

Wider Access to School Project

Minutes of the W.A.S.P. Committee meeting held on 14th March 2023 at 10.00 am.
The meeting took place in the W.A.S.P. area of Denny High School.

Attendance: - Moira Rennie (MR), Anne Cruse (AC), Carol Robb (CR), Elizabeth Thomson (ET), Moira Martin (MM), Joyce White (JW), Neil Millar (NM), Tom Rintoul (TR).

Apologies: - Pat Benton (PB), Ernest Martin (EM).

Tom Rintoul (TR) chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Approval of minutes 14th February 2023

Proposed by (CR) and seconded by (ET).

Amendments:-

No amendments however it was noted that there was a “steady” attendance of classes rather than “good”. Please see paragraph below.

Classes:-

A breakdown of current classes was handed out showing a good (steady) attendance to classes. 158 members have enrolled in the various classes this year.

Matters arising:-

Budget Cooking:

A 3 week block of classes began but after an initial good response from 2 primary schools only 3 people attended out of an initial interest of 15. Initially 8 people showed an interest in the class from another school however it was later confirmed that no one could attend.
(MR) to contact Nethermain Primary.
(PB) and (CR) to contact other schools.

(CR), (P B) had visited two schools and the Head Teachers were very receptive to the cooking class, thinking it was an excellent idea, however the problem seems to be getting the parents to Denny High School as well as child care for their children as the class runs over primary school time.
(MR) and (MM) had spoken to other schools and they were also enthusiastic about the proposal. It was proposed that we visit parent’s night at the schools and see if support could be gained from the parents.

Due to (PB) being unable attend the meeting she put forward some items for discussion at the meeting.

Family budget cooking (free of charge): - as you know we have struggled to get numbers to attend these sessions so I am proposing that we now open it up to anyone who wants to attend. The course would start on Tuesday 18th April and we could run it for 6 weeks which would take us to the end of May. Based on the costs we have incurred for the sessions that were attended, it has cost Wasp approximately £4.60 per person per week for the food. We also bought tinfoil containers for them to take the food home, which cost £15.79 for 20 containers.

If we run the course for 8 people over the 7 weeks, based on the above costs, it will cost us in the region of £257.60.

That does not include buying containers, this would cost a further £31.58, as we should have some left over from the current lot.

It was agreed to continue with this course with it being opened up to Wasp students.

Cookery/baking class run after school hours: - this is costing £30 per week to run and is attended by only 4 people who have paid £20 for the 10 week course. (It was decided that this course was not viable due to only 4 people attending and will be cancelled at the end of March).

IT/Computing: - costing £45 per week and has 5 people attending at no cost to them and is due to run for 10 weeks. (It was agreed to pause this course after Easter due to the small numbers attending, however a discussion will take place with Ian to see how we can go forward for next year.)

Mosaics: - costing £60 per week, has 11 people attending who have paid £20 for the 4 week course.

(Rhona happy to come back in November)

Sewing: - costing £60 per week, has 8 people attending who have paid £26 for the 7 week course. (It was agreed for this class to continue with the subsidy)

Strength & balance: - costing £60 per week, has 8 people attending at no cost to them. It has run for 9 weeks. **(Course to continue)**

Home devices: - costing £45 per week has 8 people attending at no cost to them. It has run for 10 weeks. **(Course to continue).**

Anne's Role and job description in W.A.S.P.:-

A discussion took place with Anne and the Committee regarding the distribution of tasks within her remit. Anne and the committee were happy with the existing format.

Mark Meehan: - (Community Learning and Development Manager) Mark joined the meeting at 10.30 am he is from Falkirk Council and was there to offer support and advice on how we take Wasp forward. Unfortunately there will not be a CLD worker available for Wasp. Mark raised the possibility of Wasp employing someone to fill this post, however we would have to apply for a grant to fund this.

Accounts: - (PB) our Treasure was unable to attend the meeting so the accounts will be discussed at the next meeting.

Correspondence:-

A thank you card was received from Anne.

Any other Business: -

Committee Training and Action Plan: - Ongoing

Identification of Committee Members:-

It was decided to produce a Board with Pictures and names of current committee members to be displayed in the W.A.S.P. area. Photos still to be taken

Date of next meeting: - 10.00 am on Tuesday 18th April 2023 in the W.A.S.P area of Denny High School.