

Minutes of Eyam School PTA Meeting

Wednesday 13th January 2016 at 8.00pm at the Mechanics Institute

1. Attendees – Louise Heath, Becky Edwards, Julia Pritchard, Mrs Gilbertson, Rachel Wright, Jo Tinker, Vikki Binns, Sophie Bell, Jayne Pritzlaff

Apologies – Jennie Blackaby, Caroline O'Connell, Pam Cocker, Susie Brook, Clare Hepworth, Louise Boatswain, Shelley Dale

Louise Heath welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Feedback from recent events

Bonfire – It was agreed that the bonfire night was a tremendous success in every aspect, and grateful thanks was expressed to Clare Hepworth and her team who did a fantastic job.

The profit was £5483. LH said Clare had asked if more money could be put into the firework fund for next year, to guarantee an extra amount in advance. It was **agreed** that an extra £1000 would be taken out of the PTA current account and transferred into the savings account, which holds the money for the bonfire. So this would now hold £4000 (£3000 ringfenced money plus the extra £1000).

Action – Julia to transfer £1000 to bonfire account.

Easyfundraising – We have raised £355.18 so far, £85 since the AGM in October. We now have 23 supporters. LH mentioned a new pack was available relating to donations from holiday bookings.

Action – Jayne to put something in the newsletter again about easyfundraising with a link for parents to sign up. Also, something on the PTA webpage of the school website with information.

Action – everyone to sign up if not already signed up, and encourage family members etc to sign up.

Victorian coffee morning – It was a good event and great to be involved with the community, but it was a shame that it was icy and bad weather, as this probably kept a large number away.

There was a discussion about ways to get children more involved in the future. Suggestions included

- ✧ getting each class to provide a hamper, perhaps colour-coded, with parents donating one or two items per child to a large class hamper.

Action – Ongoing discussions about it over the next few months.

Pantomime – The PTA paid for children to attend and for their ice creams. All seemed to enjoy it. It was agreed this is a good thing to keep on doing.

Cake stall – We have so far had only one cake stall but it worked well. They were sold at 30p per bun/biscuit etc, and the Squirrels ran it themselves and took the money. It was able to be linked in to the Fair Trade topic too, with Fair Trade ingredients being used. £68 was raised towards outdoor playground equipment.

The next one is **Thursday 28th January** by **Owls** class.

It was agreed that it would be easier for children to bring cakes in using tubs/tins rather than on plates.

Action – Jayne to make a flyer advertising the date, encouraging children to bring them in using a tub/tin, to be handed out in school.

Action – Jayne to put a notice in the newsletter asking for a volunteer parent from Owl Class to help set up at 3pm.

Action – Julia to buy sandwich bags for taking home the bought cakes.

Action – BE to provide some cupcake boxes.

3. Financial position as at 13.01.16

Julia gave an update as to the finances:

Current account - **£11792.66**

Savings (bonfire) - **£4000** *once the money has been transferred in as per action under section 2.

Julia noted that, out of the current account balance, the pantomime tickets still need to be paid for, as do some school trip fees. The 2 x I pads purchased last term also need to be invoiced from the school.

Action – Mrs Gilbertson to forward bill for I pads to Julia.

Mrs Gilbertson asked for the year-end finances to be available on the website or published somewhere.

Action – Julia to forward year-end accounts to Jo for publishing with minutes.

There was a discussion about what the money would be used for. The project that we had been fundraising hard for is the Garden/Outdoor space next to Badger class, which we are hoping to develop into an outdoor eating area/performance area/sitting area/gardening area. The work required was discussed, and the pros and cons of how to get the work done.

It was agreed that quotations would be sought for the work from various sources, and to gauge an idea of availability and how soon it could be completed.

Action – LH to speak to Andrew Marsden

Action – LH to approach Matt Killingley

Action – Sophie Bell to donate some 'free trees' to school

Action – BE to ask 'Bob'

It was discussed that, once the main building work was done, we could get volunteers to do some of the manual labour that didn't need specialist skills. This could be linked into the Auction of Promises, i.e. a donation of 3 hours digging/wheelbarrowing etc.

Mrs Gilbertson raised three further projects to be aiming towards once the Outdoor space is underway:

- 1) Tyre play area
- 2) Shelter in the field
- 3) Extra room in the school by renovating the area next to Hedgehog class behind the coat/toilet corridor, to be used for music/small groups/quiet area.

It was agreed that we would advertise the Auction of Promises as fundraising for the Outdoor area and the Tyre play area, and possibly use funds raised from the Bonfire Night 2016 to go towards the extra room idea.

Action – Mrs Gilbertson to get quotations/ideas of costs for tyre area and shelter for the field.

4. Items paid for last term

Mrs Gilbertson mentioned that the new Ipads were being well used in school. Each class now has its own, which is being primarily used for taking photos and videos and using with apps which are specific to that class.

