

School Council Minutes

25th May 2021 1.15pm

Present

Sophie Vye from Green Island (chair)

Jon Ascot (Headteacher)

Sean Mogg (Staff Governor)

Harry Dilling (Durdle)

Freddie Palmer (Sandbanks)

Dakota Hanham (Purbeck)

Holly Morris and Lennon Richardson (Brownsea)

Abbie Graham (Pergins)

Maddie Compton (Arne)

Millie May Lawrence, Julia Rogers, Izabela Goluch and Fruzsina Bengyel (staff supporting pupils)

14 in total due to COVID restrictions

Apologies

William Sabine (Furzey)

Deniz Akgul (Purbeck)

All other school councillors will hopefully be able to attend the meeting when COVID restrictions are eased

Sophie welcomed everyone to the meeting including Jon Ascot to his first meeting as our interim Headteacher. Jon thanked the school council for all their efforts.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

- The School Council Lanyards (to easily identify the School Council members) were handed out and were received with much excitement! We had a photograph taken ready to share on social media, the school website and in VEClife. School Councillors took a letter home and were made aware that, as it has their name and phot on, they must only wear it in school. Out of school hours it must be left in their school bags or in their classrooms.
- It has been stated in previous meetings that it would be good for Governors to be aware about what the school council does, the difference it makes and the changes that are being directed by the council. Sean Mogg is a staff Governor and he attended the meeting briefly to thank the school council for their hard work and to inform them that he is happy to attend future meetings and pass any information, minutes and burning issues onto the Governors.
- It was asked previously, if it be possible to have VIBE radio playing in bathrooms, corridors, staffrooms etc? They thought it would give a real audience for the station. This has a “work in progress” but Ed has been able to run a trial in Carmel House. Classes Green Island, Arne and Furzey did not respond positively to it but Abbie said that her class would like to have a longer trial period. It was also discussed that we could trial Vibe in the bathroom in the main school but Lennon and Dakota were concerned that some students may linger in the bathroom longer than necessary. They devised a “rule” for School Councillors to share with their classes that *students should not stay any longer than normal*. School Councillors will feed back in the next meeting about how this trial goes.
- Abbie said that she would like games to occupy them in Carmel House. School Councillors all chose games for their classrooms as Sophie had located a range of games that were not being used.
- Abbie wanted a social room for Carmel House students to use for lunchtimes. Harry and Jo have said that the drama studio would be available to be used for this purpose on a Tuesday, Wednesday and a Friday. Sophie will discuss in the teachers’ briefing if there would be any objections to this.

Lennon asked if younger students would be able to make use of this space and we thought that they could (as older students can come over to the main school play hall, if they wish)

- Students had asked for a COVID “roadmap” so they know when school restrictions are easing. Sean Mogg had filmed a speech for us in the style of Boris Johnson, but some of the school councillors had not seen this.
- Harry and Lennon and their classes were keen for the school to have a football team that plays against other schools (including students in wheelchairs). Simon Higgins is very enthusiastic about this idea and has said that he will chat to other local schools and also liaise with AFC Bournemouth when they are in next half term.
- Ian has looked at the roundabout issue with Andy. It was first thought that the retarder chain needed renewing but now they are aware that the oil damper requires an oil change. Ian is happy to do this when we have a drier spell of weather!
- William’s idea of a big party to celebrate the end of COVID will be part of the Urban Arts Festival at the end of Creative Arts Week next half term.
- School councillors were asked to bring ideas of meals that they would like to see on the menus (as they have stated previously that there is a lot of repetition). Ideas included; Chinese food such as sweet and sour chicken and duck wraps. Mexican meals such as enchiladas, fajitas, tacos (with a spicy sauce option that can be added) KFC (but without bones), Calzone pizza.
- Thank you to William for making cards to thank staff for coming into school to clean the playground and paint the shed in the holidays. Sophie will hand out the cards he has made to thank people for coming into school to do this in their own time.
- There was a request for language lessons in Post 16 education but this had to stop due to COVID. Hilary has confirmed that German has restarted after half term.

Any Other Business

- Please could we have symbolised timetables for activities at lunchtimes again as they were great information for students to know what you could do on which day. This would be great for Carmel House, too, please.
- Maddie would like to devise a Nature Scavenger Hunt for the Blue Pathway classes to complete (Studland, Lulworth and Green Island). Lennon, Maddie and Sophie to meet on 26/5/21 at 12.30pm in the playhall to start creating this. Abbie and Dakota would also like to be involved on other days. The sheet will have words, pictures and symbols of times for them to find. Maddie is hoping that this will encourage these classes to get outdoors at lunchtimes.
- Class Brownsea asked, please can Zoolab come into school again? Sophie to liaise with Lyndsay who is the Science lead to see if this is possible.
- Lennon asked if we could have some large print books. Sophie will enquire if we already have any in school in the first instance.
- Hollie said that it has been tricky in lessons in the food tech room as the paper towel dispensers are too high and out of reach for the students. Also, Hollie said that if holes were cut into the table tops, bowls could be secured there so students didn’t need to hold them to be able to stir their ingredients. Sophie will alert Carol and Alison to these ideas and see what can be done.
- Lennon will look into pricing for a swing that he believes would fit into the playground. Sophie will chat to see if Ian is happy for another swing to go into the playground. FOVEC and Simon Walden would be approached for funding
- The school council would like to hold a “pre-loved book sale”. All students will bring in between 50p and £2 and an old book that they would like to donate. The money raised would go towards a pinball machine (£25 from Smyths Toy Store). Any excess money would go towards Donna’s trampoline fund. Sophie will check if this is a possibility and set a date.

Meeting closed at 2.10pm