

Friends of Finham
Meeting 22nd February 2016
Minutes



Present:

Jane Long, Dave Long, Ginny Jones, Jo McLean, Angela Hinson and guest, Dee (FP2 PTA) , Gaynor Millar;

Apologies:

Emma Taylor, Chris Meakin, Rev. Jeremy Hyde, Lorraine Kane;

Treasurer's report:

Current balance: £1963.69

To pay: £300 to Drama Department

Drama department request for funds: we have had a positive response from the drama department to our donation of £300 towards the cost of Buggy Malone. We were not allowed to hold a raffle at each performance to raise money. However, the school printed 300 flyers outlining our support for both the production and the school as a whole, and these were placed inside every programme, so hopefully we have raised our profile with parents. The production itself was wonderful - we are lucky to have so many talented actors, musicians, backstage crew and staff at our school.

Foreign coin collection: this has been advertised at our partner primary schools as well as by email to parents. Jo and Jane will collect any donations on Friday 26th in the school exception, after which time we will send them off to be cashed in.

Non-uniform day: so far we have no date. Jo and Jane will chase this at their meeting with Viv Maginnis and Mark Bailie on Monday 29th February. This is badly needed as we are receiving many requests for funding and will not be able to support them all at this time.

Memorial Garden: Great news! The sixth form have come on board and spent an enjoyable few hours earlier this term tidying up the garden. The photos shared on Twitter showed them having a great time as well as the garden looking the best it has in a year! We are hoping that this can be a regular sixth form activity and will send gentle reminders each term to encourage another tidying session!

Star studded Evening of Success: Jane has been in touch with Foorkan Kiddy who has promised to promote our award when the staff are asked for nominations. Jo has drafted a letter voicing the concerns raised by various parents at our previous meeting and will share that with the committee.

Dragon's Den applications: Take up prior to the half term holiday was poor; however, Viv sent a lovely, supportive email to the staff upon their return to school encouraging them to apply. By the time of the meeting, we had received five applications! We discussed each one and made the following decisions:

P.E. Department application for basketball backboards for netball courts - invite to Dragon's Den;

History Department request for funding to book a professional presenter to bring to life the history of Raglan and Goodrich Castles for GCSE students - invite to Dragon's Den.

*Science department request to part-fund a 360' planetarium day for year 7 FP and FP2 on 15th March. Parents are being asked for a contribution. Other students will be charged a small amount to see a 15 minute show during break/lunchtime - we will offer to run a chocolate raffle to raise funds on the day, with a space theme e.g. Mars, Galaxy, Milky Way Easter eggs. **Jo to contact and set up. Jane can attend to run the raffle at break and lunchtime.***

Sixth Form request for Business Studies electronic resources to support the new A level curriculum - invite to Dragon's Den.

*Trampoline Club request to help fund a new championship-standard trampoline. Theirs has broken and they will not be able to enter National competitions without being able to practice on a suitable quality trampoline. This will cost between £6,500 - £7,000. We decided to offer our support separately to the Dragon's Den. **Jo will arrange a meeting with Jo Jones** to discuss ideas, as this is a major project.*

Since the meeting, Matt Amos has indicated that he can obtain funding to repair the existing basketball boards so will no longer require our assistance.

We have also had **two further requests:** one from the food tech department for equipment to help teach the new skills required for GSCE; and the other to purchase a new oculus rift for the IT department. The committee have decided to put these forward for the Dragon's Den.

Meeting with Viv Maginnis and Mark Bailie:

Jo and Jane will be meeting with them next Monday to discuss how we can move FoF forward during the next few months. We will also raise the issue of an new IT liaison as well as a staff liaison and arrange dates for the Dragon's Den and the non-uniform day.

Bingo:

Martin Bainbridge has agreed to compare this for us. Jane will liaise with him and the Green Lane Social Club to arrange a date. Jane will also look into the cost of Ginger Orange catering the event. Stivichall PTA have kindly agreed that we can use their bingo programme and would like to improve links with us, which is very welcome!

Links with partner primaries

We agreed that we should start to create links with our partner primaries and thought it would be a great idea to hold a welcome event in the summer term for the new year 7's and their families. This will not only promote FoF but will encourage parents who are still in the PTA mindset to get on board!

Dee mentioned that FP2 PTA are thinking of holding a big fete next year, maybe with the Happy Circus company. However, we felt that was rather ambitious for this year as we do not have the manpower to arrange such a large event.

We agreed that we could hold a summer party on the school field on a Saturday in June, using the new marquee for refreshments. **JM will contact Mr Micklewright** to see if current music students could perform; we could have a second-hand uniform stall and arrange other activities. **JL will contact the school** to see what dates are possible.

AOB

T-shirts:

JL proposed that we have t-shirts made up with our logo on. This was agreed.

Godiva Festival:

DL proposed that we look into having a charity stall at the Godiva Festival to both raise money and awareness with current parents and feeder schools. After a lively discussion, we decided that this was a good idea provided we can find enough parents to support us in running the stall for the weekend. Ideas for the stall included holding a raffle; nail/face painting; and having a selfie photo booth using life-size cut-outs of famous people or e.g. Frozen/Star Wars characters which are cheap to buy on the internet; together with a large frame and silly props such as wigs and moustaches. **DL will look into the cost.**

Next meeting:

We discussed the venue – as no-one who had wanted the meetings held in a non-licensed venue has turned up to any of the school-based meetings or sent apologies, we decided to resume using The Burnt Post as our regular meeting place.

Our next meeting will be held at
6.30pm Monday 11th April at the Burnt Post