

MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF DIPTFORD SCHOOL
COMMITTEE MEETING.

Held at the Turtley Corn Mill, Avonwick

Monday 15th May 2017.

Present: Laura Bell Chair, Roger Knight Treasurer, Alison Lyon Secretary.

Also present: Sarah Gillmore, Charlie Cooper, Louise Lethbridge, Mrs Dawn Neil and Denise Hawkins (part).

Apologies: Claire Moorman, Chaam Klinger, Tracey Shippey .

1. The minutes of the last meeting had been previously circulated and signed as an accurate account. The current bank statement was also signed by the Chair.
2. Matters Arising.
 - **Whole school event.** Mrs Neil confirmed that Paddle Boat theatre company is now booked, feedback from staff on a recent residential trip was very positive so the children should gain a lot out of it.
 - **Swoosh.** Sadly this event has had to be postponed due to Charlie's health issues. Instead Charlie proposed a pizza and outdoor film night to be held at Claire Moormans tbc. Likely to be held in September so we can invite new parents.
Action. Charlie to enquire as to the projector held in the village hall and feedback progress/help required at the next meeting.
 - **Composting loo for the environmental area.** 2 loos are to be purchased, cheque to be passed over in the next couple of weeks.
Action. Roger to arrange for the cheque to be signed and handed over.
 - **Play Equipment.** Mrs Neill brought a brochure with specific large play equipment chosen by the Diptford Diplomats. The equipment will be for use in play time and stored in the play shed when not in use. All agreed to fund £400 towards the cost.
Action. Mrs Neil to ask Rachael to place the order.
 - **Paddington's Patch.** Following the very successful garden tidy the patch is now ready for planting. Charlie has a rota of 5 volunteer parents and at present 6 children wishing to be involved with gardening club Seeds planted in Charlies greenhouse are nearly ready for sowing. Grass cutting is an issue, is the new school gardener able to help? If not, could we have a parent rota as the grass needs cutting every two weeks in the growing season. There is a mower on site.
Action. Mrs Neil to check with the Academy re gardener job spec and any scope to include the patch within it.
 - **Dipstock.** Alison feedback to the group details of her conversation with Janine Fox, previous organiser. The group agreed that it is possibly too late to put on for this September but thoughts were around having music at the Diptford Arms in May next year after Sats. Glorious Chorus and Jake's band to be invited to play. This prompted a discussion about getting a calendar of event for the year together.
3. **Chairs Report.**

Laura informed the group that the Community Grant has been awarded to FODs to by IT related items .

Bingo was a great night. A huge thank you to the Jordan family. Feedback, the books were a little pricey, more Dads could have been present. All agreed that next time we should lower the book price but increase the refreshment prices.

Fathers Day was mentioned but none present could think of an appropriate way that FoDS could help the children to celebrate it.

Another school tidy up event is planned for September.

Action. Alison to write thank you letters to Tim Jordan & family.

4. Treasures Report. See attached.

100 club draw needs to be done regularly. Roger to put a notice up on the school board explaining what it is all about. Draws are done after the 8th of the month with the next 2 draws to take place at the Barn Dance and School production.

5. Library project. FoDS have submitted an application to the Calor Gas Rural Communities fund. We have decided to enter the process to obtain £1000 as this looks the most likely based on entries so far. The grant if successful would be used to purchase books for the accelerated reader scheme, the Academy are funding the infrastructure. We have been accepted into the competition and will be asking supporters to vote for the application online, and using social media to spread the word. Voting starts on 22nd May with each person receiving 10 votes each. We will need all our networks to ensure maximum votes. An audit of books is due in the summer term with perhaps parents donating a book/s which fit within the scheme. We could hold specific fundraising events targeted at buying books. A further application could be made next year to the community fund. **Action.** Laura to put out an email explaining the aims and voting process. Involve computer club and help them to vote. Info needs to go in the Parish magazine. Speak to Claire Moorman about the alumni and Sue Howard re name put forward for the 150 anniversary event.

6. Diptford Horse Show. Sunday 4th June 2017 FoDS will once again be selling ice creams and water. Sue Franklin has secured match funding on what we raise on the day. Parent helpers will be required to sell ice creams on the stall and help with the parking rota. We need to find the gazebo. It was agreed to use Sue Franklin's generator this year and keep the other offers for future reference. Laura and Alison to set up.

Action. Denise to purchase ice creams. Alison to collect freezer and take to show field. Sarah to ask Guy to collect the generator before 22nd May. Sign up sheets to be put in office for parent helpers re parking from 7.30 and stall from 11.

7. River Dart Country park. It was agreed that FoDS would not have a presence at the event this year.

8. Barn Dance Holsome Park. Please spread the word regarding this popular family friendly event. The more guests the more money there will be to donate. Volunteers are required to work behind the bar and to help out if required.

Action. Sign up sheet in the office after half term.

9. Bags 2 School. The collection day is on 20th June. Book bags will be in school week comm 22nd May. Concern about the collection point re the building work due to start at half term. Could we use the village hall.

Action. Alison to contact the Company and request pick up at village hall. Laura to speak with Tracie re space required for dropping off and storing bags.

(Didn't mention it at the time but I guess we might need to speak with Val Haddy re this)

10. **Diptford Court Fete.** FoDS to run a stall selling prizes ? Lucky dip? And a welly wanging competition. (? Space required to run it) Volunteers required to run the stalls
11. **Sports Day BBQ.** All agreed to run the bbq social event after sports day. Lethbridges to supply the meat, Graham Lethbridge and Martyn Chudley to be asked if they would run the bbq. Other items to be sold, water melon, milkshake and alcohol for a suggested donation after schools out for the day.
12. **Summer production.** All agreed we should offer refreshments at both performances. Tea, coffee, squash and tray bakes in the afternoon and Pimms and a savoury snack for the evening.
13. **Welcome evening.** Ideas were a picnic in the park or a Coffee Morning on the transition days. ? Dates.

14. A.O.B

Denise would like to reduce her commitment to FoDS. It was thought that Uniform would be a good start.

Action. Denise to be asked for a guide to what is involved and then message out to parents for help.

Date of next meeting 10th July 19.45 at Holsome Farm, kindly hosted by Louise Lethbridge.