



Craigmount High School Parent Council – Meeting of Council on 24 April 2023 by Teams

Meeting Pack

<u>Item</u>	<u>Page</u>
Agenda	2
Minutes	3
Craigmount Update	7
Treasurer's Report	12

**CRAIGMOUNT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING
24 APRIL 2023 AT 7PM VIA TEAMS**

AGENDA

1.	Apologies, Welcome, Minutes and Matters Arising	AT	19:00-19:05 (5 mins)
2.	Craigmount Update	CM (and pupils)	19:05-19:15 (10 mins)
3.	West Edinburgh Development	Julie Duncan, CEC Vince Spicer, CEC	19:15-20:15 (1 hr)
4.	Treasurer's Report	DG	20:15-20:20 (5 mins)
5.	Fundraising Report	GH	
6.	AOB (including any PC Issues)		20:20-20:30 (10 mins)
			90 mins

CRAIGMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 24 April 2023

PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Alistair Turnbull (Chair), John McLeod, Nicola Currie Mullen, Lucy Hunter, Alison Thomson, Mark Bingham, Gilly Herbert, Dale Graham and Ian Batty

PARENT FORUM MEMBERS

Names retained by secretary.

STAFF

Colin Meikle (Head Teacher)

GUESTS

Councillors Allan Beal and Euan Hyslop.

For Item 4

- Julie Duncan, Portfolio Planner, Strategic Asset Planning Team
- Vince Spicer, Quality Improvement Education Officer, Education & Children's Services

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Jane Crewe, Jeanette Ross, Claire Labelle

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MATTERS ARISING AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The minutes of the previous Meeting were approved. No action points were identified other than those noted elsewhere on the agenda.

3 CRAIGMOUNT UPDATE

Pupils (Harshith & Megan) updated the Parent Council on a wide range of matters, including:

- Class Act – in collaboration with Traverse Theatre
- S2 – Developing Young Workforce programme
- Debating successes in Edinburgh and Cambridge
- Easter revision sessions delivered for S4 to S6

The school had sent a delegation to an LGBT+ meeting at Currie High School, where participants had the opportunity to share experiences.

On 21 April, the school had held its first ever formal leavers' event. Many S6s had dressed as Superheroes for their final day. CM noted that over 4,000 hours of accredited volunteering had been accumulated by the S6 year group. The school will seek to build on this in future years.

4 WEST EDINBURGH DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

(A) West Edinburgh Development Update

CM introduced JD and VS from City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) who had agreed to deliver a short presentation on the current thoughts on the schooling requirements of the new housing being built of the west of Maybury Road (including timing) and the extension of Craigmount High School and then take questions from PC members.

Key points from the presentation were as follows:

- As previously noted, a new primary school is planned for a site close to Turnhouse Golf Club and this will be zoned to Craigmount. This is planned to be a 21 class primary school.
- The notional capacity of Craigmount High School (1,400) is forecast to be exceeded in 2027. On current projections, there will be a requirement to increase the school role to 1,800.
- An initial visualisation of one potential option was to build to the east of the existing building. The illustration showed that this would entail the loss of most of the grassy area to that side of the school (currently used for a wide range of PE and other outdoor learning activities).
- The development of a new West Edinburgh High School is still included in the longer-term development strategy. However, the need for a statutory consultation to be undertaken prior to the development of a new school means that this can not be achieved in a timescale which would meet the forecast need for places.
- Proposals for Craigmount are to be informed by the recently published Edinburgh Learning Estate Strategy, the five key aspects of which are:
 - o Community;
 - o Teaching & Learning;
 - o Sustainability;
 - o Inclusion; and
 - o Digital.

Following the presentation, the following point were raised by attendees and discussed.

I. Open Public Space

It was noted that the illustrations within the strategy document included a significant amount of green space which would not be available within the campus of an extended Craigmount High School. JD & VS agreed that was the case, but noted that the initial illustration was not a current plan and would be revisited in order to preserve more open space, if possible.

II. Timing – projection of rising demand for places

The PC had previously expressed concern that the CEC projection of demand for places appears to assume that those moving into the new developments would not have secondary school age children and therefore there would be a gradual increase in demand, largely deriving from classes graduating from the new Primary School. In response to this VS noted that part of his role was to work with schools in order to

improve efficiencies in the use of space within existing buildings. Whilst Craigmount is not currently a poor performer in that respect, he will be work with the Senior Leadership Team in the school to ensure that the best use is made of the existing facility until development of the extension is complete. It was noted that projections for the school role do include a 'pinch point' at an undefined date. The PC emphasised that they would not be supportive of a temporary 'portacabin city' solution as part of the development plan.

