

PTFA Meeting Minutes – Tuesday 20th October 2009

Present: Louise Barnes, Alison Barnes, Dianne Ellithorn, Sarah Taylor, Suzanne & Alan Stenhouse, Cathryn Walmsley, Nicola Nuttall, Samantha White, Teresa Withington, Sharon Oldfield, Helen Finney, Emma Dickinson.

Apologies: Damian Marsh, Marie Graves

1. Welcome and chairpersons report

Alison welcomed everyone to meeting. A newsletter has been sent out last week with details of forthcoming event dates, and Alison wanted to discuss the individual events at this meeting.

The PTFA has been asked by Mr Marsh to fund a new server. The white boards (funded by the PTFA) are slowing the server. In July PTFA members were invited to express their opinion – mixed opinions were expressed. The PTFA were not aware of this strain on the server before this time. Louise explained to the meeting that she, like other staff, had had the server crash on her, and that its inadequacies were compromising the lessons.

Cost of a new server is £5,500, and has already been purchased by school.

There was a lengthy discussion about the capacity of the old server, how often memory is dumped, the frequency of Zentek visits to the school, and about the funding of the new server.

Alison asked for a decision at the meeting, so the matter could be closed. Some members wanted an open discussion with Damian about funding the server and information re the long-term technology plans for the school, - Sam suggested that those members should go and speak to Damian directly.

The decision was voted upon, and the meeting agreed to fund the server with 12 votes in favour and 1 abstention.

2. Treasurers Report

No events held so far this year – no finances to report.

3. Head teacher Report.

Louise also raised the possibility of the PTFA funding a projector for the school hall. This was met with a positive response, but a decision was deferred till the next meeting due to the time taken to discuss the server.

4. Forthcoming events

- **AGM – Wed 4th Nov 2009.** Alison clarified what the AGM is, and explained to the meeting what the roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary involve. To date we have had no nominations for any of the Offices. She urged people to consider undertaking the roles. We also discussed the benefits of having Vice-chair, Vice-treasurer and Vice-secretary. Alison has been told the PTFA is seen as cliquy – she reiterated that it is not, but is a small body of people who have to work together well to deliver events. The new parents at the meeting stated that their first impression was of a friendly and organised PTFA, but felt that the role of Chair was “big shoes to fill” as Alison has been in post for many successful years. Teresa expressed an interest in the Secretary role. All the existing Officers committed to helping any new Officers elected at the AGM.
- **Cake Sale – Thurs 5th Nov** – Letter and colouring competition pictures go out this week. Thank you to the volunteers Dianne Ellithorn, Helen Finney and Sharon Oldfield for setting up at 2:30pm and selling. Alison will approach one more volunteer - Thanks to Julie Souter who has agreed to help.
- **Mince Pie Munch – Thurs 10th Dec** – to be discussed in more depth at next meeting. Sam queried if we are ticketing the event or asking for donations with our new Gift Aid status – and will email Nick Salter. Licence – we had a licence for a bar last year – Alison to decide if we are applying for a licence.
- **Ladies Evening – Fri 27th November** – Alison asked for a couple of volunteers to try to get stall for this event. Nicola volunteered to do this. Helen volunteered to run a cake stall. Sharon will look into a Virgin V makeup/cosmetics stall. Possibilities for stall include cards, and handbags. It was agreed to charge £10 per stall and ask for a donation to the raffle. Licence is required for the bar – Alison Barnes.
- **Tea towels – Xmas Gift 2009** – The order has to be placed by Thurs 5 Nov. Designs for the surrounds were agreed – KS1 hand design, and KS2 children design. The different Key Stages will be in different colours – navy blue and royal blue.

5.Any other business

- **Snail Races** – Sarah told everyone about a snail race evening, where races are sold in advance of the event and then parents & children can enjoy watching the races on DVD. A date will be considered at a future meeting.
- **Easter Egg Bingo** – Diane's school event is 19 March 2010, so we need to organise our event so it doesn't clash.
- **Vue Cinema** – Cathryn has been trying to obtain tickets for a film and has been unable to establish contact. Dianne will continue to contact Vue on behalf of the school.
- **Buy-at.com** – Dianne mentioned that her school use this, which generates a source of income for her school and there is a link to it on her school website. She is going to get details for us.
- **Meeting minutes** – minutes will be posted on the school website in future.

Next meeting date 7:30pm Wed 4 Nov 2009 AGM

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm