

**Primary expansion consultation – Rawdon St Peter's C of E Primary School  
School Council – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at 10:45 a.m.**

**Present:**

Darren Crawley-Children's Services, School Organisation (DC)

1 Teacher (T)

15 School Council members (SC)

Heather Clark (minutes)

These notes are not intended to provide a verbatim account of the meeting but do capture all the key issues raised.

DC explained why he wanted to speak the School Council. More children have been born and will need places at school. At the moment 45 children come in to Reception class, and we would like to increase this to 60. We want to know what you think about this.

The teacher suggested they spend some time chatting to each other to say what they thought.

**SC – Where will you put all the extra children?**

DC – Eventually there will be 420 children in the school so we will need to build more classrooms to fit all the children in.

**SC – Where will you build the classrooms?**

DC – We will have to look into where the best location is and also ensure we leave enough space for you all to play.

**SC – Will you build before the extra children come to Reception?**

DC – We hope to increase the school in September 2013, so two years from now. If we do that we would have to make sure that we build more classrooms for the extra children.

**SC – It will be a good thing because it will be easier for them to find a school**

**SC – Will the Year 6 buddies have to double up?**

T – They would get extra buddies

**SC – When the extra children get to Year 6 there may not be enough places at High School?**

DC – that is a really good point and because there are more children going to primary schools we have got to start looking at the High Schools to make sure they have enough places also.

**SC – What will happen to the mixed classes when Reception has 60 children?**

DC – Eventually every year group will have two classes and there won't be any mixed groups.

T – The older classes would become smaller

**SC – What about the Children in Orchard, what happens to them?**

DC – It is important to consider all children and we are working with the staff to make sure that children in Orchard are not disrupted or affected by the change.

**SC – Will you expand the halls as well? There is only just enough room for dinners now.**

DC – The team that are involved with building the extra rooms will look at all spaces around the school to make sure they are big enough.

**SC – What about playtime? There will be less space and more children.**

DC – We will make sure there is enough play space for 420 children, or maybe Mrs Sibson will decide to arrange playtimes at different times so it is as busy.

**SC – What about the Adventure Playground – it would be crushed if there are more children**

DC – The teachers would decide whether children play on the adventure playground at different times so there aren't too many children on at once.

**SC – School will need to spend a lot more on food. How will they do this?**

DC – Schools get money based on how many children they have, so if there are more children they will get more money.

**SC – My brother went to the nursery here but some of his friends didn't get in the school and have to go to other schools.**

DC – If we can create more places and space then hopefully all the children that want to come to the school will be able to.

**T – Think about traffic and parking**

**SC – People still park in the staff car park. More children means it will be more chaotic.**

DC – We know that it's really busy. Parents brought this up as well. We have to make sure we don't cause more problems with the traffic and we will be talking to the team in Leeds City Council that look at the extra traffic and the safety of children.

**SC – If there are more staff they will need more space in the car park.**

DC – Yes, we will need to make enough space for all the staff.

**SC – Will the new buildings go past the hedge? And would there be a car park for parents?**

DC – The building won't be beyond the hedge (near Peter Pan pre-school). We won't be able to build a car park for parents.

**SC – If people do park in the car park & then others park anywhere it will affect everyone and there will be nowhere to park.**

DC – Unfortunately not everyone walks to school so we will need to look at ways to ease the traffic and parking arrangements.

**SC – It is hard to cross the road as well and I don't know the speed limit.**

DC – That would be considered as well. An option could be to reduce the speed limit around school to help or add speed bumps.

**SC – When there are more children in and the new classrooms take up playground space there is more chance of being injured or bumps.**

DC – We would try and make sure that there is enough playground area for up to 420 children, but different year groups may end up having playtimes at different times to ensure nobody gets injured or bumped.

**SC – If we have more money could we buy extra toys for playtimes?**

DC – School could consider that, and buy new things or extra of existing toys.

**SC – We would need more books and pencils. Would the budget cover it?**

DC – The school would get extra money for the extra children and the extra classrooms that will have been created, so some of that money would be used to buy more books, pencils and other things for the classrooms.

**SC – Would we get a bigger ICT room?**

DC – We would look at all rooms, but I am quite sure there won't be a new ICT room. Some schools now have laptops on trolleys to use in any classroom and then use their ICT suite for something else.

**SC – What about swimming in Year 4?**

DC – That would need to be thought about as well. Perhaps one class go one day and the other go the next.

DC asked how many children thought it was a good idea, bad idea or weren't sure. Most had mixed feelings about it.

"It's a good idea, but it has drawbacks"

DC thanked everyone for their valuable comments. If they have any further thoughts they could fill in a response form for themselves, or with parents, or with the rest of their class who may also have ideas they would like to add.

**The meeting closed at 11:20am**