

Axe Valley PTFA



Minutes of Meeting Monday 12th March 2018 at 6.00pm

Present:

Jo Huscroft (Chair),

Kate Pemberton (Secretary),

Jacky Lomax (Treasurer),

Jennie Cackett,

Jo Hawkins,

Emma Heighway,

Heidi Rorstad

Caz Jeffries

Louise Wain (Vice-Chair)

Apologies:

Heather Burnett,

Dave MacCormick,

June Coplestone

Approval of last minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting were signed and approved by Jo.

Treasurer's Report

As the last report was so recent a new report was not issued except to say that the bank statements all remain the same apart from approximately £60 received from Local Giving.

Funding Applications

None submitted at this time

Events

JL reported back regarding charging for concerts. The process will need to start with SLT and then Governors which will take some time. Realistically any change unlikely to happen before September.

Spring Concert – 28th March 2018

KP has prepared a poster and will send to all parents via Parentmail. The invitation will include a request to parents to donate a raffle prize to be handed in at Reception. A reminder will be sent to all parents on Friday 23rd and on the day of the concert. Also check the new poster is on the website.

PTFA refreshment stall to be set up at 6pm and raffle tickets sold as audience arrive. Helpers to include: Kate, Jennie, Jo Huscroft, Jo Hawkins, Caz and Emma. Stock to be replenished with fresh fruit, canned drinks and milk. Adequate sweets, crisps, tea and coffee are already in stock.

Drama Production – 16th, 17th & 18th July

Ice Creams to be served during intervals instead of fruit.

Caz and Jo Hawkins will rally some of their Year 7 parent friends to help with stall.

We will ask for more helpers when the production is advertised on Parentmail.

Summer Fair – July date to be confirmed

In June's absence we agreed to discuss this again when she returned. In the meantime there was a discussion about the Young Enterprise students using vacant shops in Axminster as a "Pop-up shop" and various suggestions were made of shops that are currently sitting empty in Axminster (RSPCA shop, Marle Gallery, Axe Music). The idea of a music talent show to run alongside the stalls was considered a good idea with the name "Axe Factor" suggested by Jo. One of the issues with the date is the availability of the Main Hall in the event of wet weather, as the Hall will be set up for Annie rehearsals on the weekend of the 7th & 8th July. The Black Box and Magnolia rooms suggested as possible alternatives.

Football Competition

JL has spoken to Chris D, manager of the Leisure Centre, about a possible competition event and his view was that the local football clubs organise their own events and that there would be insufficient demand to make it viable.

Pamper Evening – October/November 2018

Louise is keen to promote her business with a fashion show, students to model the Christmas collection. Alongside we can invite stall holders offering pampering services (facials, manicure, massage etc) as well as beauty products and some gifts. Folder of contacts and details of the pamper evening organised by Mel Melville **to be looked at by Jacky**. More to be discussed at the next meeting.

Quiz Night – Once per term

There was huge enthusiasm for Head's suggestion of a termly quiz night. Various possible venues discussed including The Lamb, The Ridgeway, Golden Hind, Seaton and Axmouth. **Jo Hawkins is going to look into suitability and availability** and come back with suggestions and dates. It was considered a good idea to venture towards Seaton to attract families that often don't tend to participate in school events. It was suggested that we should encourage teams from teachers, governors, students as well as parents etc..

Minster Challenge – 7th October 2018

Jacky asked Jo Huscroft to check and confirm the date so that the application to the Association of Running Clubs be made and therefore insurance set up.

Fundraising ideas

The Giving Machine

The PTFA discussed the way the Giving Machine works. An initial registration with some personal data, then subsequent login via an app which redirects you to your chosen shopping sites that can be used on a phone or laptop. It is simple and includes many well-known retailers. KP to draft an appeal to parents.

Local Giving

Currently Local Giving is used as a method for parents to donate towards clubs and activities. In the autumn we particularly promote it as there has been an annual match funding campaign. Also ASPIRE parents were asked to use this as a method of contributing towards events. There has been minimal take up of this, but some ASPIRE funds have accumulated which will be allocated accordingly. Staff, particularly club providers, should be made more aware of the Local Giving facility and encourage club users to donate regularly.

Lotto

The former 100 Club was discussed and generally thought to be a good idea. It worked well for a number of years, but fizzled after a relaunch a couple of years ago. It still has a separate bank account but no license which will cost approximately £70 to renew.

Ideally, we could relaunch for Transition evening when we meet all the Year 6 parents, as well as at the Year 7 parents evening and in general to the rest of the school. It requires the purchase of a gambling license which has the added benefit of allowing us to use this for ticketed raffles etc.

Community Directory

KP suggested we compile a directory of local businesses and services including details of businesses of families in our school community as well as those of our feeder primary schools. Advertisers would pay for their advert and the booklets would be sold to students and encouraged to sell them in their local community (neighbours etc). The committee felt it could be a lot of work gathering the information and that the sales of booklets would be difficult particularly as we all use the internet for that kind of information.

Any Other Business

PTFA goal

It was discussed how an amount or significant goal might be helpful and motivating for the organisation:

- Minibus – not practical as too expensive and complicated to maintain and insure.
- Cash-less Canteen system – a desirable item, although some members like that their children learn about money, however potentially a lot more expensive than anticipated and has significant implications to the management of canteen and finance department – not practical.
- Library – currently books are bought by the Axminster Care service
- Sports facilities – long jump needs over-hauling, not a significant item
- More clubs and activities run by paid external suppliers, such as archery, gym, dance, trampolining, cookery etc - The committee though we should prepare a questionnaire to be given to students to get them to vote for what they want. If possible arrange a time for tutors to discuss their ideas during tutor time. Similarly, we should invite parents and staff for their ideas. We could also look at what other schools are doing. **KP & JL to draft**

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **23rd April 2018 at 6pm** in Head's office. Please meet in Reception and use the front entrance off Chard Street.