



Minutes of Committee Open Meeting

Wednesday 12 June 2019

1. Introductions, welcome and apologies

Attendees: Lucy Hamer, Viviane Wild, Shalene Varcoe, Jacqui Moseley, Jules Kenna, Alex Oliver, David Plumeridge, Ms Ibrahim plus student council

Apologies: Eleanor Mitchiner, Emma Jones, Hannah Gordon, Louisa Simmons, Eleanor Hayes

2. Minutes of last meeting.

Minutes were approved. Action points were discussed. Outstanding action points brought forward:

- Open Mic evening – need to find someone to lead and plan date
- Auction – Cathy Newman agreed to compere – need to find date and a group to take ownership. Spring or Summer term 2020. Venue agreed – Terroirs
- Reading garden: Working group in place led by Shalene. Funding bids being developed to try and raise further funds. Update at next meeting.
- Cookery club – Viviane has had discussion with Terroirs. They would prefer younger children from years 7-8 rather than 6th formers due to space.

Action: Viviane to continue to liaise with them and work on a cookery club proposal for the school

- 6th form clubs – Emma has sent Penny info about grants for possible science clubs.

Action: Follow up meeting with Ms Linderoth, Lucy, Penny and Hilary needed after A Levels

- Lamda courses.

Action Alex to send contact of lead for TCSED Lamda course to Friends. David to explore if this can be offered during school rather than afterschool club

3. Update from School and requests for funds

- Shalene asked for the rest of Secret Charter funds – as work will be done in the summer. Launch in Autumn. An opening event will be planned with Secret Charter team, Friends and school.

Action: Eleanor/Emma to transfer

- Request from 6th form for mock trial looking for £175 to enable a group of 6th formers to go and act out a process of jury and trial in a court through Young Citizens. This will include BAME and disadvantaged students. **Approved by committee**
- Year 11 theatre visit completed. **David to confirm costs and Friends to transfer money**
- Basketball hoops – not required until decision made by school about the back ball court. **Remove item from accounts**

- Taskforce looking to replant the glassed garden area in school . £182 required to buy plants and compost. Facilities to do work. **Amount agreed by committee.**
- Year 8 trip – **Action:** Emma putting in a bid for a grant from Newcomen for Mr Noble. If unsuccessful, Friends to identify if other funds can be put towards the trip.
- Xmas gift list – It was suggested the school create a list and Friends can promote to parents before Xmas so they can buy the school a present. **Action:** Bring to September meeting.
- Planters – no decision at this point. **To be discussed in September.**

4. Finance and fundraising update

- Teacher staff thank you – Target nearly reached. **Friends to send reminder nearer end of term**
- Striding man – Emma working with Rachel to prepare heritage lottery fund submission
- Hamptons sponsorship has been cut from 3k to 2.5k
- Easyfundraising – Need to do a big reminder. **Use promotional materials from PTA cupboard for Year 7 info evening and get people to sign up.**
- Reading garden money pledged by Friends will be needed up front as the Council pay the grant after the work is completed. The work is expected to take place in October half term. Action; **Update next meeting on when funds need to be transferred.**

5. Plastic free campaign

- Student council updated on their plastic reduction programme and intention to work with Surfers against Sewage if they can complete 5 actions as evidence of commitment. This includes litter picking, staff reusable coffee cups and reusable water bottles.
- They have identified possible suppliers/sponsors for sustainable water bottles. The Doppler Foundation, Waitrose, Climate care, Unilever, Innocence smoothies were a few examples. The Council will write to the companies to explore their interest in sponsorship/supplying school and Friends can reinforce with emails of support if there is interest. Council to keep Friends updated.
- Council is also exploring a lights-off day to reduce energy use and potentially use the equivalent funds to invest in other eco products. We discussed this idea. If school and Council go ahead, Friends will promote the day and tweet.
- The Council is exploring options for school lockers. They will carry out a survey monkey survey for all parents.
- Reading Garden – support from keen gardeners needed. To be discussed further.

6. Fun run

- 26 runners from both schools signed up. Miss Ibrahim sent out a personal reminder to teachers. The Students Council would like some of the money raised through the fun run to go towards their plastic free campaign or reading garden. To discuss next meeting.

7. Projects and events updates

- *Yoga/mindfulness workshops* - Alex has researched possible teachers and found 3 options. After discussion it was agreed:
- School approaches existing yoga teacher to pilot yoga in the assembly hall after school from September and offer student yoga 3.30-4.30, staff yoga 4.30-5.30.

- Alex to complete research and send other options for wellbeing/anxiety management to Friends. Lucy to share with Mr Williams to decide how best to trial the classes across the school or with specific year groups eg a pilot with year 10s.
Committee approved up to £500 for initial trials.
- *Campfire cooking club pilot* - Paul and Mr Williams in support but Paul can't arrive until 4pm so looking to see if someone can help and arrive earlier so pupils aren't waiting.
Action: Lucy to contact Jane the librarian for ideas as she has contacts with scouts.
- *Second hand uniform* - agreed to put a call out for second hand uniform items to be dropped off at reception (clearly marked to the Friends) before each sale. Bags are collected in reception and taken to the Friends cupboard.
- *PTA meetings* – there may be a change in how school works with the Friends next year.
Action: Shalene, David, co-chairs and officers to meet on 18th July 6-730pm to discuss how we work together next year and also to review the Friends constitution.
- *Year 7 photographs*. Viviane and Susan have identified costs for year 7 class photos. School suggested that last week of term might be possible. Friends need to put in a clear proposal. Sports hall and astro turf as possible locations.
Action: Proposal to be shared with Mike Snell and David Noble (cc Shalene Varcoe).
- *Sports day* –
Actions: Lucy to liaise with facilities, Mr Parker and Shalene to arrange for PTA supplies to go on minibus. We agreed to buy water in plastic bottles on this occasion as there is no water supply at the grounds.
Lucy to liaise with Jax about stock to buy.
Viviane to ask Hot Rock if they can supply ice.
- *Ground force session* – Eleanor Hayes doing next session planned for 21st June. Lucy has briefed Eleanor and identified the jobs to be done with facilities. **Action: Promote session to identify volunteers.**

8. Events planner

- Discussion at next meeting.

9. Dates and events calendar

- Proposed dates for Friends meetings 2019-20 shared with school. Shalene to confirm if the early dates seem to work with school calendar.
- Discussion on dates for events – next meeting.

10. Committee roles review

- Discuss on 18th July

11. AOB

- World class schools coming in on Friday to accredit school. Need to update noticeboard before then. **Lucy to update slides**
- Date of next meeting: Thurs 18 July – 6-73pm business meeting at Terroirs with Shalene and David to review school/Friends coordination and identify how we want to work in 2019-20, Friends end of year celebration and social open to all from 730pm at Terroirs