date of next meeting: May 12th 2014

Supporting Papers

South Morningside Parent Council Meeting

Monday March 3rd 2014 at 6.45pm in Staff Room

1. Draft Minutes of the Parent Council meeting January 27th (Jonathan Mundy)
2. Matters Arising/Action log (Jonathan Mundy)
3. Chair Report (Craig Hilton)
4. Head Teacher Report (Liz Grierson)
5. Treasurer Report (Alison Dalrymple)
6. Funding Requests (Peter Sibson)
7. Session Dates (Craig Hilton)
8. Accommodation Update (Howard Kippax)

SOUTH MORNINGSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SOUTH MORNINGSIDE PARENT COUNCIL

Draft minutes of the SMPC meeting held on Monday 27th January 2014 at 6.45pm in the staff room.

Total Attendees 29

Parent Council Members (21)

Craig Hilton (Chair)	Peter Sibson (Finance Group)
Jonathan Mundy (Secretary)	Nikki McNair
Liz Grierson (Head Teacher)*	Eileen Maclean (Comms)
Kerry Simpson (Finance)	Yvonne Moore (staff)*
Alison Dalrymple (Treasurer)	Marion Bourbouze (Fundraising/playground)
Noelle O'Doherty (MCC)	Elaine Jones (Fundraising)
Howard Kippax (Accommodation)	Miriam Jackson
Trish Watson (staff)*	Gillian Anderson (Gym Club)
Morag MacDonald (staff)*	Graeme Drummond
Lauren Jack (staff)*	Stephen James
Jamie Bookless	

Parent Council made up of 25 Parent Members plus 5* non-voting staff members

Guests (8)

Joanna Loxley (parent)	Andrea Constable (parent)
Cllr Melanie Main	Kieron O'Brien (parent)
Karen Richmond (staff)	Angi O'Brien (parent)
Fiona Gilmour (staff)	Pam Ferguson (staff)

Apologies (6) received in advance of the meeting.

Ken Macnamara**	Kate Hillier (clubs)
Cllr Sandy Howat	Roksan Hür (Clubs)
Kate Smith	Stella Sinclair (Comms)

** resigned from PC January 2014

6.45 Welcome, attendees and apologies - Craig Hilton (Chair)

The Minutes of the SMPC meeting held on the 18th November 2013 were approved – 9 in favour, 0 against and no abstentions.

6.50 Review of matters arising & actions from the last meeting – Craig Hilton (Chair) for Jonathan Mundy (Secretary) (Secretary performing door entry system).

- #06/13: Input into the configuration of the school day – to be discussed during this meeting.
- #07/13: PVG scheme – to be discussed during this meeting. This action is now closed.
- #09/13: Clubs access/security – to be discussed during this meeting. This action is now closed.
- #10/13: Polling Station Review – to be discussed during this meeting. This action is now closed.
- #11/13: Recruitment Training – Jamie Bookless volunteered to attend a training session. This action will remain open.

6.55 Report: Chair paper submitted by Craig Hilton to the meeting.

Craig Hilton wanted to thank all those who have worked so hard recently on the access control procedure for clubs and our school security issues.

Polling Station Review - Craig Hilton approached the Council about the continued use of the school as a polling station. We have no current update on this issue, but Craig is hopeful that the council will engage in further consultations. Cllr Melanie Main said there was unlikely to be any change prior to the referendum.

7pm Report: Head Teacher paper submitted by Mrs Grierson to the meeting.

- 1) Staffing issues - Trish Watson has been offered a career break and will be joining the NHS under 3 services in February.
- 2) Online Parent Survey – all schools are required to survey a sample of parents/carers bi annually. The link to this survey will be circulated in the February newsletter.
- 3) Budget Update – There will be a further 0.74% reduction in school budgets in the next session. The school is not yet sure what this will mean for our budget. Our school has been working with a new management model for some time to reduce costs. Howard Kippax asked whether teachers will still be allocated according to the school roll. The projected school roll is currently 637 for 2014-2015. Howard was assured that teacher allocation will match rolls, although changes can be made up until the October break if rolls fall.

