

MINUTES OF SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING – 11/02/10

Period One

Library

1. **Tranquillity Garden:** Mrs. MacDonald came into speak to the council. She wishes to regenerate the area in front of the temporary classrooms where two trees have recently been felled; there is around £5,000 available for this. There is a parent who is a garden designer and has agreed to help for a minimal charge. She wants to develop it into a nice place to sit and relax and wants the council's input as to what should go into it. Josh, Gabby, George and Lauren agreed to meet with Mrs. MacDonald on Friday 12th February at break for further information and brainstorming.
2. **Lost Property:** There is confusion within the student body as to what the lost property system is at the moment, since the box has disappeared it seems to be like a shop where people can go and get anything they want and it was wondered whether this could be organised better. It seemed silly to some of the council that every evening bags are taken off the top of lockers and taken to the lost property area; it was thought that this could maybe become a weekly instead of daily occurrence. However, it was pointed out that the school is used most evenings and the bags can make the school look untidy. This led onto the feeling that bags were left on top of lockers as there was a lack of storage within the school, especially for things that don't fit into lockers such as hockey sticks.
3. **Use of the Quad:** It was thought that the Quad was not accessible and that some people weren't even aware of its existence. It was thought that it should be open during the better weather and people should be made aware of its presence and that they are allowed to use it. However, it was mentioned that this poses a problem for prefects in terms of allowing people inside at lunch. Mrs. Thatcher is to discuss access and availability of the quad with the Senior Team.
4. **Outdoor Seating:** For this it was thought that lower school should have the main say as it would affect them more directly. There was a split between wanting more seating, wanting new seating or not seeing a need for it. In terms of funding the council voted on it that this was not a priority of students' interests and so there was no further discussion.
5. **Updates on Topics From Last Meeting:**
 - 1) **School Council Board:** A new, bigger board has been put up for the school council board and Jess, Anabelle and Adam are keen to now get things up. Jess asked the council for a copy of any posters pertaining to

school council events to be given to one of the three people in charge of the board so it can be displayed on their too.

2) Logo Competition: So far there have been no entries for the competition and so council members are to push within their forms. New posters to be made as the current ones seem unclear and hard to read. A new deadline will be set after half term.

6. Funds for Haiti: The current total for the money raised for Haiti from non-uniform day and other events is £1235.96. It was suggested that some of this money should be used to buy shelter boxes for families. They come in the form of a big plastic box and contain everything a family needs, including a tent. They come at a price of £490 and so we could currently afford 2. It was voted that at the moment the council should send one and Mrs. Thatcher will sort this out for us. Other money raised could also go to the DEC. Andy has researched a 'shoe box' type appeal and currently they are only involving medical supplies. However, some charities seem to be talking about the idea. From the research he has done he thinks the best way to help is with the shelter boxes as many charities are still concentrating on the clear up operation and the boxes are the next step. It was thought that some forms did not collect enough money on non-uniform day with some only collecting £14- £18. The idea was that donations should be made easy for people to make personal pledges and that buckets should be available. Mrs. Thatcher has said she will try and organise for Andy Flatley to talk to students further in assembly, probably lower school and then upper school. Volunteers to help him with a further assembly, please contact him directly.

Discussion items for next meeting:

- Promoting the school council
- Pupil priorities
- Student contribution to 1010