

**FRIENDS OF ASHLEY SCHOOL
MINUTES OF MEETING
Thursday 15 January 2015**

Present: R Dunne K Barlow J Hart L Lavery L Cowden G Warren
D Day T Stone B Stone A Maddocks H Freeland

Apologies: S Todd R Peake M McCarthy H Hathaway P Cahill J Parnell
S Fagg K Neale C Maloney C Owen M Wren L Blake
H Barker S Kent N Moore

A welcome warm from the Chair, Karen Barlow, was extended to everyone, especially the new parents. Karen explained the FOA is not made up of a formal committee but all the parents of the school. The only formal part of the committee is the positions of the Chair, Secretary and Treasurers who are elected annually.

1.0 UPDATE ON COMMITTEE POSITIONS: Karen gave an update on the Secretary and Treasurers positions. Nancy Moore stood down as secretary at the end of 2014; thank you for your contribution. Lara Lavery was welcomed as the new Secretary for the next 2 years. Tracey Stone has taken over the one Treasurer position from Louise Settle. Thank you Louise for your contribution over the years and welcome Tracey. Jo Hart will continue as the second Treasurer until the summer.

ACTIONS: Mandates to be changed & website to be updated

2.0 REVIEW ON FUNDRAISERS LAST HALF TERM:

2.1 The Christmas Bazaar was a great success, the Class Reps did a brilliant job and the atmosphere was festive happy and fun. Thank you to all involved in contributing to such a successful day. Karen took the FOA through the issue relating to the complaint received regarding the size of the Martin Flashman banner advertising the event. It was suggested that perhaps parents could have Boards up at their homes; however the issue in the past has been the length of time the signs are displayed. A suggestion was perhaps to have the Boards up and a big banner with just the date, no logo on the Banner. Karen will liaise with Martin Flashman. The Treat Tombola stall are writing Thank you letters, if there are any other year groups who wish to join in please get in touch. Year 1 won the £50 for the highest bid. Jo Hart advised that £6283.46 was raised. Well done everyone especially the Class Reps.

2.2 The Children's Disco all went to plan and raised £800. It was advised that it was easier not doing cakes, however the kids love the food provided. The infants had a quick face paint which was well received. Flyers and tickets in the book bags are very time consuming. After a discussion it was agreed that issuing tickets would be scrapped and that a tick list of names that had paid would be the entrance criteria.

3.0 UPCOMING FOA EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS THIS TERM:

3.1 Family Bingo – 7 March

Lara Lavery reported that planning was underway. It was suggested to keep the event to 2 hours and ensure that it ends in good time for younger children. Food will be served.

L Lavery and H Hathaway

3.2 May Ball – 9 May

Amy Maddocks reported that planning was going according to plan and that notices would go out towards the end of February. The tickets would be £50 per person and tables would be 8 or 10.

S Todd and A Maddocks

3.3 Leavers Disco – 21 July

Georgie Warren discussed possible dates for the Red Nose Disco. The original date of 13 March will clash with karate. Georgie to speak to the office and find a suitable date. Post meeting: Red Nose Disco cancelled for this year and a Leavers disco booked in for Tuesday 21 July.

3.4 Cookbook

Sam Fagg has been uploading recipes & has a few more to do. Wording for the cookbook to be provided by Mr Dunne. It will take 3-4 weeks to print with the aim to get them out by end of February. They could be sold at the March Green stall if there are any left.

S Fagg

3.5 Phil the bag

It was advised that £193.60 was raised from the last Phil the Bag in November. Sylvie to follow up on the last 2 payments. Another event could be organised for April/May. Could someone please step forward to co-ordinate this simple fund raiser? Please do get in touch with Sylvie or Karen
Post meeting: The funds have been paid into the school account and Aileen in the office will arrange a transfer to the FOA.

4.0 FORWARD PLANNING:

4.1 Supperclub: Claire Owen raised this as a possible event. After a discussion it was thought that perhaps this would be a good idea for the Autumn term.

C Owen

4.2 Summer Fete: The summer fete is one of the main fund raising events of the year, we need someone to co-ordinate this great event. Please consider taking it on. Last year Sophie McCarthy led with a Carnival Theme. If a co-ordinator does not step forward, the suggested solution will be to hand responsibility to the classes.

Thoughts on the Theme: Suggestions of a Flower theme, colourful, bright. Mr Dunne advised that there will be some lovely work done around Harmony; the children's work could be displayed in the hall for all to enjoy.

Programme: Karen to follow up with volunteers to see if they can start on this.

To be confirmed

4.3 ASHSTOCK: 18 to 19 JULY

4.4 HAPPY CIRCUS: It was noted that tickets did not sell very well last year and that perhaps the Circus should only be every 3-4 years. This was agreed & accepted.

5.0 TREASURER'S REPORT: Jo Hart reported the financials as at January 2015. She advised that there was a short fall of £2,095, however all the funding was not needed immediately. Mr Dunne advised that the FOA contribution to the Harmony Centre would only be required after the Summer Fete.

	£
Adjusted Cash book balance as at 31/8/14	<u>13,357</u>

Funds Raised 1st Sep 2014 - 15th Jan 2015

Christmas Bazaar	6,254
Christmas Disco	822
Shopping Evening	548
Christmas Cards	512
Second Hand Uniform/Fleeces	439
Christmas Production DVD Sales	200
	8,775

Expenditure 1st Sep 2014 - 15th Jan 2015

Autumn Term Class contribution	3,500
--------------------------------	-------

PTA Membership & Insurance	96	
PTA General expenses	81	
		<u>3,677</u>
		<u>18,455</u>
Committed Expenditure		
Harmony Learning Centre	15,000	
Spring Term Class contribution	3,500	
Life Bus	800	
Year 6 leavers party dictionaries (2015)	1,000	
Year 2 ties	250	
		<u>20,550</u>
Available Funds		-2,095

6.0 SPENDING REQUEST: Mr Dunne requested extra funding for the children to do themed work including extra workshop activities based around the Summer / Harmony theme of £3,000. This themed work could be used for the display at the Summer Fete.

6.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

6.1 Waitrose Community Matters Scheme in Walton on Thames will be featuring Ashley School as one of the choices. Please do go in and place your green tokens in the Ashley School container. Mr Dunne agreed to add this to the newsletter.

6.2 Lyndsey Blake very kindly agreed to sort out the **lost property box** and there was a suggestion to move it to a more accessible place under cover. Thank you Lyndsey.

6.3 Lyndsey & Rachel agreed to sort out the **FOA shed** as it needs a clear out. Thank you Lyndsey and Rachel. If anyone else is available to help please get in touch with Lyndsey.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 16 March 2015

A LL