**MEETING OPENED:** 6.30pm

**ATTENDANCE:** Scott Northfield, Sandra Schuptar, Melissa Farrell, Christine Northfield, Bernie Ellis, Mike Curtis, Liza Raggatt, Susan Christensen, Tennille Graham, Kylie Jayasinghe, Jen McDonald.

**APOLOGIES:** Dani Pack, Hannah Tucker, Sondra Vandeleur.

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Proposed: Jen McDonald Seconded: Liza Raggatt

**BUSINESS ARISING:**
- **Fencing:** no advice yet re application for Community Benefit Funding Grant (max $35,000).
- **School camp:** Senior Years team decided not a good fit, prefer long day excursions instead. **Action:** Kerrie to follow up with Nick at Avegates and Senior Years.
- **Little Escapades Family discount voucher book fundraiser:** despite extensive advertising, only two books sold. **Conclusion:** not an attractive option for our school families, stick with Entertainment Book which has wider appeal within greater school and local community.

**CORRESPONDANCE IN:**
- Letters from MPs (Tarnya Smith, Christian Rowan and Ian Rickuss) providing updates on Parliamentary discussions on future of ECDP under NDIS.
- Letter from Jim Green conveying appreciation for Life Membership.
- ASG Teaching Awards now open, nominations close 31 July.
- P&CQld emails
- RACQ monthly magazine & Parent Talk.

**CORRESPONDANCE OUT:**
- New P&C Executive Details forwarded to P&CQld on 21 March.
- Certificates conferring Honorary P&C Life Membership received by Jackie & Jim.

**TREASURER’S REPORT (Scott Northfield):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening Balance as at 1 March 2016</td>
<td>$16,711.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus Receipts:</td>
<td>$177.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Payments:</td>
<td>$2,228.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Balance as at 31 March 2016</td>
<td>$14,667.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening Balance as at 1 April 2016</td>
<td>$14,667.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus Receipts:</td>
<td>$236.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Payments:</td>
<td>$1,317.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing Balance as at 30 April 2016</td>
<td>$13,584.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Moved: Liza Raggatt Seconded: Jen McDonald

**Financials:**
- Bank account update: internet feature now included and signatories updated.
- Uniforms: approximately $3700 of P&C funds are tied up in uniform stock. P&C agree to no longer stock track pants or shorts as these are readily available and more affordable at other retail outlets. **Action:** P&C to present ideas about uniform at next meeting in June.
• Crowd-funding: Scott urged P&C to consider crowd-funding option offered by Bendigo Bank, https://letsact.com.au/banking. 5% of funds raised are supposed to be returned to the bank, but this is negotiable. Usually a 90 day fundraising arrangement, need a good video for promotional purposes, and could raise up to $10,000 although suggest aiming for something around $5000 for our first attempt. Action: Discussions with Kerrie about potential projects to fundraise for via crowdfunding, and further discussion at next P&C meeting in June.

• Treasurer’s report on reaching out to Corporate Partners held over for discussion at our next meeting, due to lack of time.

Fundraising priorities:
• Technology wish list: Liza moved that the P&C fund items 1&2 on the list formulated and prioritized by our SLPs and OTs (5 Cablenet BIGmack Communicators at $210 each and 2 Hitch Switch Interfaces at $180 each) seconded by Scott, motion passed.

• Cubby house for ECDP playground: it was strongly urged that the P&C prioritise this fundraising activity in light of donations received last year from the Greater Springfield Rotary club for this same purpose (but nothing to show for it yet). HOSES has received a quote (approx $3900), but further discussion required with Principal and confirmation that the requisite standards are met. Action: HOSES to provide details of quote (approx $3900) and OHS/risk assessment to Kerrie to liaise with Principal and P&C.

• Upgrade of Sensory Room: visit to Claremont Special School to be arranged. Action: Kerrie and P&C Exec to organize.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
(Susan Christensen):
• Principal’s Report attached, together with results from 2015 School Opinion Survey.

• Budget summary and overview not received at meeting.

An in-depth overview was provided via PowerPoint of the school improvement agenda as detailed in the Annual Implementation Plan. The goal has been to develop a curriculum within the school that has continuity through the years, that is interesting and fun, and one that can be adapted so all students - regardless of developmental level - can participate.

