

FRIENDS OF RETTENDON SCHOOL
Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 19th July 2017, 7.45pm
Venue: Shaw Farm, South Woodham Ferrers

Present

Karen Ballantyne
Karen Seymour
Amanda Barlow
Michelle Ride
Gemma Gouldsmith
Suzanne Ward
Tracy Cunningham
Sharon Marsh
Gemma Kemp
Kim Montgomery
Catherine Salisbury
Ali Gardner
Shannon Abbott

Apologies

Anna Armiger
Lian Simmonds
Bekki Swift
Caroline Shaftain
Emma Brown
Cassie Jones
Gurenda Newing
Debbie Little
Magz Hull
Kat Jay

Updates on Recent Events

Village Summer Show, Saturday 8th July

We raised £1414.69 at the show. A great amount for the school, though less than last year's event due to fewer pitch fees/external vendors, fewer FRS stalls and no stall sponsorship – due to lack of manpower.

Overall the team agree that the event was well organised and there was a great atmosphere.

Members commented on how nice it was for Mrs Barber to have been so visibly involved.

Feedback from the vendors was very positive and all of them want to return to support us next year.

There is still a little fine-tuning to do regarding compatibility of stalls and beverage options alongside the RHS and Cricket Club but there were no major issues.

Possible improvements for 2018:

- * More bins (clearly visibly)
- * More people on hand before/after the event to set up and pack away
- * Give those manning FRS stalls clear instructions
- * Hair-braiding and Face-painting to be done by FRS – other FRS stalls either side of these stalls to reduce queues
- * Possible Slush stall (Recommended: Slush Brothers)
- * Possible pony rides (Recommended: Scooty Wooty)
- * Investigate the possibility of starting the event at 12 noon (to encourage lunchtime trade)

Coffee Afternoon, Friday 14th July

We received enough donations of cake for the number of attendees, with enough left over for a cake sale after school. We raised £91.65.

FRS hosted KS2 Summer Party, Friday 14th July

Approx 50 children from KS2 attended the party, 5-7pm.

Ken Monerville (Parent) was DJ for the disco and provided great music and disco lights. He organised a couple of games and party dances, during which Mrs Marsh and Mrs Barber joined in. The children were dancing and singing along to the music - they all seemed to enjoy the party.

Cost of the event: £100 for the DJ plus £16.10 for the cookies (and alternative option for dairy free diets).

Future considerations: No mobile phones allowed. Adjust staging for safety purposes. Sell glow sticks/sweets/popcorn.

Sports Day, Monday 17th July

We offered refreshments during the morning and afternoon sessions. We sold tea and coffee for £1 each, squash or water for 50p each, alongside pre-loved items of uniform for 50p each. Money raised, along with some spare change from parents/carers was £94.10.

In addition, we asked Abuelo's Ice-cream Van to visit us 3-4pm. He gave us £20 from his profit too.

FRS Response to governor update/rewards focus

Amanda raised the question – do we want to respond collectively concerning the changes made to the rewards system?

Mrs Marsh explained the history behind Golden Time, her observations of the changes in the children's expectations and behaviour, as well as the challenges of resourcing GT activities.

On receiving this explanation, we saw no reason to send a collective response to the school/governors. However, we intend to suggest that, as well as the educational trips, a 'fun' trip should be organised for the end of the Spring/Summer term.

Suggestions for forthcoming fundraising events 2017/2018

Many suggestions were made for future fundraising events. We narrowed them down to the following list:

September – October

Inflatable Afternoon (straight after school, the second week of September, date TBC with Mrs B)

McMillan Coffee Afternoon (29th September, invitations to clearly state 'open to all', advertised in RetBat Newsletter)

October – December

Christmas Party (held in an external hall on a Saturday afternoon, with Grotto, disco, photo booth)

Christmas Jumper Day with Movie Event (sell tickets for Christmas movie/s, popcorn)

Christmas Bazaar (At school during the day, involving students and encouraging their entrepreneurial skills, FRS stalls with presold tickets e.g. £5 per child for them to participate in a craft)

January – February

Bingo (In the school hall)

February - March

Mother's Day Shop (in the school hall)

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea (in the school hall)

April – May

Magic Evening (External venue for increased capacity, BYOB)

Camp Out (BBQ, Music, Afternoon ticket option plus Overnight tickets for campers, BYOB)

June – July

Father's Day Shop (in the school hall)

Village Summer Show (Combined event with RHS and Cricket Club, Saturday 14th July)

We also discussed and agreed to sell the Essex Pass. We can purchase them for £6 each and sell them on for £8 each. There is a minimum order of 50 passes however the validity is one year from the date we issue them to buyers. We have the option of returning those we don't sell but could also keep them for an unlimited amount of time and sell them as and when. The RRP is £9.99 so it is a good deal all round. Amanda offered to make the purchase and suggested that she, and other sell them from our homes. Gemma Kemp offered for us to use her business address in Shotgate for people to purchase them from their reception.

Amanda has also registered FRS with Raloo who seek to match up sponsors/funding with charity projects.

Recruitment of new FRS Members

We agreed to send out an FRS Newsletter at the beginning of term to advise of previous fund raising efforts and benefits, the schedule of events for 2017/18, with a response slip to ascertain availability of parents for help with events and other support.

AOB

Mrs Barber has been advised that FRS will not be organising a Fireworks event this year. Steve Barbrook returned the receipt book to us via the school office.

Date of next Meeting/s

Tuesday 12th September at 7.45pm at Shaw Farm, SWF

AGM proposed date Wednesday 4th October. Availability of school hall TBC