



**Aldryngton School PTA**  
**Minutes of the PTA Annual General Meeting**  
**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

**1. Present**

Simon Feist; Claire Connell; Anna Neffendorf; Julia Franks; Kay Blackaby; Laxmi Jalagam; Amanda Ellis; Sabine Bickle; Philip Byrne; Helen Barnes; Catherine Maskell; Clair Harris; Michaela Thomas; Elaine Stewart

**2. Approval of the minutes of the previous AGM**

The minutes of the last AGM were accepted

**3. Chair's report – Simon Feist**

Another year has passed and the many activities undertaken now reside as both achievements and enjoyable memories.

The autumn of 2013 saw many events taking place, as always with the view of raising funds for enriching the school experience for all children. Another successful disco was held, run by Caff, Helen and their team, with the children once again all leaving with smiles on their faces. Cakes sales continued to be popular and Anna continued to do a sterling job of creating order from chaos when the sale begins and the flood of children enter. The term was completed with the Christmas fayre and the efforts of all parents who contributed was very gratefully received. With the benefit of raising the funds comes the pleasure of spending them and funding the purchase of the astro turf for the stage area along with a range of classroom equipment made the efforts of parents worthwhile.

As we moved into 2014 the Spring bought us many regular activities as well as some new ones. A bingo evening was enjoyed by many and Phil certainly found a new vocation as 'caller', well played chap. This term the purchase of the Numicon maths resource was one of the examples of how PTA funding has again supported the aims of the school and enhanced the learning experience.

The summer term of 2014 bought an enjoyable end to the year as well as a glimpse of the activities planned for the next year school Jubilee celebrations. Once again the Try-a-tri was well attended by pupils and some stunning efforts by numerous teams were witnessed on the day. For many however the highlight of the year was when Happy's Circus came to town. Once again they thrilled the crowd with their spectacular displays.

A big thank you should go to all the parents who constantly support the school throughout the year. Whether it's coordinating the second hand clothes sales, reading with children, providing assistance during school trips or helping with swimming lessons all parents should be proud of the support they provide for the excellent school that their children attend. As a final note I would like to thank Claire for her exceptional efforts as Treasurer of the PTA. Her

contribution has been so much more than just dealing with the PTA finances and few deserve a standing ovation more than her.

I look forward to the Jubilee year that lies ahead.

#### **4. Treasurer's report – Claire Connell**

The PTA raises much needed money to enhance the school's environment, and provide educational materials for our children. We aim to raise this money in ways which are fun and draw the community together!

Once again we've had a very successful fundraising year. There have been regular events such as the Discos, Try-a-tri, Pool Club, Christmas events and the Circus which have raised thousands of pounds. There have also been smaller fundraising events such as the Bingo. Ongoing fundraising continues through the sale of second hand uniform and commission from the Easyfundraising website and Easy2Name labels.

The Cake Sales have been popular, although takings dipped slightly this year. The money raised is made available to the class teachers to be spent. This is shown as restricted income and expenditure in the accounts. Amounts that were unspent as at 31st August will be spent before the next round of cake sales begins.

A new restricted fund has been created through the gift of £250 from parents. This is to be spent on the purchase of a staffroom amenity.

As well as the hard work of parents and children we have also benefitted from Corporate Sponsorship from Martin & Pole. Vodafone have once again match funded over £1400 as 4 of their employees volunteered at the Christmas Fayre.

We ended the year with £25,000 in the bank to be spent on supporting our children's education. However once this is spent, it is gone! The challenge is therefore to replace this and raise even more this year. Everyone can play their part – either by regular or by one-off assistance. All ideas are welcome – either to improve regular fundraising events or to try new ones.

#### **5. Head's report – Elaine Stewart**

This AGM is both an opportunity to reflect on, and celebrate the achievements of the previous school year and to look ahead to the forthcoming year which, as you know, is Aldryngton's 50th Jubilee.

I'd like to thank our committee members for their time and contribution to meetings and for all their work behind the scenes.

Traditional highlights of the PTA calendar have been as successful as always; Christmas Fayre, infant and junior discos, cake sales, Happy's Circus and the Bingo evening. Second hand uniform sales are increasingly valued by parents with sales growing year on year.

Our fundraising efforts have been boosted by matched funding streams such as the Vodafone scheme, which last year raised £1500.

Of course the school is very grateful to have received continued financial support from the association. School budgets are increasingly tight and PTA support no longer provides the 'good to have items' but provides the 'need to have' elements of the school's provision. All schools are required to deliver the new National Curriculum which has placed additional financial demands upon us. The PTA has kindly assisted the school in purchasing additional resources.

The PTA contributes to all walks of school life not just fundraising and the provision of social events. It works in close partnership with the school in many ways including the running of the swimming pool. Members also provide support during school events such as Sports Day, fund the leavers' party, contribute to Grounds development group meetings and attend the New Parents' meetings.

I hope the coming year will be as eventful and enjoyable as last year, particularly as it's our Jubilee. The PTA has already kindly agreed to fund a gift for all pupils and organise the installation of a commemorative mosaic.

As always it would be lovely to see be able to welcome new faces with skills, energy and time to give the school and its wider community in addition to stalwarts of the association.

## 6. Election of Chair

At this stage the Chair of the meeting was passed to Mrs Stewart.

Election of Chair: Simon Feist was proposed by Philip Byrne and seconded by Michaela Thomas. **Appointed**

## 7. Election of Treasurer, Secretary and Vice Chair

Election of Treasurer: Clair Harris was proposed by Anna Neffendorf and seconded by Philip Byrne. **Appointed.**

Election of Secretary: Anna Neffendorf was proposed by Simon Feist and seconded by Claire Connell. **Appointed.**

Election of Vice-Chair: Philip Byrne was proposed by Catherine Maskell and seconded by Amanda Ellis. **Appointed.**

## 8. Filling of other roles

Simon confirmed those willing to continue to oversee the following activities:

Newsletter & Communication	Michaela Thomas
Pool club	Kirsty Scott
Discos	Catherine Maskell and Helen Barnes
Wrap A Present	Alice Peacock
Second hand Uniforms	Vicki Adams
Christmas Cards	Rhona Phipps – with assistance please!
Cake sales	Anna Neffendorf & Justine Bark
Staff	Kay Blackaby, Julia Franks

## 9. Fundraising suggestions for this year

All the usual events are planned for this year

Further suggestions made at the AGM to be discussed at future PTA meetings:

Christmas pudding sales

Camping on the school field

Bar area for parents during discos

## 10. AOB

- The meeting agreed that Alan Harland would again be appointed as our Independent Examiner.
- A mosaic is to be made during the jubilee celebrations of the school crest

- PTA Communication with parents – full discussion to be on the agenda of the next meeting
- Other items raised including logo t shirts, Santa's grotto divider and external stalls at the Christmas Fayre will be added to the next PTA meeting agenda.

**11. The date of the next PTA meeting**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at 7.00pm in the staff room annex.