

**Minutes of the PTA Meeting
30th March 2011
7:30pm Aldryngton school**



1. Present

Peter Kemm, Avril Kiff, Stephen Lea, Simon Windisch, Simon Feist, John Thompson, Sue Beasley, Elaine Stewart, Siana Butt

Apologies: Melda Baxter, Justine Bark

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Stephen Lea proposed the following

Correction to minutes of PTA Committee meeting 18 Jan 2011; insert:

Item 4, Budget plan:

"Stephen presented an estimate of £7,000 for minimum expected income from the PTA's normal fundraising activities over the coming year, based on the income achieved in recent years (see Treasurer's Report 14 Jan 2011). Last year we were asked for £1,600 for Curriculum funding requests, of which only about £1,000 was taken up. Given the increased pressures on the school's budget for the coming year, the Committee agreed to set aside £2,000 for Curriculum funding requests in the first instance. The balance of £5,000 will be allocated to Grounds Development projects and pool equipment to be decided. The Committee agreed not to commit to funding beyond its balance at the time of making the commitment."

As we recall, we definitely wanted to contribute to the development plan and we are willing to have it inserted, but it's pool equipment and other things. We agreed this change to the previous minutes with a change from "pool equipment" to "pool maintenance equipment".

Apart from this the minutes of Meeting 18th Jan were agreed as correct.

The minutes of the meeting of 1st March were agreed as correct.

3. Treasurer's report

The report was attached.

The amount we've got has come down considerably, we're not in trouble yet. We still have £6,000 left. We have finally reimbursed Julia Marshall for her cake sale funds. This period is always pretty quiet.

Cake sales have started. Mrs Debney's was not so good. Miss Cullinane's will be an all foundation one to make up for it.

We have requests for funding – listed.

002/12 Computers for ICT suite £ 1,400.00:

This was for predicted replacement computers.

Agreed. Spending will be in line with the ICT strategy group

003/12 Small drums (10) for Lower School £ 130.00

004/12 Floor drums (3) for Foundation Stage £ 153.00

005/12 Xylophones for Middle School £ 155.00

006/12 Bilingual story books for Lower School £ 100.00

007/12 Multicultural books for Library £ 200.00

These are all agreed

Total £ 2,138.00

008/12 Steps for foundation children to use the interactive whiteboards £685.00.

This was not agreed. We should make something. Stephen suggests foundation to raise the money – is this fair to them? Simon Feist will build a step. He will talk to Miss Cullinane, price it up and submit an expense form.

009/12 Minor items of pool pay equipment for Pool Club use - Sue Beasley - £60.00.

This is agreed, purchased through school.

4. ME catchment area and the PTA's 'final' position

Proposals are being voted on tomorrow. Proposals have to be for the benefit for all Aldryngton children. A 600m radius would exclude a small amount of the catchment area.

On behalf of the excluded families, do we want to change our position?

The only safe radius is 722m, any smaller than that and we exclude Aldryngton catchment children.

We stand by our original position, the 600m is the best that we're going to get. This is a proposal only, we might get something else.

Children now in year 5 will be out of inner catchment area. The best we can do is either to ask for no change, or the 600m change.

We will make no further representation to the council.

5. Pool issues: PayPal and online form, rules etc

a. siblings at other schools - is this family or single?

b. cost of guest tickets?

The whole pool form and payment option is on the website

Paypal charge a charity rate which is less than the normal rate, we need to prove to them that we are a charity. If we do this then the charge will be 20p plus 1.6% of the transaction and should be 48p. We only need 2 extra families to make this up and this new method should bring them in.

Sibling rule: If an Aldryngton child that has single membership has an older child that wants to swim then that older child is allowed to as long as they pay for a guest ticket.

What if parent wants an occasional swim? Do they have to get a family ticket? What signals do we give? Q. "I'm a parent, can I get into the pool?" A. Yes if you have a family ticket. Or buy extra guest tickets.

Currently guest tickets are £2 poolside or £15 for 10 tickets. Ad hoc sales make quite a lot during the summer.