III. Social Space, including lunch provision

PC members expressed disappointment that the presentation had taken cognisance of the previously expressed issues regarding social space and lunch provision within the existing school, which would only be exacerbated by the design illustrated within the presentation. This was noted by JD.

IV. Reference to 20 minute neighbourhoods

A query was raised regarding a reference made to CEC promoting the 20 minute neighbourhood concept as part of their strategic planning, and what that might mean for elements of Craigmount catchment – particularly Roseburn. VS clarified that this not a defined policy of CEC and would not therefore form part of the development considerations.

V. Suitability of the site for further development

A suggestion was made that the initial draft which was presented (a 15-class room extension plus an additional sports facility) did not really address the existing challenges of the school design, including lack of social space and circulation issues. Taking these omissions together with the footprint of the initial illustration, there was a suggestion that the core issue is that the site is simply too small to accommodate an extension of the proposed scale. This view was noted, but CEC have no alternative plan at the present time.

VI. Issues in relation to the current school building

It was noted that the current Craigmount building is now 20 years old and, as a building it is not performing well. It is extremely hot in summer and cold in winter (suggesting a poor EPC rating), has narrow corridors and well documented circulation issues. It was suggested that bolting on an extension to an already failing building would not be a long term solution – significant work would also be required to future-proof the existing buildings (and indeed to bring it to current standards). VS noted these concerns but suggested that there would probably not be funding available for work on the existing estate. With that in mind, the question was raised as to whether we have an estate which is worth saving.

VII. Implications of PPP arrangements

JD and VS were asked how the ongoing PPP arrangements for the existing Craigmount building would impact on the proposed development. It was noted that the arrangements currently had 10 years to run. JD and VS noted that significant challenges had been experienced within the Royal High School project and lessons would be learned from that. It was agreed that there would be a need to be open about what the constraints might be. For example, it was suggested that there might need to be minimal

interaction between the current building and the extension. The extension might require to have a completely separate heating system and utility supplies. It was further agreed that constraints associated with the PPP arrangements could render some of the ambitions for the project expressed earlier in the meeting impossible to deliver (including the inclusion of a reworking of the existing building footprint rather than simply delivering a 'bolt-on' annex solution).

VIII. Funding

A question was raised regarding funding for the development. JD suggested that CEC funds (both capital and revenue) are likely to remain under significant pressure for the foreseeable future. It is currently forecast that there will be a significant funding shortfall for this project. That being the case, it was suggested by JD that CEC are not going to raise expectations that they will be able to address everything requested by the PC in the development plan.

IX. Next steps and timescales

A question was asked regarding whether, after 18 months of only hearing about Kirkliston and South Queensferry, Craigmount was at the back of the queue for CEC. JD noted that CEC were about to appoint a design team and suggested that they would be in a position to assemble the Stakeholder Reference Group for an initial meeting prior to the start of the 2023/24 session, if that was appropriate. It was agreed to refer that to CM and the Chair to take forward.

The Chair thanked JD and VS for their attendance and for their willingness to address the often difficult questions put to them by the PC and noted that the PC looks forward to working with them as the planning process progresses.

The PC agreed to collate a list of questions about the proposal and send this to CM who would forward them to JD and VS.

5. Finance and Fundraising

It was noted that the PC still had a significant sum of money to spend and that, ideally, this should be disbursed prior to the accounting year end. The Chair suggested that, due to time constraints, this be addressed by PC members over email and Whatsapp.

GH asked about arranging some kind of event for sponsors to ensure that they continue to feel invested in the school. GH, Chair and CM to take this forward.

6. AOB

AGM will be held in Craigmount (in-person meeting) on Monday 5 June.



