

PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Milton Primary School

Monday 9th February 2026



Attendance

Vicki Brannan (VB), Lauren Strachan (LS), Michelle Wailes (MS), Lorna James (Headteacher - LJ), Allan Brown (AB), Jenny Manson (JM), Alison Shaw (AS), Nanci Creedon (NC), Gillian Prentice (Principal Teacher - GP), Jacqueline Bunten (Principal Teacher - JB), Suzy Graham (SG), Claire Law (CL)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received for:

Peter Ferrier (PF), Rachel Torrance (RT)

2. Adoption of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, 17th November 2025, were adopted by AS and seconded by AB

3. Actions

LS briefly touched on action tracker, most were completed as they were actions from preparation of the 2025 Christmas Fayre.

There were no questions, and the update was noted.

4. Headteacher Update

Attached below, see Appendix 1

There were no questions, and the update was noted.

5. Financial Report

MW gave an update on the parent council funds.

The account is healthy, Loaningdale travel grant to be transferred over to the school.

MW also asked about parent council funding SumDog (3 years), LJ to advise MW – **LJ Action**

It was agreed that parent council would continue to fund the pantomime.

There were no questions, and the update was noted.

6. MUGA Update

Discussion around the recent meeting with AB, LJ, LS, South Lanarkshire Council representatives and Councillor Lambie.

Meeting took place at Milton Primary School on 22nd January 2026.

The meeting included discussion of a possible upgrade to the MPS MUGA. However, as SLC has already completed its upgrade programme and MPS was not assessed as requiring an upgrade, the Parent Council would need to seek grant funding to progress any improvements.

A visit to the MUGA was carried out, during which attendees noted the deteriorating surface, the condition of the adjoining field, recent evidence of flooding, and damage to the surrounding retaining wall. A brief discussion took place regarding potential grant applications. Any application would need to include proposals for installation of a path beside the car park leading to the neighbouring property on Strathaven Road, along with fencing, an additional MUGA entrance, and possibly lighting and bins, etc.

As the MUGA is owned by SLC, community grants cannot be sought solely for school use.

It was advised by Councillor Lambie that for MPS PC to be eligible, applications would need to be made in partnership with groups such as Lesmahagow Community Council, and the upgraded MUGA would require public access outside school hours. This would necessitate enhanced security measures to prevent access to the playground and other school areas.

This remains a work in progress, AB and LS will explore options further over the coming months.

- LS suggested submitting an FOI to SLC – **LS Action**
- NC raised concerns about available space, questioning whether the playground is fit for purpose if the MUGA remains unusable.
- MW raised the SLC MUGA maintenance programme, when was Milton Primary School reviewed and also how many other schools are built on a hill. MW suggested including these in the FOI
- LJ confirmed the MUGA is approximately 20 years old and has never been upgraded since installation. It was originally funded through a lottery competition entered by a former pupil's parent.
- GP advised during construction of the current school, Morgan Sindall used the MUGA to house their porta-cabins, and the area was not restored following their removal.

There were no further questions, and the update was noted.

7. Spending Decisions

- Following the Headteacher update on the recent playground climbing frame renovation supported by Mr and Mrs Torrance, LJ requested £500 to help move forward with the next stage of the playground tidy up, which includes adding a trim trail. Everyone was happy with this and agreed to the request.
- 2026 Pantomime visit
- Sumdog funding
- P7 leavers gifts

- PC to take on ties instead of funding stationary sets, to be confirmed at next PC meeting.
- Also agreed to continue with contribution of £10 per head for the leavers' party, 33 pupils this year.

Funds to be made available to the school - **MW action**

There were no further questions, and the update was noted.

8. Christmas Fayre De-brief

2025 was highlighted as our most successful year so far in terms of fundraising.

CL's idea of bringing a tombola donation in exchange for a dress down day helped create a fantastic tombola!

