



Minutes of Committee Meeting

Wednesday 13 March 2019

1. Introductions, welcome and apologies

Attendees: Lucy Hamer, Bridget Jackson, Eleanor Mitchiner, David Plumeridge, Shalene Varcoe, Siobhan Malone, Jacqui Moseley, Susan Falola, Mandy Dale, Karen Morris, Penny Verry, Hilary Davies, Eleanor Hayes, Jainaba Cham

Apologies: Karin Ions, Emma Jones, Viviane Wild, Bruno Wollheim, Eleanor Hayes,

2. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes were approved. Action points were discussed. Outstanding actions points were:

- Aileen to contact school with any suggestions on access to trainee counsellors.
- Lucy to follow up with Susan re school photography
- Eleanor to recirculate list of companies that offer match funding

Updates on action points completed

- Won bid of £500 for Zoolab visit. Shalene is organising a visit from Zoolab of minibeasts and pop up planetarium to be in school for Year 8s.
- Poling has approached various local papers to run our Justgiving plastic-free campaign. It already appeared in the Dulwich Diverter online
- Lucy/Emma met with the Heads of Department to discuss what we can help fundraise for and to discuss priorities. They agreed to circulate the grant list amongst subject leaders to see what areas we could help fund and identify any priorities for fundraising. Friends can then more easily spot relevant grants and also help departments to fill in grant requests
- Shalene purchased chairs/beanbags for the new counselling room. Unfortunately the chairs were not fit for purpose so need to be returned and reordered
- PE department are looking at a bigger bid to resurface the basketball courts and so the Friends hoops will be purchased to fit with the resurfacing plans. Shalene to confirm final costs and purchase of the hoops when more is known about the resurfacing.

- David confirmed that MacBeth production has been booked for Y10 which will not only be educationally enriching but also good for revision. Unsure of costs but under the £1000 approved by the Friends. David to confirm any funds remaining.

3. Parents ideas

- Penny Verry/Hilary Davies

Would love to see how Friends can help to boost the support of happy, whole family charter event, getting 6th formers involved and spread across all key stages so everyone benefits. They thought about building on the concert and the musical which involve lots of people. Ideas for other creative or charitable projects could include

- 6th form clubs, useful platforms for whole school activities to be launched from.
- Key stage 3 drama directed by 6th formers.
- Clubs/freshers week – where 6th formers could sign up for things – Friends could offer a small budget? Teacher to be backstop but led by students.
- Bringing out of work actors/writers to run workshops, etc. Regular drama competitions on a smaller scale. Dulwich college have house drama competition every year – in each key stage, top year of each key stage direct those below with backing of teaching staff.

Lucy noted that the Head of 6th form has already reached out to Friends to see if she can talk to us about funding 6th form clubs/activities so these ideas are timely.

David/Shalene suggested Year 12 rather than Year 13 who are focused on exams. He noted that the 6th form senior team are keen to explore more extra curricular activities. Any ideas should aim to be light on school staff to avoid overburdening them and also need to be agreed with 6th form team. David heard a proposal to get a 6th form debate club going which is student led.

Action: Lucy to follow up with Mrs Linderoth and involve Penny/Hilary and bring back to the committee if there is anything we need to fund

- Jainaba Cham – runs an events company – bouncy castle, slush puppy machines – sell and give percentage of profits to Friends. Group agreed to think about when/if we would have events where we could use her services
- Susan Falola – suggested organising a ‘talent’ show similar to xmas concert. Acts who sing, comedy, etc. Suggested selling tickets to students and parents to pay and watch. Shalene mentioned that the school used to do a battle of the bands but this has not happened for a few years as it takes a lot of commitment and planning with school. Questions to consider are: where where will they rehearse, who will organise it, and what would be the expectation of school including facilities from a safety perspective. Eleanor suggested exploring use of JAGS auditorium?

It was agreed to explore this as an Autumn event – an ‘open mike’ rather than a competition focused on key stage 3 performers (years 7-9)

- **Action:** Shalene to think about timing and check with music team if they are able to use the JAGS facilities
- **Action:** Susan to take the idea forward with interested parents and support from Friends – looking at possibly an Autumn event.

