



Parents At Wheatfields

Wheatfields Primary School Association Meeting

16 November 2020 - 7.00pm

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Theresa Thornton, Clare Probert, Afshan Khan-Blacker, Paula Melville, Naomh Campbell, Rachel Pope, Kirsten McLaughlin, Jade Hockie, Alex Jaggs

Apologies: Leigh Gray-Thomas

Minutes of last meeting:

Action items: None

Person to action

Deadline

Approved

The minutes of the committee meeting on 22nd September 2020 and the AGM on 20 October 2020 were circulated and approved

RESOLVED: to approve both sets of Minutes and for the Chairman to sign these as a true and correct record of that Meeting

Clare apologised for the slow movement on some actions. It has been difficult to speak with other members of staff due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

Welcome

Paula Melville welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

AGM Feedback

The committee discussed the poor attendance at the AGM. Rachel suggested that may be a lack of understanding about what PAWS does. Now that there is a clear goal (funding the outdoor classroom) it is a good opportunity to raise the profile of PAWS.

Clare recommended holding a meeting at the Haywain in Spring to introduce / refamiliarise people with PAWS.

Noamh suggested making a short video to show parents what PAWS does and the impact of the fundraising. The committee agreed that this is a good idea.

Afshan noted that parents may not be aware that attending the AGM is separate from being on the committee. Mrs Thornton parents are very generous with money, but harder to get people to donate time.

The committee discussed the advertising for the AGM. Paula advised that details were posted on the Facebook page, but only 30 people viewed this. Posters have also been used to advertise past events, but few people see them

Clare suggested sending letters home and tasking children to get their parents to read it. Children could earn housepoints when parents email to confirm they have read the letter. The committee agreed this was a good idea.

The committee discussed other ideas for encouraging attendance at the AGMs. These included having children performing as part of the agenda or moving the meeting to July and incorporating a garden party.		
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Progress from the last meeting		
<p>Christmas cards have been produced and the class calendars are available to buy. Paula has had an email from Paolo advising that the sales are not as high as usual. She noted that a lot of sales are usually to grandparents who buy items when they attend class events – these will not be taking place this year.</p> <p>Rachel has shared details of the calendars with EYFS parents and encouraged them to buy.</p> <p>—</p> <p>The stock in the PAWS cupboard is currently inaccessible and has been written off.</p> <p>—</p> <p>The Halloween train event was very successful. 40 families took part and raised £68. A gift voucher for the best decorated house was provided by B's.</p> <p>—</p> <p>The sponsored event has taken place. £408 has been raised so far, with more sponsorship money expected to come in.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Christmas craft bags are on sale. Fifteen people have ordered so costs have been covered and Paula expects a profit to be made. The committee discussed how to advertise the bags and increase the sales.</p> <p>Mrs Thornton queried whether teachers could have a sample bag to show children.</p> <p>The committee agreed that it is important to emphasise to parents that the bags are good value as parents have recently been asked to donate for the sponsored activity and Children In Need, so may be reluctant to spend more money.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Rachel advised that Thorndown are raising funds by offering letters from Santa. These are £2 each and there has been good uptake. It may be something to consider offering. Rachel and Clare will look into this.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Purchase of the kiddie wash station, EYFS shed and Kindles are all in progress.</p> <p>The committee discussed the importance of spending the funds that are raised. Kirsten noted that the £100 grant awarded by the Co-Op must be spent within the calendar year.</p>	<p>TT to show craft bag to children in assembly</p> <p>PM to prepare sample craft bag</p>	<p>23 November 2020</p> <p>23 November 2020</p>

New Items		
	ACTION	DEADLINE
Mrs Thornton has researched the cost of picnic tables. She would like to order 6 x key stage 1 / 6 x key stage 2 tables. Three storytelling chairs were also requested. The estimated cost is approximately £6000 from MBB Recycle company. The request was approved and these items will be ordered by the school.	TT or order tables	18 January 2021
Kirsten advised that there is a grant available for five fruit trees or five metres of hedgerow. The committee discussed the practicalities of getting fruits trees, it was suggested that children attending Kids' Club could pick the fruit during the summer holidays	KM to follow up with Leigh	18 January 2021
The recently awarded grant of £100 will be used to purchase an outdoor clock. Afshan noted that there is a need for more mathematical resources outside.	Clock to be purchased	18 January 2021
Naomh suggested signposting/sharing when things have been paid for by PAWs to encourage parents to contribute.		
The application for the Mick George grant will not be taken forward. The school cannot commit to meeting the requirements for community access.		
A grants database is available through ParentKind for a £50 annual fee. It was agreed to take out a subscription and trial this service for a year. It was noted that there is substantial amount of work involved in applying for grants, but that some of this will be transferable between applications.	KM to subscribe to ParentKind Grant Database	18 January 2021
Paula noted the committee will still have an awareness of the funding bodies once the access has expired, so there is value there.		
Afshan advised that there is a lot of funding currently available to support mental health. The school could apply for these grants to develop calm/garden areas for children, staff, and the wider community.		
The committee will review the purchase of climbing equipment next term.		
The committee considered a request from a parent to host an online shopping event, with a portion of the profit being donated to PAWs. It was agreed to decline with thanks.		

Any other business		
The committee have had no success with requests for raffle prizes this year. any local businesses have temporarily closed or are struggling. The committee discussed how to thank local businesses who make a contribution.		
Mrs Thornton is keen to make Christmas special for the children following a difficult year. Afshan suggested a visit from Father Christmas via Zoom!		

Date of next meetings
Committee Meeting - 18 January 2020, via Zoom

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8:30pm

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CHAIR

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DATE