Loddon Valley charges £2.50 for a child. We are trying to encourage people. £3 would be too much, stick with £2, and 10 for £15.

Non-rotta swimming – Someone should be able to say "I'm going" and others will say yes. Graham is looking for solutions to this. He will do some extra research.

There have been 15 pool applications – all but one wanted Thursday evening resus training so a third session needs to be weekday evening, unless Leslie can bring an extra instructor on the Thursday that we already have booked.

We need to work out a plan to do induction sessions during the resus training.

6. **Aldryngton grounds development plan.**

PowerPoint presentation can be downloaded from the minutes section of the PTA website

This is a whole Playground refurbishment in phases:

Phase 1 - 2011

Wokingham will do this for us, also the paths around the school, Then we will need to paint in a netball court and other markings. This will cost £3-4,000, which is not in the school budget.

We also plan to update the gazebo seating, make wildlife enhancements and put in Railway sleeper style flowerbeds, so that every part of school needs to look like it's been improved

Phase 2 – 2012, lots more line markings.

Outdoor stage like at beechwood, beneath the trees.

Andy is clearing the side of the swimming pool, not sure if this will work as goalpost storage. We also should strip and repaint the play-train. The school also needs more shade.

Phase 3 2013

Swimming pool fence – the pin on boards are really expensive.

We are looking for grants

The PTA response was:

This seems to be exactly what the PTA should be raising money for.

Graham will help in making a flyer to communicate this out to parents.

We should get together a list of tradespeople.

There will be a piece for the almanac asking for parental help.

7. **Governors' funding vs PTA funding**

Now that we have the plan we need to look at getting grants, what things are appropriate for funding? What can be supported by PTA manpower?

There will be a group to have PTA and governor participation

Julia Franks, Elaine Stewart, Rhona Phipps, Stephen Lea from governors.

Graham Begg from PTA?

There seems to be too many governors. Do we need another PTA person, prepared to take on responsibility for garnering manpower, rustling up money. Rhona is looking for grants, may need to be made in the name of the PTA, that's not a problem.

They are trying to get everything working together.

We will go away and think about co-opting someone for this role. What is the purpose of this group? Is it more of an ideas forum or an executive way to apply for grants. Can we see a description of what is entailed? What is the role, what is the time commitment? It needs to be fleshed out more. Preferably a parent from lower school, so they can see it happen all the way through.

Can we see an email saying what it would entail? **Stephen to chase this up.**

8. Traversing wall ground surface options

There are some options to improve the ground:

It would cost around £3,000 to put down mesh mats. If the PTA did the work it would save £2,000.

There is some mesh left over from the car park, we could double it up and peg it down for virtually no cost. What about the trip hazards? Two layers of matting would need to be dug down.

The plan would be to do a trial area. Peter will do it, he needs another volunteer, perhaps this can be done as part of the spring gardening party?

9. Fruit For Schools

Simon Feist has been offered 50 coconuts, he will build a shy.

10. Home grown produce sale

This would be run like the harvest festival. There would be a 50/50 split on everything taken.

11. Bingo night - are we doing it, when?

We took Bingo out because of international week.

Are we doing it at all? It makes about £300. Can we shuffle this to another part of the season? We can't really fit it in.

The brochure handed out at parents' evening was excellent. Thanks to Graham for doing this.

12. Pool: Sue doesn't want too many people for the chemical checking team. She is assuming that Andy will check during the weekend. PTA will only check for Andy's two week holiday. She will manage this.

13. Any other business

Graham has spoke to Gavin Murdoch (webmaster). He has agreed to help but doesn't know what to do.

Cake sale: Nobody knew it was happening. We did sell all the cakes though.

Can we use the hall? Does anyone use the hall on a Thursday?

Everywhere is busy. **We need to move Miss Cullinane's cake sale date because it's on the date of the maypole dance.**

Graham suggested that we need a longer term objective to find a better location for a cake sale.

14. Date and time of next meeting May 4th 7:30