

Minutes of the Aldryngton PTA meeting 2nd July 2015

1. Present

Simon Feist; Philip Byrne; Anna Neffendorf; Elaine Stewart; Michaela Thomas; Becky Friday; Clair Harris; Amanda Ellis; Ruth Evans; Amanda Bates; John Thompson; Kay Blackaby; Julia Franks; Matthew Simpson; Sabine Bickle; Helen Barnes; Claire Connell

2. Apologies

Sarah Harding

3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

- Safeguarding policy document to be discussed **Action SF & AE – still to be done**
- Jubilee Crest mosaic still to be completed – SF showed a progress photo
- Revive the 100 club? **AN to investigate.**
- Pool showers options are being explored by Tony Hanson with the possibility of apply for funding – **update next meeting**

There were no other matters arising and the Minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting on 7th May 2015.

4. Treasurer's report

The treasurer's report was discussed and will be available on the PTA pages of the school website.

- Cake sale money unspent will be reviewed in October with a view to setting a spending deadline for funds raised in 2014-15. Staff to be informed that if the item they want is slightly more than funds raised please raise a request with PTA for the additional money.
- Gift aid on swimming lesson donations – CH updated us with progress so far. We are awaiting the outcome of a review by PTA-UK and will move forward based on that.
- Parent donations – the school has had a number of parents wishing to make financial donations. In order to be able to claim Gift Aid on these, the donations must be made directly to the PTA, as the school is not a registered charity. These will be treated as restricted funds in the event that the donation is made for a specified purpose.
- Matched funding – Most companies require a letter confirming participation in the event. A joint PTA/school letter will be written to be signed by both the Head and the PTA Chair – **action SF/ES**

5. School funding partnership

Interactive Whiteboard replacement: The installation of these in middle school is intended for the summer break. Now this procurement process has been carried out, the procedure for future replacements will be much quicker and simpler. The next priority is Lower school.

Leavers Party - **£100** requested for food and materials for the Year six leaver's party **approved** (15/17). There are items left over from the try-a-tri and summer fair that may also be donated if required. Helpers will be needed on 20th July.

Jubilee teddies - PTA gift to all pupils at the Jubilee picnic to commemorate the golden Jubilee approx. **£1271 approved** (15/18) Several parents have asked if it would be possible to purchase a teddy for siblings not at Aldryngton. There are no spare teddies, but **JF will look into how much it would cost** to buy some more if there is enough interest.

Pool cover roller update - The geared system provided by Pool Sentry was chosen as the preferred option and the order will now be placed. **Action JF**

6. Review of events this term

Disco – the discos are running smoothly, we have a good stock of glow in the dark items for next year. The dates for 2015/16 were set as Oct 22nd; 11th Feb; 12th May

Pool club – the take up this year has been excellent. There have been a few teething problems regarding safety, rule reminders have been sent out emphasising the need to watch your children at all times. **MT** is coordinating the safety messages to pool club. **AE** asked why there are no life rings poolside. There is a pool 'hook' which is an effective tool for lifesaving – may need to make it more visible? Some smaller children are straying into the deep end too easily due to the current float rope being easily submerged and not very visible. A new rope with more floats is to be sourced. **(JF/AN)** **ES** suggested that if the members on duty wore hi-vis jackets it would make it easier for everyone to be clear who was on duty. This was agreed as a good idea.

Summer fayre/Jubilee picnic The afternoon of the picnic and mini fayre has had lots of positive feedback from parents and many requests for more of the same next year, including the performances. It was decided that next year we should have a similar event, but it would need to be on Thurs 26th May (the last day before half term) so that those families observing Ramadan will be able to take part. This will mean that the Try-a- tri will be our main event in the second half of the summer term.

Try-a-tri – another big success this year, the event ran smoothly, the weather was kind, the barbeque was well attended, and the tug-of-war worked well as a 'time-filler' and money raiser. Final figures will be available shortly.

7. Parent volunteer group project

A parent has offered a group of his colleagues to work on a project in school for a day. This would need to be Mon-Fri, so probably during school holidays. **ES / JF to discuss a suitable project**

8. Events next term

Christmas cards – **MT** to check with Rhona for a start early September

Christmas fair – planning to start in the first meeting after the AGM.

Film club / Frozen singalong – we may have missed the boat with Frozen, but further investigation into a film club may be worthwhile. **Discuss at next meeting**

Wrap a present – most of the shopping has been done for this year. MT and AP coordinating

9. PTA class representatives

This item will be higher on the agenda next meeting, **MT** has a document with ideas for the role, which she will circulate by email, with a view to making a final decision at the next meeting.

10. PTA Constitution – revision required

The Charity Commission has asked us to make changes to two sections of the constitution before they will accept it. AN will work on the revision which will be presented for acceptance at the AGM.

11. AOB

- House t-shirts were suggested last year that could be purchased by parents for use at house events such as sports day – apparently there is a parent in the school who has a t-shirt printing business. **To be discussed further next term**
- Filming children’s performances (e.g. Nativity) and sale of the resulting DVD. There are issues around children that may not be filmed and photographed for safeguarding reasons, we would not want to highlight this by singling out children that may not appear. However there may be a work around. **For further discussion**
- BT Donate vs Just Giving – BT donate is used for the swimming lesson donations, we did try to use it for the Try-a-tri sponsorship as well, but it was confusing to use. It may be simpler if we had a just giving account specifically for sponsored events such as the Try-a-tri. **CH to investigate**

10. Date of AGM and Next Meeting

AGM – Thursday 17th September 2015 – 7pm in the School Hall – children welcome

Next meeting – Thursday 1st October 2015 - 7pm in the Staffroom annex

Addendum

Pool - A new rope with more floats has been sourced and the officers agreed by email that it should be purchased. Final amount to be approved retrospectively at the next meeting.