- LJ provided feedback from the Pupil Natter group which included:
 - Fundraiser to buy craft for pupils to make? Each class to vote / chose the craft
 - The grotto could be cheaper (stayed £2 again and included a selection box?)
 - More toys and things for children like squishes / teddies, etc. (PC pocket money stall?)
 - Stalls selling things we can afford more pocket money stalls
 - More stall skids want
 - Maybe putting it in a couple of rooms (less squashed)
 - Prices may be a tiny bit lower
 - More activities and stalls for us to get things from – some were only for big people
 - We liked the cake stall, tombola, Santa and the stalls with toys.
 - Could we get a bouncy castle (pupil suggestion)
- These areas were discussed some things raised included;
 - CL – kids only tombola

- Inflatables were discussed, with concerns raised about the time of year and whether insurance would cover outdoor inflatables. Where would we put one inside?
- GP suggested considering “Santa balloons on a stick,” which were a big hit at their son’s school fayre.
- “Nerf the Elf”, this had been suggested at a previous meeting with the idea of holding it in the changing room. A question was raised about whether this should be free or low cost for pupils.
- The possibility of using the library was also discussed, though further thought is needed on what activities or items would go in that space.

There were no further questions, and the update was noted.

9. Spring Disco Planning

It was agreed that a Spring Disco will go ahead, with 26 March 2026 confirmed as the preferred date.

- P1 to P3 disco – 6:30pm to 7:30pm
- P4 to P7 disco – 7:45pm to 8:45pm

Things to sort before the disco:

- Volunteers to set up and man each disco
- Crisps, sweets and juice from Tesco **SG Action**
- Shorts and shade theme was agreed on
- MW music, if MW can’t attend need a back up
- Microphones to be setup on the night
- Games / prizes? **VB Action**
 - Corners (beach theme) then snack
 - Line games, like pass the beach ball or hula hoop
 - Limbo?

- Musical arms?
- Facebook advert / post **LS Action**
- Send paperwork to SLC for booking use of school for disco date **LS Action**
- Feedback from the Halloween disco highlighted that older pupils prefer fewer games and more time to dance.
- NC mentioned she has some beach themed props that could be borrowed to decorate the hall **NC Action**

There were no further questions, and the update was noted.

10. Other Events / Fundraising

- Guess the Bunny age / birthday, LS to get large soft toy. School have calendar/dates sheet for guesses
 - It was noted that this is instead of the spring coloring competition
 - **LS Action**
- Spring Disco, as above
- Bag Pack at Tesco
 - It was discussed and all agreed to pause this for now, with a view to revisiting it in 2026/27.
 - Lots of bag packing requests from various clubs, and the MPS choir has also been into Tesco recently, so it was felt best to hold off for the moment.

11. AOCB

Parking around the school is an on-going issue.

One suggestion at the November 2025 PC meeting was to ask if the high school buses could arrive at 3:10 pm instead, giving primary school traffic time to clear.

Cumberhead Grant deadline 3rd March 2025 – GP suggested Chromebook, laptops and reading pens. **LS Action**

There were no further questions, and the update was noted.

12. Dates of Next Meeting(s)

- 7pm, Monday 18th May 2026

SLC booking for use of school canteen for the above dates has been completed and saved in the PC Gmail.

Note – this was a block booking for the 25/26 term.

Head Teacher's Report:

Parent Council 9/2/26

Head Teacher's Report



Finance Week

- We have kicked off the week in style with lots of great activities and visitors in classes.
- Gillian has organised this event again and we are also very grateful to Lauren who has been instrumental in securing lots of visitors when we were starting to worry about the lack of engagement.
- Plans outlined in PowerPoint to classes – copy to show.

Panto 2026

- The children all enjoyed the Panto – The Wizard of Oz in November and we have secured Aladdin for December this year.
- My thanks again for Parent Council funding this – it is always a lovely visit that the children and staff enjoy.

Photographer

- We have booked Wilson Photography for our new photographer and have booked for 19th October – this was the first date they had available.
- As bookings go quickly, we have booked September for the following year all being well.

Christmas Fayre Feedback (Pupil Natter)

- As part of our Pupil Natter groups, we recently asked the classes to give feedback on the Christmas Fayre.
- The feedback is attached to agenda.

Playground Update

- Darren and Rachel have made a fabulous job of our play areas – new wood has replaced rotten pieces and new footing pieces have been added to the climbing frame part.
- The roof has been felted and the chutes and surrounds have all been cleaned too.
- I'm sure you'll all agree this is looking fabulous and with another few days of paint drying, we hope that classes will be able to use this once more.
- Rachel and Darren are also going to help with building a trim trail for the playground in the better weather. I have seen a mock up design which looks amazing. We have a figure in mind for the budget but wonder if the Parent Council would consider a £500 donation towards this to help cover any additional cost for wood, paint, varnish and fittings?

