



Junior Community Council Meeting

Thursday 21st March 5pm at Montrose Playhouse

Present

Reps from all schools apart from St Margarets who sent their apologies.

Items Discussed

Gail Penman welcomed everyone including the adults who stayed to hear the discussion. Post it notes were available after a request from a young person who was too shy to speak out in front of everyone. This was a successful strategy that was used throughout the meeting.

Notes were gone over from the last meeting so all adults knew topics of discussion: parks, graffiti, potholes, parking, housing.

Litter was a focus. After being raised at last CC meeting, Borrowfield P.S. received two bags of litter pickers etc to keep for the school and two bags for the community litter pick. Kate Munro (who was present at the meeting) from Angus Climate Hub donated £500 to Borrowfield P.S. which has been spent on a Group Litterpoicking Kit £269.99, a Handi Cart Lite £179.99, a litter picker pro £42.99 and junior PVC Gloves £3.65. Gail talked to the children about systems and processes and how sometimes things don't happen straight away.

David Paton from the CC shared that he had asked the Council for the Butterfly Park equipment to be fixed.

The JCC said they would like more attractive bins like the ones in McDonalds that 'invite rubbish'.

Beach/path erosion: CC shared a team from Angus Council that night were attending to show their proposals for fixing this. They will feedback to the JCC at our next meeting. Ross Thomson said they may be looking at the formation of a sub-group to solely focus on this issue which the JCC could be part of if we wished.

Clubs & activities: location important – central. Safe space required with adult supervision and no vaping or smoking. Something that doesn't cost too much, children very aware of cost of living crisis. Comfortable, relaxing – sofas, fidget tools, toys, music and hot drinks – maybe a tuck shop. A place to hang out with friends and talk. Mohub mentioned but cost has increased 'don't want another cost going on my mum.' Opening times need to range from 4pm for primary children and later for Academy pupils. Flexibility is needed so they can pop in and out. A safe outdoor space would also be appreciated.

David Paton from CC asked the JCC how many children use the cycle paths – around half.

A very strong message came from the JCC around vaping and smoking. They don't want to be around it and the age for vaping seems to be dropping which is very worrying.

Questionnaires done in school were discussed: they want a better selection of shops in particular sports shops. They have noticed a lot of shops closed/boarded up. They also feel that there should be more choice in areas like Hillside and Ferryden.

Communication was discussed and a possible What's On In Montrose social media page started up so groups etc can post on a calendar what is going on and when. Members of the CC said this was discussed at their meeting too.

Montrose Academy pupils stayed on for the Community Council meeting at 6pm.