- 4) Configuration of the School Day – P1-3 children are to be offered free school lunches from 15th January 2015. The lunch times for younger and older children will need to be separated. The PC needs to be involved in a consultation process about managing changes to the school day. **Action** for Craig Hilton (#01/14).
- 5) ICT progress and Strategy – The ICT Strategy group has taken advice from the Digital Learning Team on how best to deploy school ICT resources to support learning and teaching. There has been a change in how the school can procure apps, which has caused some delays in getting new ipads and ipad minis into the classroom. An ITC Skills Progression Programme is in place from nursery to P7. Each class is to receive an additional laptop and ipad and all P5-7 classes will have one ipad or ipad mini for every co-operative learning group of four children.
- 6) Four members of the Learning Directorate will visit the school on 5th February 2014.
- 7) Health and Safety audit will take place on 10th February 2014.
- 8) MADD (Music, Art, Drama and Dance) – as part of the Expressive Arts aspect of the Curriculum for Excellence the whole school will select a Commonwealth Country and use MADD to represent their chosen country at an Opening Ceremony Parade. Each class will present their work to the rest of the school.

7.10 Report: Treasurer paper submitted by Alison Dalrymple to the meeting.

7.15 Review of Funding Requests - paper submitted to the meeting.

- 1) Request for approval of £1100 to purchase 10 projector bulbs for the promethean electronic white boards. Votes in favour 15, votes against 0 and 1 abstention by Alison Dalrymple (Treasurer).
- 2) The Janitor requested additional CCTV and recording equipment. Mrs Grierson pointed out this was a local authority issue.
- 3) The Finance group had canvassed opinion on PC spending priorities by email/Google group. All 15 respondents prioritised the playground. The Finance group has proposed a budget, this includes phase one of the playground improvements which will cost £17,300. The vote on the budget/funding proposal 14 in favour, 1 vote against and 1 abstention by Alison Dalrymple (Treasurer).

7.30 Standing Agenda items

a) Accommodation update – Paper submitted to the meeting. South Morningside is not rated as a priority for maintenance spending in the Children and Families Capital Asset Management Programme 2014-2019. The accommodation group will take further information and data to the council to press the school case. Cllr Melanie Main said there is currently no money for an additional primary school locally. The best we can currently hope for is to get a new school for South Edinburgh placed on the council spending list. The NHS would also need to agree to sell land to the council on the NHS Astley Ainslie site. The Accommodation group has also made a submission to the council on the Craighouse campus planning application. We have no further update on this.

b) Fundraising update – Mention was made of the increase in the Funds being raised through the easyfundraising initiative, and the Ceilidh on March 29th was noted.

c) Morningside Community Council Update – Noelle O’Doherty attended the last meeting and reported back. She will share the minutes with the PC.

d) Boroughmuir Development Update – no update at this meeting.

e) Transport update – no update at this meeting.

f) Communication update – no update at this meeting.

7.45 Requested items

a) Situations vacant/movements (chair) – Jamie Bookless has volunteered to take the recruitment training course. There is currently no clubs convenor in post. Craig Hilton suggested a clubs group be established to share the work burden. A ParentMail communication will need to be circulated asking for willing volunteers. There will be a vacancy for the role of Secretary in June when Jonathan Mundy steps down.

Clubs group – **Action #02/14** for Craig Hilton

Secretary vacancy – **Action #03/14** for All to consider

b) Playground Project – paper submitted to the meeting by Marion Bourbouze. Phase 1 of the playground redevelopment will be ready to go ahead when council approved contractors can be appointed. The work will be carried out in the holiday periods. Susan Brown has been supportive of our plans. Parental help could be sought where there are no liability issues. Phase one is planned to have an immediate visual appeal. Karen Richmond said it has been impossible to apply for or obtain any grant support without first demonstrating our commitment to make improvements to the playground. Phase 2 will involve removing and eventually replacing the trim track. Phase 3 will concentrate on the back of the playground

and phase 4 involves the planned resurfacing of the sports area (projected cost for phase 4 is £35,000).

c) Clubs Management/PVG/Access – Kerry Simpson reported that we currently have a paid member of the After School Club manning the front door and controlling access to clubs until 6pm. These employees are PVG checked and many of the users of the clubs are from the After School Club. The license of the After School Club is dependent on the school being secure. How to fund this staff member will need to be agreed. The issue of PC clubs that run between 6-8pm was raised and needs to be addressed. All convenors and helpers at regular PC supported clubs must be PVG checked. There are no costs associated with volunteers. A policy on PVG checks needs to be agreed and written and a volunteer needs to take on the PVG check administration role. Mrs Grierson said she has now joined a group looking at managing the future use of schools as community lets. **Action #04/14** for new Clubs group.

8.15 AOB

8.20 Close

The Date of Next Meeting – Monday 3rd March 2014.

Supporting Papers Supplied in Meeting Pack

- 1) Draft Minutes of the Parent Council meeting held on 18th November 2013 (Jonathan Mundy)
- 2) Matters Arising/Action Log (Jonathan Mundy)
- 3) Report: Chair (Craig Hilton)
- 4) Report: Head Teacher (Mrs Grierson)
- 5) Report: Treasurer (Alison Dalrymple)
- 6) Funding Requests (Peter Sibson)
- 7) Accommodation Update (Howard Kippax)
- 8) Playground Update (Marion Bourbouze)

**South Morningside Parent Council
Matters Arising/Action Log to be reviewed on March 3rd 2014**

OPEN MATTERS

Reference	Date Raised	Issue/Action	Owner(s)	Status
#11/13	Nov 18th 2013	Recruitment training	Craig Hilton	Jamie Bookless volunteered 27/01 to attend training
#01/14	Jan 27th 2014	Input into Configuration of school day	Craig Hilton	Input from PC required
#02/14	Jan 27th 2014	Setting up Clubs Group	Craig Hilton	New group to be initiated
#03/14	Jan 27th 2014	Secretary vacancy	All PC members	All to consider for themselves/others
#04/14	Jan 27th 2014	Clubs Management/PVG/Access	New Clubs group	Range of actions for Group

CLOSED MATTERS

Reference	Date Raised	Issue/Action	Owner(s)	Last Status Before closure	Closed
#02/12	June 11th 2012	Accommodation issues	Sub-group	Update provided Jan 28th 2013	Jan 28th 2013
#04/12	Nov 19th 2012	Neighbourhood Group meeting	Roksan Hur	Chair to attend meetings	Jan 28th 2013
#05/12	Nov 19th 2012	Clubs profitability issue	Roksan Hur	Action completed by Roksan	Jan 28th 2013
#06/12	Nov 19th 2012	Craighouse Development response	Howard Kippax	Activities during December	Jan 28th 2013
#07/12	Nov 19th 2012	Fundraising targets	Peter Sibson	To be reviewed at March 4th meeting	March 4th 2013
#01/13	Jan 28th 2013	200 Club	Jonathan Mundy	Review of distribution/updates	March 4th 2013
#01/12	June 11th 2012	M&S Uniforms	Craig Hilton	More information sought from Clan House	May 13th 2013
#03/12	Oct 1st 2012	Payments for Clubs	Peter Sibson	Matter discussed and resolved	May 13th 2013
#03/13	March 4th 2013	PE Improved Provision Proposal	Craig Hilton	Matter agreed	May 13th 2013
#05/13	May 13th 2013	Parent Survey	Craig Hilton	Survey issued to full Parent Forum	May 13th 2013
#02/13	Jan 28th 2013	SMPG Email Addresses	Jonathan Mundy	Update provided in Nov 18th pack	Nov 18th 2013
#04/13	May 13th 2013	Clubs coordinator understudy	Roksan Hur	Kate Hillier agreed to take on role	Nov 18th 2013
#06/13	May 13th 2013	Input into Configuration of school day	Karen Richmond	Action agreed with Chair & becomes #01/14	Jan 27th 2014
#07/13	May 13th 2013	PVG Scheme	Graeme Drummond	Update planned for Jan 27th meeting	Jan 27th 2014
#08/13	May 13th 2013	Social Media Policy & moderation	Jonathan Mundy	Jonathan confirmed arrangements on Nov 18th	Nov 18th 2013
#09/13	Nov 18th 2013	Clubs access/security	Craig Hilton/Kerry Simpson	Update planned for Jan 27th meeting	Jan 27th 2014
#10/13	Nov 18th 2013	Polling Station Review	Craig Hilton	Discussed at Nov 18th meeting	Jan 27th 2014

South Morningside Parent Council

Chairman's Report – March 2014

Clubs and Club Access was a major discussion point at our last parent council in January and I'm pleased to report that we have held the first meeting of the SMPC Clubs Group and covered a wide range of pressing topics to do with access procedures, PVG, administration, funding and we are in the process of adding a new club (Code Club) to the list of SMPC clubs.

I would like to thank the six people who "volunteered" to help (at least four of whom knew they had volunteered!). There is an update from clubs group later on the agenda.

