

Willingham School Association
Meeting Minutes
Thursday 30th January – 8.00pm
The Duke of Wellington, Willingham



Attendees:

Marie Clements, David Morel, Justine Green, Susan Passmore, Karen Monks, Emma Byrom, Anna Woodward

Apologies:

Katy Gilbert, Emma Bowyer, Justine Green, Claire Henry, Amy Shaw, Lorna Hopcroft, Becky Binney

1. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the WSA meeting on the 29th October were approved without comment.

2. Treasurers Report update

LH sent a summary of funding reserved from last year towards running track and House branding, plus funding already agreed for 2019-2020. This was reviewed and agreed by all.

3. Funding requests from the School

Times Table Rockstars & Numbots was proposed by the school to replace mathematics. Funding requested of £204.40. This is a saving and is better value for money. Good feedback so far from pupils using this software.

Agreed by all.

Geography request of £99 to cover an ICT programme called digi map for access to maps and mapping. Years subscription fits into year 5/6 but available for whole school. **Agreed by all.**

WPS requested £302.43 to cover a shortfall from parents donations to cover pool running costs from last year. **Agreed by all.**

DM requested for ICT funding to update the ICT suite (30 computers) and server. £1680.53 was requested from WSA funding, plus £4347.97 Co-op funding from last year which was for IT resources. **Agreed by all.**

4. Event review

A number of events have taken place between now and the last meeting.

Christmas Fayre: Profit was ~£1930, which is an increase on previous year. The photography sessions were not all filled this year and may need better advertising next year if the same format is used. Thank you to all the helpers and Year 6 helpers.

Wreath making: Profit still to be confirmed but approx. £281. Refreshments did not sell well and feel we could charge more and include refreshments, as the price is very competitive compared to other wreathmaking workshops. Thank you to Emma for running these sessions.

Year 5/6 refreshments and raffle: £303 revenue, which was great. There were three evening performances and two year groups which might explain the high revenue.

Reception Nativity: £150 takings. Highlighted that maybe parents were not aware that refreshments would be available during the performance. Make sure this is advertised to reception parents next year.

Reception film night: £57.50 income, and a reasonable number of attendees. However, even with the film being early and short (3.30 and less than 1 hour), the children did not sit quietly and therefore feel that a film night is not appropriate for reception children until the later terms.

Bags to school: £136 was raised, and no issues were raised. Plan to schedule another collection in the spring term.

Christmas cards: £321 was raised and there were no issues. Organising the orders was time consuming, but all the orders were checked before being distributed to children which lead to no reported issues. Thank you to Mrs Varty for all her work on making such amazing art for the Christmas cards.

Pantomime: The whole school panto was well received and the children seemed very excited afterwards, with popcorn made by WSA committee members. The WSA has been given positive feedback on this experience for the pupils. DM suggested a change to next years panto and change the type of performance offered (same company may be able to offer an alternative show). DM will look into this and report back

Christmas crackers: This year we supplied these from donations from Poundland.

5. Upcoming events:

Ginuary: To be held on 31/1/20 with 55 tickets sold (more than previous years). Gin selections, tonics and garnishes have all been ordered with tasting notes and quiz also prepared. This year we are holding a raffle with donated vouchers.

Beetle Drive: Proposed date of 1st March 2pm-4pm. MC to check date with JTW and poster to be made to start advertising event. Pricing from last year to be confirmed, payment for event on the date (no pre-sale of tickets)

Cake sales: monthly ticking along, with donations and sale of cakes high. A charity cake sale has also been arranged by pupils on 31/1/20

Performance dates: None in Spring term

Film Night: 6th March proposed and agreed, with date already confirmed with JTW. Film options considered and Toy Story 4 was voted on. Timing would be 6pm-7.45pm, due to film length. Posters to be made, laminated and distributed, and online payment to be setup. Popcorn will be needed nearer the date.

7. Update on TicketTailor

MC stated that no progress has been made on this, but other options are available.

8. Running Track

The School have applied for an A14 grant application for £10,000. Funding decision will be made by the end of Feb. If unsuccessful there are other options for funding that we would need to look into with the school. The WSA have £5000 reserved to put towards the running track costs.

Marie Clements explained that Ticket Tailor is an on-line ticketing platform which is offering a 6 month trial with reduced costs. The WSA agreed that it would be helpful to use an on-line platform as it can be difficult to track payments and attendees at event.

The WSA agreed to trial ticket tailor for one event to see how it works.

9. Leavers Hoodies

We have changed the company due to all the issues with orders last year. The new company has an online ordering system for parents to order the hoodies directly. School will check that it is available and accessible to all children. Deadline for ordering is 27th April. Kids size hoodies are available to try in the school office.

10. Penny Wars/Quiz & Curry night

Discussion about collecting coppers/silver as a house competition – rebranded as House Pennies. The idea will be presented to the school council to see how to organise it. Agreed to try it and see how it runs. Letter to parents and launched in assembly after half term. Will need agreeing and planned by the school council. Monies raised will go towards the running track.

Quiz and Curry Night proposed as a new fundraising event, with possibility/idea of holding at the Curry House (subject to approval with restaurant). Suggested date of Thursday 7th May, with VE day theme/round. KM to contact curry house. KM to arrange venue and price with curry house and contact Waitrose St Ives for raffle prizes/donation

11. Lottery or 500 club

At the previous meeting the WSA discussed resurrecting the 500 club. With further review, it appears the revenue will not be significantly different compared to the Lottery scheme. MC suggested signing up for the Lottery scheme as there is minimal work for committee members and an extra source of income.

12. AOB

- Fen Gallop update. 69 people have registered, more than last year at same time. Sew n Sew will sew all ribbons onto the medals in return for publicity on banner, face book and website this year will have summer fete element again.
- Amazon Smile: Awaiting payment of 0.5% donations raised from Sept in February (£5 minimum, quarterly payments)
- One Stop funding: MC will apply
- Waitrose funding: KM will apply
- Bounce event: Option to do another bounce event in the year, but was decided to repeat this in September. Discussion about the need for much clearer rules about supervision of children, and possible change in setup so the areas are not as spread out.

Date of next meeting: Thurs 19th March 8pm at The Duke