4. Finance and fundraising update

- Finance update to be provided at May meeting. Eleanor is currently maintaining a manual log of accounts and still needs another parent with accountancy expertise to help her move to a new simpler spreadsheet system.
Action: Send out email asking if there are any accountants to help Eleanor for a limited period of time. Eleanor M to check with Sarah Turner
- Fundraising - there has been quite a lot of activity from group (see attached update). Cleaner greener safer bid to Southwark Council has been successful with two wards (Champion Hill and Dulwich) granting over £15k altogether. A further bid is being submitted to the National Lottery for the remainder of the costs and possibly some other small bids for some of the soft landscaping/plants. The aim is to work with the school to get the work done over the summer holidays.
- Thames Water bid – Glyn has approved bid to be submitted to ask Thames Water to support our Just giving campaign to get pipes replaced and get new water stations. Emma is submitting the bid this week.
- Striding Man – Bridget has done more research on the striding man sculpture to look to relocate and fix this Grade II listed sculpture. Southwark council have recommended a company to come and assess for free to help us move forward. The school has put together a listed building approval application. The aim is to move it to the front of the school and restore it - funding permitting.
- Mrs Linderoth is interested at looking into funding some of the 6th form activities. There is also interest from the school in refurbishing the food tech room next year and identifying funding for resurfacing the back ball court.
- We have been 100% successful with all our bids so far. Huge thanks to Emma Jones for all her hard work driving this

5. Requests from school

- PE dept would like more money – Bognor Regis/Butlins football trip coming up in April. Have 8 disadvantaged students who they would like to go on it. Pupil premium gives 30% discount but would like Friends to pay the rest £160 per person. Donation of £500 asked for. Approved. If they need more the Friends apparently used to have a hardship fund so individual parents can write asking for funds
Action: Committee to decide if they should set up a hardship fund as this has not been done for a while

- Amy Adewale wants funds for updating her space that she uses for Speech and Language therapy for bean bags and cushions. Donation of £500 asked for. Approved
- Shalene runs a small yoga group for staff to help staff well being. Wants to expand to get more people to come along – yoga mats are 15 years old. Donation of £100. Share with 6th form yoga classes. Approved
- Update from Glynn – business costs for the Wolfson Foundation model science classroom project have increased due to electrical and climate control so he needs the full £7.5k earmarked by the Friends for this classroom refurb. The total cost is now £63k with £30k from the Wolfson Institute.
- Lucy noted that the Friends would like to work with the school to plan Autumn launch events for new rooms which will be built over the summer

6. Forthcoming events

Disco

- Friends sent an email to all Year 7 parents who had signed up for school emails so it reached everyone possible. Mandy wondered if more parents need reminding.
- Save the date has gone out. Approx 19 parents needed in the hall. Need to put on parent pay next week and send out an email asking for help from other year parent
- Numbers need to be high enough to keep control of the children in the hall so they don't climb the bars or try to open the doors. Tickets will be priced at £3 and pupils will be given a token that they can exchange for a free squash and packet of crisps. There will be a snack bar to buy extra snacks/drinks
- Mandy discussed what else we would want to provide at the disco besides the snacks and the photobooth. Have a budget so looking into buying glowsticks
- David flagged that children are difficult to manage outside of school hours – they have a tendency not to listen to other parents. Need to steward it well!
- Doors and windows can be opened if it gets too warm and radiators can be turned off (which we should make sure happens at the start of the night when setting up)
- Parents will need to pick up children, as they can't leave the premises unattended
Action: Jax to send Shalene a funky ppt slide with details for assembly and bulletin
Action: Send Shalene details of tickets to be loaded onto Parentpay
Action: Jax to send out volunteer email to Friends mailing list
Action: Need to check if we have enough tokens (the ones used at the Winter fair)

Quiz night

- Shalene asked if we needed a cleaner but the group decided we didn't need one
- Drinks round - 4 drinks - to be added to spreadsheet
- Eleanor inputting scores with Lucy. Will have a desk at the front by the stage. Volunteers running round collecting answers. Need to make sure when the Joker is being played
- Student council are making plastic garlands and collecting plastic bottles for our plastic free campaign

Spring concert – 2 April

- Tickets on sale. Friends to provide bar. Volunteers needed from 18.30 to run the bar. Karen M volunteered

Action: Ask for volunteers for bar via Friends mailing list

Parent forum – 3 April

- Come along to hear feedback from recent parent, student and staff surveys. 6-7pm.

Action: Eleanor to promote on Facebook

Parent forum - 20 June

Grease production – 3-5 July

- Friends to run a bar – need volunteers

Sports Day 9 July

- Friends to run refreshments bar – donuts, juices, snacks from 8-12.30

Action: Email to promote dates and ask for volunteers for bars

7. Communication (Eleanor)

- Noticeboard being updated – new slides sent to school. Emma to print out
- 185 active members on Facebook out of 209 parents who have signed up. Can we offer more, create more links for parents so they can be more connected to the school?
- Eleanor suggested the idea of a directory of services – babysitters, plumbers, etc. Is it our role to do things for parents as well as the school, what do we do and how do we implement it?
- Top posters on Facebook page in the last month are Viviane, Natalie and Lucy

Action: Add Facebook development to agenda at next meeting.

8. AOB

Parent task force – not discussed due to lack of time.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 16th May 6.30-7pm Friends business and 7-8pm open session for ideas/planning.