The Council have issued draft proposal for the **term session dates** for the next 3 school years. These proposals always lead to considerable discussion and it is my experience that it is hard to achieve consensus. However, there are some unusual elements to the proposals – in two of the years the Xmas break will be just 12 days for children and in 2017/18 the Easter break will start mid week.

At the last Parent Council meeting we confirmed our commitment to fund phase one of the **playground works**. I cannot wait to see this start to take shape and think it will provide a fantastic demonstration of what our fundraising achieves.

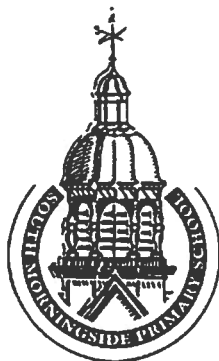
At the end of January, I attended the **pupil council** and it was great to see the energy and enthusiasm from the pupils to improve the school. If we need a body enthusiastic helpers for phase 2 of the playground work, then this is the place to start.

Finally, a late-breaking topic of interest is the council report on **rising roles** in Edinburgh (http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/news/article/1463/new_classrooms_revealed_for_city_primary_schools), with a special report covering the issues affecting the South (Brunstfield, James Gillespie's and South Morningside). Our **Accommodation Group** have been on the front-foot. They have already met with councillor Godzik, convenor of the Education, Children and Families Committee, are planning our response and the previous work to survey the parent body means we have a good understanding of what the priorities for our school are.

Does it ever get quiet?

Craig Hilton

Chair, South Morningside Primary School



Head teacher Report to Parent Council

3 March, 2014

P1 Pupil Role for August 2014.

Currently P1 enrolment number of catchment children for August stands at 108.

Numbers of deferrals yet to be confirmed.

At this stage we have been allocated teachers for two classes of 25 and one class of 40, a total of 90 places.

Class reorganisation for August 2014

Current P1s will be re organised into 3 x 30 children for P2.

Current P3s will be reorganised into 3 x 33 children for P4.

Current numbers of P6, taking into account known applications for private schools, would mean forming 3x P7 classes. Please note that we may have to form 3 new P7 classes, depending on numbers remaining in each class once private school uptake has been confirmed.

Accommodation proposals

A number of council reports are being shared with head teachers and Parent Councils.

- Strategic management of school placements.
- Rising roles.
- South Edinburgh area report.

Proposed options being discussed are:

- New school
- Annexe for SMPS
- Accommodation solutions within current school.

I have been called to a series of meeting between now and May.

I believe that we will be looking at both long term and interim measures.

Nursery 600 hours from August 2014

From August 2014 the statutory hours for nursery will increase from 475 to 600 hours a year.

I am meeting with representatives from the local authority and the nursery team to look at how best to implement this change, taking into account our own particular circumstances.

Learning Directorate visit feedback

Our guests were very impressed by the motivation and engagement of the children in class.

They also met with various pupil groups and again were impressed by how articulate and confident the children were in their roles, and in expressing their views on school improvement.

SOUTH MORNINGSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL SMPC
Treasurer Report 28/02/14

