

Friends of Whimble School Meeting
The Thirsty Farmer
7th February 2017
7.30pm

1. Welcome and Apologies

Welcome: Caroline Rowe, Katie Williams, Zoe Bickel, Katy Hill, Katherine Bell, James Woollam, Donna Woolston,

9pm Maria Wallis, Carole Shilston

Apologies: Cathy Culshaw, Georgina Bayley, Linden Best, Susie Plank, Louise Fenner, Kirsty Sherwood, Kaya Taylor, Charlotte Woollam, Susie Plank, Tanya Hynd, Helen Badley, Amanda Yendole

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Katie W has yet to speak to Sam Walker but all other aspects of the minutes are a true record of events.

3. Treasurers Report

James Woollam has officially become the Treasurer of FoWS. James Woollam, Caroline Rowe and Joanna Sibley are signatory's on the fundraising account. The current bank balance is a healthy £8511.53 with £21.82 in cash.

Moving forward, James would like to set up internet banking and the committee are happy for him to do so. James would also like to look into ways to store dormant money in a savings account that would potentially earn more interest.

4. Review of events

- a. **Craft Fair-** The fair went well even though there were concerns about a clash with another craft fair at Killerton on the same day. This autumn the dates have been swapped with the Preloved Sale to avoid the clash again. Gaby Sweet and Cathy Culshaw are happy to run it alongside Mona Diaz, who will be leaving FoWS in 2018.
- b. **Halloween Disco-** Another successful event which made £228.50 and was very much enjoyed by the children who were all so well behaved. A couple of changes to be made including an adjustment to the signing children out procedure and also turning the volume down for the little children who found it too loud. Perhaps an earlier quieter disco for the younger children and a louder disco for the older ones slightly later.
- c. **Christmas Fair-** It went well and was enjoyed by all the children. It made £230.07. We will need more volunteers on the build up to the fair as well as a good amount on the day from each class.
- d. **Cake Sale-** It was the first time we had two stalls. One in the top playground and one in the key stage 1 playground. It seemed to work well allowing the younger ones to get a quieter purchase of cakes, so we will do that again this Friday.

5. Future Events

- a. **Cake Sale-** Two tables to be used again, Katy Hill and Kirsty Sherwood are ready.
- b. **Easter Egg Hunt- 18th March 2017**
Lester and Helen Bowker have agreed to let us use their orchard. Volunteers needed at 12pm to hide eggs and mark out areas. The Egg hunt will start at 2pm with each child paying £1 to enter. An Easter Egg Basket competition will be judged by Maria Wallis.
- c. **Easter Bingo-** We will not be doing it this year.

- d. **Summer Disco-** As the Halloween Disco was a success and popular amongst the children. Katie W will look into dates, venues and DJ's. Kirsty Sherwood is happy to run it.
- e. **Summer Fair-24th June 2017.** Donna is happy to run this event with lots of volunteers. Soup and Sarnie will be in the hall on the same day.
- f. **Village day- 8th July 2017** Would need to find volunteers for the bar and for the bouncy castle throughout the afternoon. Initial response looks good.
- g. **Summer Ball- 1st July 2017** Themes to be announced. Ball committee to meet up.
- h. **Beetle Drive- 3rd July 2017** Not discussed at the meeting but Caroline Rowe happy to run it in the hall with more prizes than last year.
- i. **Word Search-** Katy Hill had an idea for a word search generated with all the children's names from the school in it. Katy to talk to Carole Shilston.
- j. **Non school uniform day-** An idea for the summer term. (Dress up as what you'd like to be when you're grown up)
- k. **FoWS Social-** Ideas to get new Mums, Dads and carers into the social network without giving them a job straight away. It was noted that it's always the same people at the meetings and helping at the fundraisers.

6. Items requested by the Head Teacher

Carole Shilston and Maria Wallis joined the meeting at 9pm

- a. Consent has been given to build a wooden shelter at the MUGA. FoWS have offered to pay towards it. Carole Shilston will confirm an amount with James Woollam.
- b. Carole also requested that £100 per term of FoWS fundraising to be spent on playground equipment.
- c. FoWS have offered funds to reimburse Whimple School after the Rock Solid event, which 60 children had applied for, went into liquidation and FoWS were also happy to fund an alternative. The Bear Trail is being looked in to.
- d. Maria Wallis updated the committee on some of the potential budget difficulties that the school would face. James reaffirmed that money from FoWS fundraising was at the school's disposal to support whatever the necessary projects were. Maria and the Governors would like to thank FoWS for their continued support.

7. AOB

- a. **The Village Defibrillator**
Village organisations are raising money for a defibrillator to be put at the village hall.
On Saturday 25th February 2017 Soup and Sarnie will be in the hall alongside a Table Top Sale with all profits going towards the new defibrillator.
Volunteers will be needed to help set up on the Friday before the event from 7-9pm and on the day from 12-1.30pm. Ultimately the cost of the defibrillator is £1500 and with other organisations getting involved, this target will hopefully be reached quickly. Katy Hill raised concerns that there have been cases where defibrillators have been stolen.
- b. Daisy Randall would like to have a stall at the Summer Fair to raise money to go to an orphanage in Southern India.
- c. Ideas to get more parents involved at FoWS events- Special treatment to committee members e.g. Front row seats at shows and team points for their children.

8. Date of the next meeting.

25th April 2017