



Friends of Bricklehurst

Charity number 1104250
Members of NCPTA

Minutes for the Friends of Bricklehurst meeting 17 May 2018 @ 8.30am

In attendance

Lyn Hall, Michael Hargrave, Andrew Castle (Chair), Matt Clapson (Treasurer), Alison Oliver, Katie Ward, Nikki Downey Prisca Patty, Rachel Jenkins (Secretary), Christine Flowers

1. Apologies

Gillian Oliver, Kath Archibald, Karine Kendon, Andrew Elliott, Kate Elliott, Corinne Stevens, Laura Williams, Rebecca Smith, Sasha Clarke, Gez Ersine, Fiona Northover

2. Approval of last Minutes

Approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

Accounts Balance as at 17th May 2018 - **£9,477.80**

Recent Income

Since the last report, given at the FOBS Meeting on 27th April, there have been deposits into the account totalling **£695.63** made up as follows:

- Cake Raffles - £73.45
- Ice Cream Sales - £111.19
- Northbrook - £6.67
- Autumn Fair 2018 Stalls - £70

Total Income = £261.31

Recent Outgoings

- There have been outgoings amounting to **£2,408.23** made up as follows:
- Playground Paint - £589.20
- Quiz Licences - £42.00
- Ice Cream Purchases - £81.44
- New PA / Sound System - £1,695.59

RJ, AO, ALL

Total Outgoings - £2,408.23

4. Future Events

Cinema Night –It was agreed to move the event to Friday 8th June from 25 May as the school had advised that many families would be travelling for the half term holiday. It was agreed to sell tickets in advance in Kindergarten and at the ice cream sales and cake raffle. Class reps will be asked to remind their classes and circulate information on where to buy tickets. A cash bar will be provided for parents to use up our remaining supplies. It is hoped that by the revised date FOBS will have purchased the projector and screen to work with the new PA system (see item 6).

AO, MC, ALL

Brickfest – It was agreed to schedule the event from 1-8pm, to encompass the summer picnic followed by a disco and barbecue. The event will be ticketed at £10 per family. The school will be asked to open the pool from 3-4 for supervised swimming and AO agreed to contact the Christmas Disco provider for a disco from 6-7.30pm. All committee members to ask around to borrow barbecue equipment, preferably gas-powered. Mrs Flowers raised the issue of parking and whether the field will be available. She noted that the owner was justifiably angry following the autumn fair at the amount of litter left on the field so if the field is available we need to ensure that there is a litter clear up afterwards. It was agreed to use the school car park if the field is not available.

5. Minibus

AC introduced the item by expressing disappointment at the lack of turnout from the wider school community given that this issue has apparently been raised by parents. He then reminded the meeting of the object of FOBS, namely *to engage in activities or provide facilities or equipment which support the School and advance the education of the pupils*, and that any discussion should be seen within this context.

Mrs Flowers outlined the reasons for the school not purchasing a minibus up to now. It was felt that a minibus would be used usually only once a week, for one sports team to go to an away fixture and that for the rest of the time it would remain at school. A previous school vehicle (not a minibus) had attracted vandals and AO reported that Stonegate School's minibus has frequently been vandalised. The costs to lease a minibus would be an estimated £700-£800 per month, and staff would need recurring training. She conceded that when the school started participating in inter-school sports there were very few matches. However, if the issue is the number of away games that the children need to be transported to, then one minibus alone would not solve the issue. While some parents raise valid concerns about how their children are transported to away matches there was always the option of requiring that their child is driven by a member of staff. As a last resort, minibuses can be hired on an ad-hoc basis should the need arise, but as a very rare occurrence this is a far cheaper than leasing our own minibus.

MH pointed out that in the summer months the minibus would be used more often, pointing out that this week there are matches on Wednesday, a cricket tournament on Thursday, and a swimming gala on Monday, though agreed that in this case one minibus would not be enough to transport all participating children. Furthermore he pointed out that he would be less likely to attend as a spectator if his child had been transported by the school.

AC pointed out that the FOBS constitution requires us to raise money to enhance the experience of the children and suspected that a minibus would be for the benefit of parents. If FOBS fundraised to purchase a minibus, we run the risk that all future fundraising would be for running costs and also, given the discussion heretofore, a second minibus. The other equipment and events provided by FOBS to this point may then not be funded.

Mrs Flowers pointed out that other local schools are far bigger than Bricklehurst, some with associated Senior schools with overseas students and as such are able to subsidise multiple minibuses. Bricklehurst is a small family school with a fluctuating enrolment and must prioritise its spending.

AO

AO, AC

It was agreed that FOBS would not pursue the purchase of a minibus. Mrs Flowers reiterated that she would be happy to discuss the issue with any parent but that to date no parent had approached her regarding minibus provision.

ND, KW, RJ,
SC

6. Proposed FOBS purchases

AO

- AO agreed to purchase the cricket nets today which had been pending for a few meetings.
- The school AV provider is sourcing a screen and projector for the school hall to complement the recently purchased PA system. It is hoped that that this will be in place in time for the Cinema Night on Friday 8 June.

7. Any other business

ND and KW reported that they were still sourcing catering provision for the Ceilidh. RJ to contact Sasha Clark to check that the band are still on hold.

It was agreed to pay for the Year 6 Leavers Hoodies as this is an ongoing contribution and as such will benefit all children as they reach year 6.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 20 June, 8.30am