The P&C welcomed this information about how the school was promoting learning opportunities for our children, and requested better communication with parents so we can reinforce learning strategies at home too.

It was noted that the improvement agenda appeared to be addressing one of the areas of potential concern to parents in the 2015 Opinion Survey, namely how English and Maths skills are being accessed at school.

This overview will also be presented at a Family Information Session to be
The Family Information Session next month will also provide an opportunity for Deputy Principal Mike Curtis to talk about ICPs and student reports (providing further clarity around another issue raised in the School Opinion Survey 2015, namely the assessment process). The Principal advised that the development of ICPs to meet the Department’s requirements is an ongoing learning process, but the school was happy to refine the process going forward, taking into account feedback from families as appropriate. **Action:** The P&C are invited by Mike and Susan (Principal) to work with Mike to develop complementary ways to improve the accessibility of ICPs and reports for parents to read and understand. Tennille to follow up with Mike in Term 3.

**GUEST: MASTER TEACHER (Bernie Ellis):**

The P&C welcomed Bernie Ellis, who gave a presentation on her role as Master Teacher at our school. This is a brand new role, first created in QLD last year to increase student outcomes in literacy and numeracy. Bernie is currently in her second year of a three year contract, and it was noted how fortunate MOSS has been in securing her for a second year at our school. This year Bernie divides her time between MOSS and Ipswich Special School (week about), and her focus is on developing the teachers’ capabilities (ie ‘teaching the teachers’) and ensuring they meet Australian teaching standards.

As part of her contract with DET, Bernie has to submit an annual research project. Hers deliberately aligns with the school’s current focus on introducing all students to a balanced literacy program under the Action Implementation Plan. Bernie brings with her $12,500 to fund her research project and she also uses this to provide concrete resources to assist student learning (e.g. Clevy Keyboards and Guards that were on the Therapists’ Wishlist (although not wireless), and PODDS for the whole school).

The Master Teacher spoke about “differentiation”: allowing students to have alternative ways of accessing learning and showing what they know, e.g. the Yes/No symbols. For Bernie, it is all about exciting children about learning opportunities, not forcing them to learn.

The P&C expressed its warm thanks to Bernie for her time and clear explanation of the role of the Master Teacher at our school. (Written Q&A with the Master Teacher provided prior to the meeting also attached.)

**ECDP REPORT (Sandra Schuptar):**

**Referrals:** Continuing to flow.

**Parent Information Session:** Held each year for families accessing Prep the following year; next Wednesday 11 May from 6.30-8pm, with two parents kindly sharing their stories of finding the right school for their child.

**Garden:** well-established following generosity of families through the raffle.
MOUNT OMMANEY SPECIAL SCHOOL
PARENTS AND CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATION

| NDIS and EQ: | On behalf of the ECDP, Sandra thanked everyone for their involvement in signing petitions and sending stories to different media avenues. Special thanks to the families who created the Save the ECDP Facebook page. DET has now confirmed that ECDPs will continue to operate until 2020, a great achievement. ECIA is also hosting a free public forum (7-9pm on 2 June at the Brisbane Convention Centre) to hear from key stakeholders in regards to NDIS and ECDPs. Q&A to follow. |
| Mother’s Day Celebrations: | special Spa Day held for playgroup mothers on 4 May, clearly relished by all involved. |
| Under 8s week: | Activities on Tuesday 24 May and Friday 27 May, families invited to join in the fun. |

| PARENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT (Kerrie Reid): | EPO’s Report attached. Unfortunately there was no time for general discussion on the issues raised. P&C agreed to use the Grants Funding for Disability Awareness Week (if successful) for the proposed Dinner in Term 3. **Action:** Progress report at next P&C meeting from Liza and Kerrie. |

| GENERAL BUSINESS: | • P&Cs Qld State Conference 9-10 September 2016, Gladstone: apply for part-funded representation and/or Early Bird registration by 1 July. Tennille and Kerrie to attend. **Action:** discussion at next meeting re funding. |
| | • P&C wish to acknowledge the support given by the cleaners to our school and students – above and beyond. Further discussion at next P&C meeting. |

| NEXT MEETING: | The next P&C meeting will be at 6.30pm on Wednesday 8 June. |
| MEETING CLOSED: | 8.46pm |

Signed by the President of the meeting verifying the accuracy of the Minutes as accepted by the Association:

Date: ________________________