Appendix 2

Action log:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Status</u>
Travel Grant	Loaningdale - successful grant £3k awarded	Lauren Strachan (LS)	Closed
Christmas Fayre	Books for book stall	Lorna James (LJ)	Closed
	LJ to check		
	donations needed?		
Christmas Fayre	Win a bottle game	Lorna James (LJ)	Closed
	bottle bags		
	bottles needed?		
Christmas Fayre	Signs / banners for fayre day	Peter Ferrier (PF)	Closed
	create this years		
Christmas Fayre	Time fillers	Lauren Strachan (LS)	Closed
	Café Quiz (small prize & post box too)		
	Christmas themed photo booth		
School Photographs	Last year using this photographer	Lorna James (LJ)	Closed
	NC suggested doing in house school photos - school doing them		
	other options to be reviewed - new in place for 2026		

Fundraising Ideas	dress down days (£ or bring tombola items)	Claire Law (CL)	Closed
	CL suggested, great idea		
	trailing for C2025 Christmas Fayre		
Christmas Fayre	Grotto helper needed? VB high school helper	Vicki Brannan (VB)	Closed
Christmas Fayre	Grotto selection boxes - LS to get donation from Steven	Lauren Strachan (LS)	Closed
Christmas Fayre	Cups, napkins, etc.	Peter Ferrier (PF)	Closed
Christmas Fayre	Raffle donations - local companies	PC Committee	Closed
Christmas Fayre	Candy canes, new game	Michelle Wailes (MW)	Closed
Christmas Fayre	Sweetie prizes Santa's chimney	Peter Ferrier (PF)	Closed
Tombola	Jude number of raffle books needed?	Vicki Brannan (VB)	Closed
Santa's Present	Vicki to arrange	Vicki Brannan (VB)	Closed
Sumdog Payment	MW to arrange for payment to be transferred to school	Michelle Wailes (MW)	In Progress
	Amount, duration of agreement to be found out.		
	MW and LJ to discuss		
Loaningdale Funds	Transfer to school	Michelle Wailes (MW)	In Progress
P7 Leavers	Gifts to be agreed upon May 2026!	PC Committee	In Progress
Footballs	Still needed? Other companies to ask? Lesmahagow Juniors provided some	Allan Brown (AB)	In Progress
Spring Fundraiser	Guess teddy / bunny birthday LS to buy and school to have sheet for guesses	Lauren Strachan (LS)	In Progress
Cumberhead Grant	LS and GP to discuss Chromebooks, reading pens, laptops deadline 3rd March 2026	Lauren Strachan (LS)	In Progress
MUGA (1)	On-going AB and LS exploring further	Lauren Strachan (LS)	In Progress
MUGA (2)	other schools, find out what they have done / are doing	Lauren Strachan (LS)	In Progress
	Amanda at Coalburn one stop shop - Leadhills example LS to get more details		

MUGA (3)	Feb 2026 LS to send FOI to SLC	Lauren Strachan (LS)	In Progress
Spring Disco	Volunteers - All Crisps, Food & Drinks - SG Games & Prizes - VB Decorations for the hall - NC Facebook advert - LS Hall booking - LS	All (see description)	In Progress
Fundraising Ideas	Tea towels/bags - year about Car wash Car boot sale Milton's got talent Recipe books Coloured hampers - different colour per class then raffle off Race Night / Quiz Night Discos Tesco bag pack with raffle and tombola Keep as suggestion for considering	PC Committee	Not Started
Outdoor Notice Board	Outdoor noticeboard, installation and placement of board to be determined in due course. Keep on as a reminder, may revisit 25/26	PC Committee	Not Started
QR Codes	To promote engagement with parents, consider for future events	PC Committee	Not Started
Transport Costs	Cost of transport or requests for funding to be carried out earlier, grants to be considered earlier. Loaningdale available Aug/September time - need to apply early and keep aware of closing date	PC Committee	Not Started