

Minutes
Friends of Longstone School
Meeting 9th January 2018

Present – Julie Cox, Jane Stirland, Allen Morris, Elizabeth Fisher, Emily Swindell, Jenna Jackson, Kerry Darlow, Jo Mitchell

Apologies – Georgie Swift, Jane Hornsby, Sue Carter, Milly Holdsworth, Chasca Twyman, Jo Hutchinson, Gemma Harvey & Jo Mizon

Action Points

Jo – ask for storage solutions from the school community in the next newsletter

Emily – to ask Gemma to send letter to parents regarding the climbing frame, rota and safety guidelines

Emily/Jenna – to discuss flooring of the climbing frame with Gemma

Jenna – after discussion with Gemma, order the climbing frame

Elizabeth – ask Peak Adventure for a raffle prize for the Winter quiz

Emily/Kerry – purchase quiz prizes, wine, chocolate etc. Thank you letter to the Royal Oak

Emily – amend poster for disco and send the Sally

Elizabeth – to look at purchasing lighting for the disco

Emily – to look at stock levels of drink and tuck and to replenish for the disco, put up a sign up sheet for helpers and inform class reps of times etc

Emily – discuss details of the library refurbishment with Gemma

Jane/Jo – find out more information about orienteering costs etc

Kerry – discuss with school about Year 6 online safety programme

Jane – discuss with Donaldson parents to see if any of them would like to help with the role of class rep

Emily Swindell opened the meeting and the previous minutes from 16th November 2017 were read. The minutes were amended according to Jane Stirland asking for a section to be removed which was agreed by the attendees. The minutes were then signed off as being correct.

Matters arising from the previous meeting included the change of the role of treasurer. As discussed in the previous meeting Allen Morris was proposed as the new treasurer with Jane Stirland as co-treasurer. Allen will take on the main duties as treasurer with Jane supporting him by carrying out day to day duties including floats at events. Allen was co-opted onto the committee. This was proposed by

Emily and seconded by Elizabeth. Jane was co-opted onto the committee. Jenna proposed this and seconded by Jo.

Agenda points –

1. Christmas Bazaar

Everyone agreed the bazaar was a success this year making a grand total of £1586.86. This total was slightly down on last years but the weather had an impact on how long people stayed this year.

The grotto was well situated in the music room and was a success due to volunteers decorating the grotto. There was a suggestion of buying items for the grotto instead of borrowing them, this will be discussed at a meeting closer to the time. Storage of items to decorate the grotto maybe an issue and Jane suggested asking if anyone within the school community had storage space we could use. This could be included in the next newsletter. Jenna informed the committee that Santa is happy to attend future Christmas Bazaars. If we are to carry on using the music room we need to forewarn the music teacher if they are using it on the day of the Bazaar. Emily suggested we need to look at numbers of children visiting Santa as we had a lot of selection boxes left over and we don't want to repeat this unnecessary cost next year. Numbers may have been down on the visitors to Santa as the volunteers on the door didn't realise that Santa was in the building.

It was agreed that after purchasing the licence for the mulled wine and the cost of the mulled wine that it ran at a loss so will not be considered for future Christmas Bazaars.

Julie Cox said the room we used for Elves Workshop (Dahl Class) was a bit too big and lost the feel of Christmas. Jo suggested to the divide the room to make more cosy. Julie also suggested having three people in the elves workshop and possibly to go back to Secrecy Room as attendees didn't know what the elves workshop was.

2. Climbing Frame

Emily informed the attendees that we have secured a grant of £2000 from the Bingham Trust that Jenna applied for in the summer. We are also due some money from Tesco however, we are not sure on the amount yet.

We now have the funds in place to be able to purchase the climbing frame and Emily explained that Gemma will be asked to write a letter to parents to let them know about the installation of the climbing frame and relevant safety information to reassure them.

Jenna contacted Proludic regarding the surfacing under the climbing frame. We currently have a quote for rubber mulch which will go on top of the existing playground and we were given a new quote for excavating and putting wet pour in to be at the same level as the playground. The difference is roughly £1400. Jane raised concerns that if it wasn't excavated, the rubber mulch could be a trip hazard. After further discussion many of the attendees agreed with Jane. It was agreed that after a discussion with Gemma and a final quote from Proludic that we would go ahead and order the climbing frame which will hopefully be

installed over the Easter holidays. Jenna confirmed that she has asked Peak Park for planning permission and this is not required.

3. Winter Quiz & Supper

Emily informed everyone that roughly half of the tickets have been sold. She will inform parents that tickets need to be purchased by Friday 19th January so that Paul at the Royal Oak maybe able to sell more.