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Profit/(loss)</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Cash bal at start of yr	32,206.74		32,206.74	
Events				
200 Club	1,180.00	232.00	948.00	
Christmas Cards	5,215.00	3,885.66	1,329.34	
Fashion Show	-	-	-	
Ceikh	-	520.00	(520.00)	
Hallowe'en Party	375.00	197.21	177.79	
Car Boot Sale	-	-	-	
Summer Fair	-	-	-	
Quiz Night	-	-	-	
Winter Festival	7,705.65	2,785.93	4,919.72	
SUB TOTAL EVENTS	14,475.65	7,620.80	6,854.85	
Clubs				
Guitar	1,400.00	720.00	680.00	
Ballroom Dancing	-	-	-	
Basketball	128.00	165.00	(37.00)	
Brazilian Football	3,066.00	2,370.00	696.00	
Chess	1,490.00	777.00	713.00	
Chanter & Drumming	6,207.50	3,800.00	2,407.50	
Drumming	-	-	-	
Pipe Band	-	-	-	
French	1,787.00	1,787.00	-	
Gym	3,379.00	1,150.00	2,229.00	
Judo	1,620.00	1,980.00	(360.00)	
Recorder	1,512.00	1,512.00	-	
Ski-ing	11,653.60	5,530.00	6,123.60	
Stage	9,445.00	3,134.00	6,311.00	
Snowboarding	1,462.00	632.00	830.00	
Girls Football	725.00	-	725.00	
SUB TOTAL CLUBS	43,150.10	23,557.00	20,318.10	
Sundry Income	736.33	-	736.33	
Payments				
Ski-ing (2012-2013)		4,270.40	(4,270.40)	
Library Books - approved Jun 13		272.89	(272.89)	
Ski Races		331.40	(331.40)	
Teacher's Allocation-approved Jun13		2,595.00	(2,595.00)	
P1 Curriculum/AGM wine-app'd Jun 13		263.90	(263.90)	
SMPC website/Annual Maint- app'd Jun13		12.41	(12.41)	
Playground Consultant - approved May 13		250.00	(250.00)	
Ipad Purchases		3,560.91	(3,560.91)	
Arts & crafts supplies-approved Jun 13		768.52	(768.52)	
Science Budget		433.41	(433.41)	
Drama Workshops-approved Jun 13		547.00	(547.00)	
SMPC Clubs - Door Person		226.61	(226.61)	
Other General Expenditure		116.00	(116.00)	
SUB TOTAL PROJECT EXP	-	13,648.45	(13,648.45)	
2013-2014 NET INCOME/(EXP)	58,362.08	44,826.25	14,260.83	
CURRENT BANK BALANCE	90,568.82	44,826.25	46,467.57	46,467.57
		<i>Control</i>	-	
Available to spend				
				-3,000.00
Less floats 'fund' re fairs				
Less committed:				
Clubs Surplus - note that any surplus as at 30 June becomes available for general use			£20,318.10	
200 Club winners			£300.00	
				£20,618.10
				£22,849.47
Uncommitted funds				
Approved Payments o/s:				
Science Week			£3,000.00	Approved Jun 13
Scottish Opera			£350.00	Approved Jun 13
Library Books			£727.11	Approved Jun 13
Parentmail			£300.00	Approved Jun 13
Drama Workshops			£453.00	Approved Jun 13
P3 Football Set Up Grant			£250.00	Approved Jun 13
SMPC Website Annual Maintenance			£87.59	Approved Jun 13
Playground Improvements			£4,410.27	Summer Fair 2012 ring-fencing
Playground Improvements			£13,000.00	Approved Jan 14
Expressive Arts			£1,500.00	Approved Jan 14
Technologies			£1,500.00	Approved Jan 14
ICT (include projector bulbs)			£5,000.00	Approved Jan 14
Budget other PC Expenditure				
				-£30,577.97
Unallocated funds				£7,728.50

Notes

Income from Fashion Show/Summer Fair/Clan House/Clubs Surplus & Sundry Income expected to cover the deficit shown above,

Alison Dalrymple
Treasurer

Finance Group Report to 3 March 2014 SMPC

1. Requests requiring approval

None.

2. Requests requiring more information

None.

3. Budget for 2013-14

At the January meeting we agreed a budget for this academic year, this requires us to raise funds as projected to breakeven. This makes the summer fair very important.

Peter Sibson on behalf of the finance sub-group

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
bank balance at start of year	32,000	32,000
Committed to spend		
playground improvements ring fence	5,000	5,000
ski invoice for summer 2013	4,300	4,300
ipads March 2013	3,500	3,500
2013/14 budget items		
Ongoing expenditure discussed June 2013*	10,000	9,500
1. Playground improvement:	13,000	13,000
2. Expressive Arts,	1,500	1,500
3. Technologies	1,500	1,500
4. ICT costs	5000	5000
	-43,800	-43,300
projected income 2013/14		
Winter Festival – December	5,000	5,000
Christmas Cards - December	1,000	1,000
Fashion Show – April	1,500	
Summer Fair – June	5,000	
Clan house commission	1,000	
sundry	1,500	600
	15,000	6,600
retained floats	-3,000	-3,000
Potential available to spend	200	-7,700

*In June we agreed ongoing expenditure of £10,000 as follows

Science Week	3,000
Teachers Allocation £4 per child	2,500
Library Books	1,000
Drama Workshops	1,000
Arts & Crafts Supplies	750
Scottish Opera	350
Parent Mail	300
P3 Football Set Up Grant	250
SMPC Website Annual Maintenance	100
AGM Wine	100
Introduction to P1 Parents Wine	100
	9,450

School Session Dates Discussion Paper

The council have issued draft session dates for:

- 2015/16
- 2016/17
- 2017/18

Deadline for feedback is Friday 28th March.

