

Friends of Newfold

Annual Report

Year ended 31 August
2018

Registered charity number
1166396



Trustees Report

Structure

Friends of Newfold became a registered charity during the previous financial year. The Committee and its members are governed by the PTA UK constitution and Charity Law. The role of Friends of Newfold is to advance the education of the pupils of Newfold School in particular by:

- a) Developing effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school;
- b) Engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the school and advance the education of the pupils.

During the year to 31 August 2018, the following committee members acted as trustees of the charity:

Chairperson Andrea Johnson (resigned September 2018)

Treasurer Rachael Owen

The committee were also supported during the year by Mr Edge, school teachers, an active group of members and other connected parents/carers, without whom we would not have achieved such fantastic results. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who gave so much of their time to 'enrich the lives of all.'

Review of the year

Christmas

Our Christmas fair was a great success. The 'Christmas Markets' theme was continued and we made changes to the grotto experience which were well received.

As stock is often held, shared with and donated to school events expenses in the accounts may include purchases not specifically used for the fair. A review of profit is best achieved by reviewing our detailed management information. This shows a profit for the 2017 Christmas fair of £2,720 (2016: 2,693). Our top performing stalls were refreshments, cakes and raffles. A new take on Teddy Tombola - 'Adopt an animal' also proved successful.

The Family Fun Day

The Family Fun Day was, without doubt, a quality day out for all of the community. We provided entertainment from Crawford & Brown and our Newfold 'Bake-Off' was popular again. We opted for an obstacle course instead of Human Table Football. This extremely busy activity was profitable without such a large outlay which contributed an additional £600 to profit compared with 2017.

Using our management information, we are happy to declare a profit on the day of £3,470 (2017: £2,912). It was pleasing to exceed the £3,000 marker for the first time. As usual, we would like to thank our wonderful bakers for their help with our eye-catching cake stall. Special thanks from the Committee is also given to 'The Running Horses' and their customers who raised enough money to donate the barrells for sale in the 'Newfold Arms' this year.

In 2019 we need to reconsider our options with respect to the provision of inflatables. Last minute changes were made by our supplier which we would like to avoid in future. In addition, given recent tragedies involving bouncy castles we need to be sure to review our risk assessments ensuring that we account for the weather and condition of the apparatus.

Bake sale

This year we generated £405 (2016: £562) profit solely by holding bake sales at key points during the year. Again, volunteer support was outstanding. The idea was popular and profitable, ultimately helping us to achieve our charitable objectives. In the 2018/19 academic year Halloween falls during our two week holiday so we may need to make changes to key dates selected.

To ensure that we are able to continue this income stream we need to focus the recruitment of new members during the new year. This is particularly important as some current member's children reach the end of their time at Newfold.

Donations to Newfold School

During the current year, we received a £50 donation towards raffle prizes which was gratefully received alongside many non-monetary donations from our local business community.

The donations figure in the prior year accounts also included £405 raised by a parent and Committee member who ran the challenging 'Tough Mudder' course. Going forward, the Committee should publicise FON's charitable status to encourage donations of this nature in the future. Furthermore, we could research and highlight corporate charitable schemes that our parents may have access to going forward.

Easyfundraising

In 2016 FON registered with easyfundraising – a popular fundraising scheme which allows online shoppers to raise money for our cause when they are purchasing anything from school uniforms to holidays.

At the time of writing we have 46 (2017: 40) supporters and a donations total over £1,125. During the year we have recognised £416 (2017:£553) income. We agreed in the prior year AGM that we would not recognise donations until we receive them into the bank from easyfundraising due to the fact that they are not certain until that point as a result of returns/refunds and administration. Easyfundraising create a statement every three months and pay the donation total into the cause bank account if the confirmed total is over £15.

There are a number of schemes competing with Easyfundraising which we may review during the year if staffing allows. In addition, we have noticed that some large suppliers e.g. Virgin Trains have removed their donations which has affected our income. Despite this, the trustees are convinced that with extra membership and publicity, we could promote this scheme further and ensure this income stream continues. It would be ideal if one member of the Committee could manage promotions, memberships and social media in respect of easyfundraising regular offers.

Given that there has been some difficulty identifying trust funding opportunities in the current climate, it is essential that we promote this site at all of our events and using social media. We should encourage teachers, parents and grandparents to register and also provide updates and tips for using the service. Parents making purchases on behalf of a business can also raise funds in this manner.

Trust funding

During the year, we arranged to acquire access to PTA UK's database of trust funds to assess whether there would be an appetite for investment in projects that would benefit the children of Newfold School. We reviewed the database in detail and the criteria for some of the funding was very restrictive to certain areas of the country, religions and socio-economic groups. There have been two applications but we do not anticipate significant success in this area.

Given the combination of current cuts and the above, it is possible that we need to re-review our earlier decision not to register for gift aid. Again, this will be determined by how many volunteers we can recruit.

Donations to school

During the year, FON donated £11,713 (2017:£1,191) to Newfold School. This paid for the extremely well-received nurture area for focussed groupwork, additional gymnasium equipment, new digital display screens for classrooms and new books. Going forward, we are expecting to donate funds for:

(i)	KS1 Social play village replacement	£2,500
(ii)	KS1 and KS2 reading books	£1,000
(iii)	Newfold reading bags 2019 reception	£ 500

Overall

In conclusion, the trustees are extremely pleased with the results for the year. Prior to donations made to school, our fundraising increased reserves by £6,745 (2017: £6,465). We are a PTA that is connected to a fantastic school that staffs and accounts for some fundraising/community events 'in-house' e.g. Easter bingo, Newfold's Got Talent so to maintain this level of surplus is a credit to our volunteers, teachers and parents/carers

Financial Statements

Our Treasurer has prepared our financial statements for the current year. These show a decrease in funds of £4,968 (due to large donation to school) and total funds carried forward of £10,898. Cash at bank and in hand totals £10,747.

The accounts have been independently reviewed by a qualified accountant and he has provided a letter stating this fact. This is in line with best practise recommended by PTA UK, the Charity Commission and the Insurance provider.

Once the AGM is complete the Treasurer will organise any approved change in bank signatories and register any Trustee changes with the Charity Commission. We are also required to submit a return to the Charity Commission as this is our first full financial period registered as a charity with income in excess of £10,000. This will be submitted following the AGM and has already been submitted in respect of the 2017 financial statements.

Conclusion

We look forward to working with parents, carers and teachers to build on our success of the current year. We hope that our parents feel that they obtain value from their many

contributions in terms of the community experience provided by events and the ultimate donations of surplus funds to support the exciting projects planned by Newfold School.