

## **AGM 2018 - minutes**

**Meeting:** BSP Executive Committee AGM  
**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
**Present:** Check Register of Attendance book (Navy book).  
**Minute Taker:** Irena Chlumecka

**David Doran**, the chairperson of the Executive committee, greets attendees.

**Kieran Griffin**, former principal of BSP speaks about Mary Bird, who passed away two weeks previously, and was one of the founding members of Bray School Project, recruiting the best staff, and generally was a fantastic contribution to the school.

Items on the Agenda:

1. Approval of AGM minutes 2018  
- Approved
2. BSP Executive Committee report – David Doran  
For most of the school year Carol Kim was the chairperson of the Exec. Committee. Later the in the year she moved abroad, and so David stepped in as a chairperson (in March 2018). EGM was held in February 2018 to vote on the change of the constitution to be in line with the current company law – everyone present voted in favour of the change. This was related to the ongoing bank issue.

Other work that Exec. did this year was creating a working group to discuss the change of the school patronage. Information documents and videos were recorded, and info sessions held to inform the school community of the pros and cons of the patronage handover to Educate Together. This was all uploaded to the school website for parents and staff to see. The Board of Management holds a strong position on joining the ET and so do staff in the school.

David Doran was elected as the chairperson in March 2018.

Irena Chlumecka (current secretary of the Executive Committee) is leaving after 2 years being a member.

3. Financial Report – Executive Committee – David Holmes  
The Exec. has two bank accounts – current and savings. There have been ongoing issues with Bank of Ireland. Finally, after 2 years, we have access to the savings account.

250 Draw club – more money being paid out than coming in. This needs to be looked at. PTA are now in charge.

More up-to-date bill has arrived today (not calculated in the current report). More detailed notes in the financial report (hard copy available in the school office in the file cabinet).

4. Board of Management Report – Deirdre Crowe  
Patronage vote on agenda for a few years now.

A lot of work done in policies – Inclusion Policy – how to integrate children from the ASD unit better in the mainstream classrooms; consulting with parents.

Enrolment policy in its second cycle – due to be reviewed in Autumn.

Code of Behaviour reviewed continually.

Rental policy developed – to make sure everyone who uses premises is Garda vetted and insured.

Bright Sparks Afterschool club – great source of income for the school, happy to stay on for next year.

**Finances:** More expenses this year due to extra maintenance work needed.  
Voluntary contribution slightly lower.

We had a huge trouble with the bank (PTSB) and had been treated badly by them.

New school secretary Maire has settled in well, very efficient in the secretary work with previous experience.

General maintenance – vandalism – windows broken in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class, carpets had to be changed.

Accessible toilets to be completed in July 2018.

Millennium cone – sensitive issue, but it is inaccessible to children due to health and safety. How to preserve it but make it safe?

Purpose-built structure for ASD unit.

New staff:       Malcolm Pert – new care taker  
                      Sinead Jones – Assistant principal  
                      Lesley Sheridan – Deputy principal

Gardening committee – the school has won another prize in the school garden competitions from Edible Bray.

2021 – the school's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – start planning!

Student council – working on issues such as playground, homework, pyjama day and other fundraising events.

Calling on parents who'd like to volunteer in any of the different committees in the school.

Road Safety – Yellow Box outside school – You can never stop in yellow box. We need to constantly remind people to be respectful outside the entrance.

5. Principal's Report – Carol Lanigan

Just after signing 240 school reports for the children – and heard a laughter from the hall...It picked me up!

So much work has been done through all the committees working together to sort the bank issue, thank you all so much.

Just a mention of the several activities that took place in line with our Ethos:

- Art Day
- Boats of Hope
- Junior Entrepreneur programme – 6<sup>th</sup> class all working together
- Chinese New Year – the local Chinese community lent us their dragon for our parade
- History week – museum in the school – sense of pride in children showing their artefacts
- 'Droichead' – training of teachers to support new learner teachers – 2 teachers attended this training.
- Digital Learning Framework – we are a pilot school – one of 28. Teachers undergo training in order to be able to deliver the programme to the children.
- ECO Rangers – 6<sup>th</sup> class went to beach – clean up.
- Language Curriculum development
- School self-evaluation
- We applied for part in Cultural Investment – didn't get it this time.
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More detailed report on website soon.

6. Election of Executive Committee members.

Chair: David Doran - Prop. Irena Chlumecka, Sec. – Carol Lanigan  
Treasurer: David Holmes - Prop. David Doran, Sec. - Carol Lanigan  
Secretary: Shelly Jeffares – Prop. Conor Maher, Sec. – David Doran  
Members: Conor Maher - prop. Irena Chlumecka, Sec. – Deirdre Crowe  
Linda Doolan – prop. David Doran, Sec. – Conor Maher  
Lucy Quinn – prop. Emily Collins, Sec.- Deirdre Crowe  
Marjoke Gard – prop. Irena Chlumecka, Sec. – David Doran

7. Motion: Vote for patronage

Votes on the night: **42 in favour, 0 against.**

Proxy votes: **46 in favour, 2 against, 2 spoilt.**

Final count: **88 in favour**  
**2 against**  
**2 spoilt**

**In regards to ET patronage:**

**Sinead Jones** (teacher, assistant principal) stresses that BSP uses *Learn Together* programme for teaching Belief Systems instead of religious instruction, same as any other ET school so this will stay the same. Also, the parents currently in the Executive Committee could be more useful serving on other school boards when ET takes over patronage.

**Padraig Mannion** – the time frame for the patronage vote was to be extended because we needed more time for communication around the patronage issue. Last year Padraig would have voted against it, because he had affection for the school structure – “it works, why change it now”. But changes have happened, the school has moved, and through consultation I was made aware of the stuff that isn’t working. The year was needed for the consultation.

**Lucy Quinn** – Lucy was one of the working group members. They split tasks – David Doran consulted founding members of BSP, Gareth worked with the board, and Lucy researched other schools in similar positions. She extends special thanks to Padraig for his input. In conclusion, ET patronage is good because it deals professionally with legal issues, it would have personal impact on parents – can volunteer elsewhere, and it’s good for professionals dealing with the school.

**Brendan (O’Brien?)** – BSP isn’t in a campaign mode anymore so it is ok to move on.

**Audrey Vance** – is there any downside to joining ET?

**David Doran** – from our research for example Kildare ET recently joined ET and there is no evidence of negative impact.

**Carol Lanigan** – as a principal of the school she stays quiet, but on a practical level – ET can provide professional advice and legal support to the school. Ethical curriculum feeds into the daily running of the school, and ET is a great support in that.

**Kieran Griffin** – will we, the founding members of BSP, still be in the loop? Padraig – it will take a while for the process, at least 18 months till transferred to ET.

**Neasa Murphy** – will the name of the school change? Most likely yes.

**Lucy Quinn** – at present BSPA officially owns the building, this may be a possible complication in the process of transfer to ET.

**Niamh O'Brien** – thank you all of you who brought us here [the founding members] for all your hard work.

**Deirdre Crowe** – it is a positive step, certainly not negating the work done over the years by all the founding members.

Notes:

Official dissolution of BSPA to happen at another AGM.

In relation to Mary Bird – how about creating something in her memory in the school/garden? (reverend title?)

**End of meeting**