



FRIENDS MEETING 3/10/23 6:30

Attended: Mr Dillon (head), Lucy Potter (chair), Ellie, Julie, Kate

We talked about needing a new committee. Lisa, Alex, Maria and Lucy will be stepping down at the next meeting.

This is booked as an AGM as per the constitution. It will be on 8/11/23 at 6:30. The current members are more than happy to help make sure the roles pass on properly and help where needed with advice and guidance. Lisa, Maria and Lucy are going to stay on the list to help volunteer at events. Alex is no longer a parent of a child at Birch Hill. She has been an amazing member of our committee and she will be happy to pass on all her treasurer knowledge once this role is appointed. She has put a lot of things in place to make this role easier and we have changed the bank account around for more up to date access.

There is also a debit card for purchasing expenses. Thank you Alex. You are one in a million.

The main roles are: Treasurer, chair and secretary. All of these roles can be split into two or three but these roles must be filled to have a committee otherwise the charity will fold. Currently the treasurer role is split between Lucy and Alex. Lucy and Maria are chair and vice chair. Lisa is secretary but this role has been split by two people in the past, which has worked really well. We've combined our skills, worked out our strengths which has really helped.

We currently have £4653.39p to donate to the library refurbishment. A company is quoting to replace the furniture and the shelves.

A new IT package has been sorted out. We will be finalising all the details with Mrs Cameron. We have agreed to keep fundraising for this until the new year and new term. Any money raised will be added to the total so far and used also to purchase new stock.

We have agreed that we won't do a Christmas fair this year as we need to recruit more volunteers and committee members.

We have a list of external stall holders which have contacted us and have all agreed to keep their details for future events. They were all at the summer fair and said how well they were looked after and very keen to come again.

Also discussed were the Christmas present room, dress down day and Christmas jumper day. All to be confirmed they can go ahead and availability of volunteers. This will be discussed further at the AGM.

Mr Dillon applied for a grant through Wellington College which was awarded and received in June. This has been being used around the grounds of school and the new site controller has been brilliant at getting things sorted out and updated. Mr Dillon confirmed he will be applying for another grant with Wellington college again next year. This will be to update all the rest of the out door areas including the tyre park, huts, sales and shady birch. He will be in contact with the Pines regarding their Trim Trail and the contractors they used. We have agreed to fundraise towards this all next year too.

Mr Dillon and Mrs Lacey will update the slide on the presentation for YR1 and Rec meet the teacher meetings to include the AGM details.

We talked about different ways to request volunteers and committee members. Kate has a leaflet that was put in some book bags. This will be updated with the new meeting and sent out again. Along with going in the newsletter (this was done last week).

We have organised a day week commencing the 16th October to go through all the Christmas card designs, make sure they're all filled in and paid for.

Then they will be picked up on Friday the 20th. We will not be able to accept any after that date. Mr Dillon said that Mrs Watson has been coordinating the teachers with completing their class designs. Alex will download all the payment details for us to go through.

Our shed is leaking and needs sealing on the edges. Mr Dillon has confirmed that the area it's in (outside the staff room) will be changing as it is currently shared with the community centre. This won't be permitted through the academy. So this is all to be moved and regenerated with the patio for the nursery. There is no fixed date for this so far though.

Next Fundraisers:

Dress down day bring in a £1 – Friday 20th October

Christmas Present Room – Friday 8th December 10-12:30am (to be confirmed)

Christmas Jumper Day bring in a £1 – Friday 8th December (to be confirmed)