

FRIENDS MEETING

Present: Mark Williams Chairman, Kate Greig Vice chair, Ruth West Secretary, Lucy Giles Treasurer, Chantelle Hazlewood Treasurer, Jane Paterson Head Teacher, Liz Adkins, Annabel Horseman, Emma Clifton, Gemma Wakefield, Samantha Collin, Richard Collin, Andrea Williams, Magalie Hill, Cathy Spinage, Kenny Naidu-Johnson, Ruth West, Jonathan Turner, Laura Pickering, Hannah Walters, Melanie Parker

INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL UPDATES

- The Chair opened the meeting with a brief introduction
- The Chair announced he is moving to Manchester leaving at the end of this academic year.
- The process of replacing the chair will be worked out by the committee and communicated in due course
- Parish Hall Meeting: update on Friends activities provided to the parish council, including what we've been able to achieve using the funding from Councillor Ian Corkin's Councillor's Priority Fund.
- Work on the Field Project is scheduled to begin in mid-June
- Video summary of events and activities undertaken in the last 12 months
- The Chair confirmed as this is the first GM as a charity committee role elections are not required. First elections will be at the first AGM in 2020 and yearly thereafter

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

The Chair shared a video presentation of the year in words pictures and numbers to the meeting which was well received

The Head requested a copy so this could be shared to a wider audience including next terms reception parents

The Chair highlighted that an incredible amount of money had been raised but more importantly than that it had been done through a massive increase in participation of both helpers and participants /attendance at events not to mention the voting for grants. He congratulated all involved and acknowledged the unstinting support, vision and collaborative approach of Jane Paterson.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The chair highlighted that £24,000 had been raised since the EGM in March. That there was now £15,500 in the bank account as at the meeting date. This was an incredible achievement by the members as it represented more than had been delivered in previous 4 or 5 years. The fundraising was split fairly evenly between 3 categories shown below. Details were shared on the slide presentation and can be found on the presentation slides on School life.....

1. This was through revamping and re energising our core fundraising events

- The Easter Egg hunt
 - Summer Barbeque
 - Christmas Festival
 - And other smaller events
2. Charity status enabling Grants generation
 - Aviva voting for equipment
 - Grants for community via Councillor Corkin priority fund
 - SPARK grant for community equipment
 - OCF grant for books
 - Tesco Bags for life voting
 3. Fund raising events enabled through Charity status reach (Just giving pages)
 - Adults challenged children to an active challenge - parents achieved 10 million steps the children 32 million!
 - Parents did a 100km and 50 km walk
 - A parent ran the Chicago marathon
 - Launton school recipe book (Thank you for Parish council contributions!)

Donations to the school

The chair highlighted that all commitments to the school at the EGM last year had been achieved in a faster time than expected. These were....

- Year one payments of Philosophy for children
- Purchase of the Fence section at the back of the Field. The school funded the fencing around the rest of the field – a great piece of collaboration
- £15,000 is left in the bank account to pay for the trimtrail which will commence installing in June this year. The School will fund any costs above the £15,000 level
- In addition above this commitment new playground markings were also purchased and topic books amongst other things.

Details can be found in the presentation on school life.

- Accounts to August 2018 have been prepared and made available for viewing on the School life website as will the minutes and slides from this meeting
- We are fully compliant with our financial reporting obligations as per Charity Commission requirements
- Accounts to 31st August 2018 are filed on the school life website on the Friends page. First accounts to be given to the Charity Commission are 31st August 2019

UPDATES FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Philosophy for Children

- The first part of the training has been successfully delivered
- Friends has committed to providing funding for the 3 year programme
- This is a mentor led structured thinking and talking programme that seeks to personalise learning for our children
- The aim is to develop independent learners who will know what to do when they don't know what to do.
- Helps the children to learn how to approach things critically, collaboratively, caringly and creatively

- We are collaborating with the former headteacher's new schools so as to share the costs of the programme
- All the teachers and the majority of teaching assistants have received training to ensure that everyone employs these principles in every interaction.
- We are working towards a P4C award (there is rigorous criteria to meet to achieve bronze, silver and gold standard)
- Next P4C workshop scheduled for **3rd June 2019**

Next Priorities

- Encouraging activity: football goals (multiple sets)
- Topic books
- PA system
- Outdoor learning
 - o Proposal to construct an outdoor classroom
 - o Research shows that spending 30mins outdoors lowers cortisol levels and would be beneficial for learning
 - o Outdoor learning is a part of the national education agenda
 - o Should parents be interested in pursuing this, then the school will be happy to conduct a feasibility study in consultation with the Department of Education and Local Education Authority
 - o Estimated cost of the outdoor classroom is between £8,000 and £10,000
 - o The outdoor classroom must conform to British Safety Standards and comply with safeguarding requirements
 - o Possibility of being able to access additional grants to fund this project

AOB

- Decision to be made re: keeping out JustGiving page dependant upon members desire to raise funds through these pages. This call will be made at the Fundraising meeting
- Next fundraising meeting to be held on the 14th May 2019

NEXT MEETING

- AGM to be held in 12 months date will be advised through School communication
- Elections for committee roles at AGM