Jane mentioned feedback from parents asking why was it not being held in the village. Emily explained that we had been approached by Rachel Clarke to host the Quiz at the Royal Oak and this seemed a generous gesture, especially after last years dwindling numbers at last years quiz and curry night. In the future we will consider hosting a quiz in the village.

Elizabeth suggested hosting a rock and roll bingo that her school could run for a fee.

Emily has asked for raffle prizes through facebook and we have several prizes ready to sell. Tickets will be sold on Thursday at school and at the quiz. It was agreed to sell the tickets at £1 each.

Prizes for the quiz were discussed. The largest table is a table of 5. Kerry suggested buying a bottle of wine for each person on the winning table from the cash and carry or Aldi as any left over could be sold at the summer sizzle. Second prize will be a small box and chocolates per person and a bag of sweets as the booby prize. It was agreed not to buy something the Royal Oak but to say a thank you letter to them for hosting the quiz.

4. Table Top Sale

Emily thanked Jane, Julie and others for their help in organising the table top sale which made £320.35.

Jane explained that as this as the first event that FOLS had run of this kind, it was hard to set up but this will get easier with each event.

Jane informed the group that the date clashed with the Christmas Market in Bakewell which may have reduced the number of people attending. She also suggested that the teachers could discuss the event more with the children in school, also a facebook page to be set up solely for the table top sale so that people can join and will know about it year on year. More buyers are needed to make the event a success. Posters in cars and signs at the bridge, as well advertising in the local newspaper worked well.

Emily suggested lowering the age group but not to include baby items. In the future if we are to run the event again, we need to check if pre-school are going to host another one and to look closely at the date to check there is no clash with local events. However, Jane suggested that we could hold the sale in Bakewell when the Christmas markets are on to increase footfall. Kerry suggested holding it somewhere with adequate parking especially for the sellers.

Jenna handed Kerry £30 from Mary for selling extra items on facebook from the FOLS donation table.

5. Winter Disco

Emily passed around a design for the poster for the disco. It was suggested to lighten up the background. Emily will send to Sally to be emailed out to parents. It was agreed to go ahead with a bar for parents in Tolkien class with suggested donations for alcohol so we don't have to purchase a licence.

Our usual DJ cannot do the disco this year. Emily has asked for quotes through Facebook and these have come back at £150 - £200. Elizabeth suggested buying the equipment as she had looked at some options online. She will look into this further as the committee saw it as a wise investment for future. Emily suggested checking the sound of the music system in school.

The disco will be of the same format as previous year £3 entry including drink and glow band. There will be pizza and tuck for sale.

Elizabeth has offered to do games with the KS1 children after it was discussed at a previous meeting that the younger children needed a little more structure.

Set up will be from 5pm and Emily to do a list of helpers for people to sign up on the hall door.

6. Future Events

Emily put forward that we need to get dates in the diary for future events. E.g. summer sizzle, sports day and Easter activities however, with Gemma not being able to attend we need to check the school diary and so will need to be discussed at a later time.

Several suggestions were made for future events by the attendees including:

- Kerry suggested a cook book initiative for children to make recipes and sell to parents
- Jo suggested a family calendar
- Elizabeth suggested a sponsored bike ride to be done with parents in their own time

These 3 ideas will be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Any Other Business

The refurbishment of the library was discussed as the money from the Crispin walk will be given to school soon. The committee liked the concept and Emily to discuss with Gemma that sourcing of the items will be researched and not just bought from the initial plan.

Jane discussed that she had been discussing with Mrs Gaywood regarding an orienteering club with Tolkien class. Jane said she had researched bringing someone in for half a day to train at a cost of around £200 to get up and running. Jane is happy to run the club whilst her child is at the school. Jo suggested speaking to her dad about supporting this as he is in Edale Mountain Rescue. Emily suggested that Jo speak to her dad and for Jane to discuss costs with another group for comparison and inform the committee at the next meeting.

Kerry suggested after discussion with another parent that a good leaving gifts for the year 6 children would be to have online safety training that FOLS could fund. Jenna asked if school should be including this in the curriculum and so Kerry was going to discuss this further with Gemma.

It was discussed that we need to make new parents more aware of Leaf 4 Life. Information needs to go out for Donaldson class parents.

Jane pointed out that as Georgie is now Morpurgo class rep, she is now the only class rep for Donaldson. It was suggested that Jo Elliott may take on the role.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 22nd March at 7pm at the Crispin