*Craigmount
Update*

Craigmount High School

Key Events



Class
Act

Breakfast
Club

S2 DYW
Event

Debating

Easter
Revision

Music
Success

LGBTQ+

German
Ministerial
Visit

S6 Leavers

Craigmount High School

S6 Leavers' Event



Craigmount High School

Pupil Leadership



THE CHALLENGE

For those getting started in volunteering through team challenges



THE APPROACH

For when you've reached 10 and 25 hours volunteering



THE ASCENT

For when you've reached 50, 100, 200 or even 500 hours



THE SUMMIT

For those that have made an outstanding contribution to volunteering

Craigmount High School

SQA Immersion Days



IMMERSION STUDY SUPPORT APRIL - MAY 2023				
SQA Exam Study Sessions				
Monday 24th April				
Period/s	Level / SQA Exam	Teacher	Location	SQA Exam
6 & 7	Higher Geography	Ms. Henderson	G22	Cantonese Mandarin PE Photography
5&6&7	Nat 5 Geogrpby	Mrs. Batty	G24	
3&4	N5 Mathematics	Mr Gray	172	
3&4	N5 Mathematics	Mrs Baten	169	
3&4	N5 Mathematics	Mrs Ahmed	165	
3&4	N5 Applications	Mr McCord	173	
N/A	Adv Higher Art	Hartley/Watt	Art dept	
Tuesday 25th April				
Period/s	Level / SQA Exam	Teacher	Location	SQA Exam
1 & 2	National 5 Spanish	Mr Meikle	109	Geography
1 & 2	N5 Admin & IT	Miss Thomson	230	
3 & 4	Higher Admin & IT	Mrs Hendrie	233	
1/2/3/4	Higher politics	Ms.Lawson	G17	
3&4	N5/AH History	Mrs. Crosbie	G13	
3&4	N5 Applications	Mr Gray	172	
3&4	Adv Higher Art	Hartley/Watt	Art dept	
N/A				
Wednesday 26th April				
Period/s	Level / SQA Exam	Teacher	Location	SQA Exam
1	N5	Mr Moore	154	Politics Admin & IT
2	N5	Mrs Sanders	154	
3	AH	Mrs Sanders	155	
4	AH	Ms Grocott	153	
6	Higher	Mrs Stevens	150	
7	Higher	Miss Sandison	151	
3&4	N5 History	Mrs. Crosbie	1	
N/A	Adv Higher Art	Hartley/Watt	Art dept	
Thursday 27th April				
Period/s	Level / SQA Exam	Teacher	Location	SQA Exam
3 & 4	National 5 Spanish	Mr Meikle	109	Biology
6 and 7	H Spanish	Mrs Lynch	211	
1&2	AH Mathematics	Mr O'Donnell	242	
1&2	H Mathematics	Miss Raine	167	
3&4	AH Mathematics	Mr O'Donnell	242	
3&4	N5 Mathematics	Mr Gray	172	
3&4	N5 Mathematics	Mrs Batten	169	
3&4	N5 Mathematics	Miss Raine	167	
3&4	N5 Mathematics	Mr McCord	173	
3&4	H Mathematics	Mr McCord	244	
3&4	N5 Applications	Mrs Clarke	Art dept	
N/A	Adv Higher Art	Hartley/Watt	172	
6&7	H Mathematics	Mr McCord		

Friday 28th April				
Period/s	Level / SQA Exam	Teacher	Location	SQA Exam
1&2	N5/H History	Mrs.Dobson	G25	Spanish Music Tech
3&4	N5 History	Ms.McFarlane	G28	
1&2	N5/Higher History	Mr.Galloway	G15	
3&4	N5/Higher History	Mrs. McConnell	G14	
1&2	H Mathematics	Mr O'Donnell	242	
1&2	H Applications	Mr Gray	172	
3&4	H Mathematics	Mrs Urquhart	164	
N/A	Adv Higher Art	Hartley/Watt	Art dept	
1&2	H Classics	Higgins	204	



Treasurers Report, 24 April 2023

Treasurers summary & highlights:

- Overview of current funds balance
- 200 Club statement and balances are held by N Currie-Mullan, verbal balance update follows at meetings and Inc & Exp summary is prepared annually for accounts
- Final cash count is performed annually at year end 30 April

Balances at 5/1/23	£
Treasurers Account	4,214.36
200 Club	tbc
Petty Cash	0.00
Total	4,214.36

Grant Applications	Date	Purpose	Amount	Outcome
The Fundraising Committee shall confirm which applications are approved and the status thereof at each meeting	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Picnic Tables	11/7/22	School grounds	£4,100	Pd to school 28/7

Income to date	Date	Purpose	Amount	Notes
See detailed I&E statement that follows				
Total			£8,493.29	

Expenditure to date	Date	Purpose	Amount	Notes
See detailed I&E statement that follows				
Total			£8,467.00	

Committed spend	Amount	Date	Notes
CHS Wish List – other items for approval	c£tbc	Before end session 2023	Committee to confirm
200 Club spend – account shall then be closed	c£800	Before end session 2023	Committee to confirm
Total	£(tbc)		