2015/16 – Items Raised

- 1) **7 week summer break:** The school breaks on Fri 1st July '16. Resume on Weds 24th Aug '16.

2016/17– Items Raised

- 2) **12 day Xmas Break** – Fri Dec 23rd (break) to Thurs 5th Jan (resume)

2016/17	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S		
December	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
						12 days - Xmas Break																	

- 3) **7 week summer break:** School breaks on Fri 30th June '17. Resume on Weds 23rd Aug '17.

2017/18– Items Raised

- 4) **12 day Xmas Break** – Fri Dec '22nd (break) to Thurs 4th Jan (resume)

2017/18	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S		
December	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
						12 days - Xmas Break																	

- 5) **7 week summer break:** School breaks on Fri 29th June '18. Resume on Weds 22nd Aug '18.

Accommodation sub-committee report for Parent Council Meeting, March 3rd 2014

Copy of email sent by Howard Kippax, February 26th – for discussion at meeting

Good evening -

I appreciate there has already been some chats about this, but thought it would be useful to report for parent council, before next week's meeting.

Anna Cuthbert and I met Paul Godzik, education convenor, and Crawford McGhee of the asset management division on Tuesday evening to run through the council's proposals for addressing the capacity issues in primary schools in South Edinburgh. Representatives of Gillespies and Bruntsfield primary school PC were also in attendance.

The paper on school accommodation in South Edinburgh covers 2 strands – meeting the long term issues of over-crowding and addressing the more immediate requirements. The paper is intended as a starting point for discussion with apparently no binding decisions on options being made at next week's Education committee. A "further report will be taken to Committee on 20 May 2014 to identify the proposed interim solutions"

1. Long-term – It appears to me that the favoured option is a new school in South Edinburgh – but there is still no site or any committed funding.

SPMC response – Based on the feedback from the parent body undertaken last year, we support this option. SPMC and the new school both feed into the new Boroughmuir, so no implications for secondary school.

There is a draft proposal of a new school catchment area. When (if) the new school opens, this will require the relocation of some children currently at SMPC to the new school who live in newly created catchment area.

2. Current/medium term requirements – to be implemented for August 2015

"Projections suggest... 22 classes would be required to accommodate the projected back-to-back high intakes in 2014/15 and 2015/16" p10.

The council's preferred solution is "Replacement of one of the existing two classroom temporary units at South Morningside with a new, but (most probably) rented, three classroom temporary unit for the August 2015 intake." Page 15

So SMPC will have to take more children with possibly less playground space... I told Paul Godzik there will no support for any option that reduces the available playground. I reiterated our favoured solution of a double-storey hut but I bet they are planning to use the huts left over.

While we must give credit to the education convenor addressing issue, I am disappointed with the range of options and analysis that has been presented. We need to think of what is the best option for our school, even if it is not in the council's options paper. Please give this some serious consideration and share your thoughts.

My thoughts:

- It is a fair assumption to expect more composite classes
- We need to reply with a focus on the health and safety issues at the school, annexe and nursery (playground size/dining hall /toilets)
- We need to consider Mrs Grierson's opinions
- The council refuse to review their policy of offering every child a school place in their catchment area. This means SMPC has no limit on the number of children it will be forced to accept. They are putting adherence to political dogma before the welfare of your children. Unless we can convince the council to change this policy, then SMPC's roll will keep going up.
- However, being practical, we have to consider a preferred option for accommodating another classroom. Our previous discussions have been for one-double storey structure – do we ask for 2? We need clarification from the council.
- It appears there is a different policy for catholic schools – page 11. This
 "There is also a potential impact from St Peter's RC Primary School. The catchment registrations for 2014/15 currently total 94 however the school may accommodate intakes of only 60 on a regular basis. If necessary pupils would then be allocated a place at their non-denominational catchment school. It is estimated that this could add another seven registrations to South Morningside."
 Why is St Peter's not being forced to take all catchment children?
- Point 2.8 page 10 – it appears the Church only have to give as little as 3 months notice on evicting the school from its premises. Otherwise the annexe will remain in place for another 5 years....and no considerations about the nursery.
- Under the council's preferred medium term plans, one the existing huts would remain.
- The council position is that they will look at catchment review if parents ask for it....yet Tollcross remains only 50% capacity. Despite catchment review being the cheapest option for coping with the accommodation issues, it is surprisingly not a preferred option.

Howard Kippax on behalf of the Accommodation sub-group

February 26th 2014