

## **FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL YATE** **(Reg Charity:1022264)**

Minutes of Friends Meeting at the Lawns pub, Monday 17 November 2014, 7:30pm (Minutes taken by Hywel Lloyd)

Present: Mary Baskerville, Justin Blackett, Lynette de Nobriga, Neil T, Steph B, Marc, Karen, Chris H, Hywel L

Apologies: Liz Hill, Sarah Bailey, Ria R

### 1. Minutes of the last meeting:

The disco was postponed because of the lack of take-up. There was some feedback that Saturday night isn't the right night for it.

We will look at having it on a Friday in the New Year. We will look at arranging a date shortly so it can be publicised before the end of term.

The latest 100 club has been drawn.

The first cake sale is taking place this Wednesday. It was suggested that all cake sale dates are agreed through Liz in the future to stop any clashes with other Friends events or other events happening in the school.

Polar Express screening – after discussion it was decided that this would be held on the last Friday of term, 19 December from 6pm in the hall, with cakes, popcorn & chocolate milk. The details for this, including publicity, tickets, and the projector, will be finalised outside of this meeting.

Bag2school – Everything is now sorted and we've received a payment of £381 which is the combined payment for the last three times.

Flagpole – Lynette has looked into this and a pole would cost around £40. However, they need to be put into a hole 2 – 3 ft deep. We'd also need to work out where on the school grounds the pole would go. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

### 2. Christmas Fayre

Lynette reported that everything is going along well and was particularly pleased with the work of the class reps in organising their individual activities.

Liz has produced an information flyer about the activities.

The biggest change that came out of the previous meeting, was the decision to revert back to a £3 entry fee for Santa's Grotto to allow for online booking through Paypal, due to the costs of using Paypal. There is some concern that at this price it might exclude some people.

All the stalls are being organised, however we are struggling a little with the barbecue, but it may be a case of just having it running from 12noon – 1.30pm if that's the case. There are four commercial stalls attending and we've contacted a dance group to see if they are interested in performing but are waiting for their response.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

We've got £11,232 in the account.

Label planet has been a massive success and we have tripled what we made last year and got a commission of £146 on £700 of orders.

Bags for schools payment has been received

£145 has been taken from the tuck shop float, which sold out last week.

We're still waiting to hear about the cost of The Hobbit performance.

Justin offered to Mrs Baskerville to help with any costs of the Space Dome which is in school this week.

### 4. Bark Chippings – Naomi's Trail

The area needs some more chippings. The group agreed to do some more work and then sort out a date to lay the chippings.

### 5. Reception Class Request

We've been asked to fund some music players for use in the reception classes. They will cost around £40. The group agreed to tell the classes to go ahead.

The classes have also requested to do some building work outside their windows. This request will be forwarded to the grounds committee.

### 6. School Grounds – Area around the Friendship Cabin

The waste around the cabin needs to be moved, ideally before the Christmas Fayre. It's thought to be mostly green waste. Marc and Neil will check it out this week and look at disposing / burning the waste.

Justin is also looking at getting some non-slip tape to make the area less slippery in the coming weeks and also for the fair.

Justin also confirmed that we cannot cook in the Friendship cabin, but as we have the kitchen and barbecue facilities this isn't a problem.

### 7. Dates for Ladies Night, Auction of Promise and New Year Disco

Ladies Night – it was suggested that either the 8 or 15 May would be suitable. Lynette is keen to get a selection of wedding and bridesmaids dresses for the event.

#### Auction of Promises

In the past we have produced a booklet of promises and sent it home with people. Previously people have donated a variety of things, including a stay in a holiday cottage.

Dates were discussed and it was decided to run the auction from 8 – 19 June.

Justin will aim to get an appeal for promises out to parents in the New Year.

We've already got one offer of hair cut from one parent.

New Year Disco – this will be held in early January and the date will be decided this week.

#### 8. Cake sale dates

The first cake sale is taking place this week and we are now looking at holding the next one in January.

There's a need to make sure that cake sales don't clash with our events or those being run in the school.

#### 9. Projector for the hall + other projectors

Marc has been looking into this and said that there are issues with the height of the ceiling. Based on initial discussions, the cost could be around £2,400 based on a 120in screen. The group will now look at getting some other quotes before deciding how to proceed.

#### 10. Mrs. Baskerville's retirement

This was discussed at the meeting. Please request details from the secretary (Liz Hill) if you would like to know more.

#### 11. Mrs. Doyles' Party

Mrs Doyle has approached the friends to see if we'd be interested in running the catering for her husband's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday party next year and raising a bit of money by running the bar at the same time. The group agreed that we'd be happy to do this.

#### 12. AOB

Justin has suggested running a competition in the New Year to design a new logo for the Friends. At the moment the current logo uses the St Mary's School logo and is just a long thin strip which couldn't be printed on anything such as a T-shirt or hi-vis jacket. The competition would be open to adults and children and all the entries would be posted on Facebook and the one with the most likes would be the winner. We'd have prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> which are to be confirmed. The group agreed this was a good idea.

Justin also said he's going to be appealing for people to donate any old Christmas decorations for the school, as the Friends are going to be putting up decorations around the school this year. The date for hanging the decorations is still 26 November.

Staff has said that Mr Moon's class didn't get the chance to do a Christmas card this year.

Lynette said that staff felt that they didn't have enough time to do them in class this year, so some of them sent them home as homework.

It was decided that the group will look into ways to raise the profile of this in the summer, to make sure we make the most of it next year.

Neil asked a question about whether the Friends wanted to hold an event at the Castle Combe track next year. The group discussed whether this would be a sponsored ride, possibly to make money for Brace, with the Friends fundraising by providing food and refreshments or just a Friends-only fundraiser. Neil will find out what the availability of the track is in July 2015 and report back at the next meeting.

#### 13. Date of next meeting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm, The Lawns