5. Proposed calendar for 2016

Auction of Promises – To be held on **Saturday 16th April 7.30pm,**
Mechanics

Becky Edwards gave an account of what is involved and required in the Auction of Promises.

There was a discussion about how to change things slightly from previous years, so it was agreed that:

- ✦ People can put a bid in beforehand if they can't attend on the night.
- ✦ The event would be ticketed so that numbers can be accurately assessed in advance - £1 ticket would get you an entry into the 'Guess how many logs in the trailer' outside (Clare Hepworth to lead?)
- ✦ If numbers were large, the upstairs area could be used as an overflow with sound being piped up so that extra people could attend and be involved.
- ✦ Volunteers would be required to leaflet and advertise the event, in Eyam, Foolow and Stoney Middleton.
- ✦ The closing date for promised items is **5th March 2016.**

Action – BE to ask for volunteers for things to be auctioned in the newsletter over the next few weeks.

Quiz and Supper Night – To be held in June, date TBC

LH is happy to organise another Quiz and Supper night. Jayne suggested variations to the traditional form of quiz, and volunteered to lead the quiz element of the night, with LH organising the supper.

Action – LH and Jayne to fix a date.

Real Ale event – To be held in July, date TBC

BE mentioned Eyam Real Ale wanted to see if they could do a combined event with the PTA. They have use of the field behind Eyam Hall, and a marquee.

Various options were discussed, and it was agreed that a summer BBQ and Rounders event would be proposed to them.

Action – BE to liaise with Eyam Real Ale to fix a date, and come back with details of what help is required.

Easter event – Date to be confirmed (VB to confirm)

Vikki Binns proposed running an Easter Bingo event. There was a discussion about the practicalities of how this would work, timings, prizes, and how to keep younger children interested.

A proposal was to have an event that ran an Easter Bunny drive for the first half hour, then a round of bingo for the second half hour. There would be Easter eggs as prizes, of varying sizes depending on the scale of prize won. £1 ticket would get you entry and a carton of juice.

Action – VB to take this forward and investigate date.

N.B. - Following the meeting VB has discovered the Mechanics are reinstating Friday Night Bingo, so the Easter event will take place at school.

Action – VB to publish details in the newsletter.

Summer Fayre – To be held **Saturday 2nd July 2016**

It was agreed that there would be another Summer Fayre.

Action – LH to discuss with BE who would be organising it.

6. Website

At present the PTA webpage of the school website is not well used or current.

Action – Jayne to coordinate with Lynda to update the web page, with dates, photos from Bonfire Night and other events, contact details.

Action – Julia to send Jayne photos of Bonfire Night plus article from Parish News

7. PTA email address / Facebook account

This was not discussed specifically, though it was agreed that Jayne could be keeping the PTA Facebook account up to date.

8. Any other business

Uniform – Mrs Gilbertson mentioned two new pupils starting school who might be in need of uniform, and suggested we run another uniform order.

Action – Jayne to mention in the newsletter that another uniform order

will be taken, and orders must be in to the office by Friday 5th February.

Ragbag – LH mentioned on Pam Cocker's behalf that the value of the donated items has been so depleted since the new company took over that it is not worth collecting items for this anymore.

As an alternative, Pam is happy to organise a Bring and Buy sale, where items are brought that morning (so no preparation is required beforehand). A collection van could be organised to take away anything that is left at the end.

Action – LH to discuss with Pam Cocker to arrange if she wants.

Film Club – At the AGM there was a discussion about hosting a combined event with the Eyam Film Club. BE reported that there had been much discussion back and forth about how this might work, and the conclusion was that it *would* be possible to do something.

However, Mrs Gilbertson mentioned that other schools hold a Film Club/Movie Night at school, and that that might be an easier option.

Julia mentioned Grindleford hold one at school, with popcorn in the winter and ice cream in the summer, and make £80 per week from the sale of snacks.

Sophie and Mrs Gilbertson talked about the Movie Night at Great Longstone school.

Action – Sophie Bell to ask colleagues at Great Longstone about licensing and legalities.

N.B. - Following the meeting, Sophie has discovered that GL school do not require a licence. They have offered for some PTA members/parents to attend their next night on 11th March to see how they do it.

Also following the meeting, Jo has discovered an organisation called 'Filmclub' who many schools use for their Film Clubs/Movie Nights. They are free to join and would provide free films via LOVEFILM by Post.

Action – PTA to look into this.

Big playground blocks – Mrs Gilbertson would like to buy some big outdoor building blocks. They are very versatile for building structures and dens.

They could potentially be a fundraising goal for the Auction of Promises too.

Action – Mrs Gilbertson to price up the blocks and the trolley.

Gambling Licence – This needs renewing.

Action – Julia to renew.

Christmas Fayre – Mrs Gilbertson mentioned having attended some other Christmas Fayres this year and wondering about whether Eyam could run one. Sophie talked about the Great Longstone fayre.

It was agreed that this was something worth considering and trying to do as long as it didn't disrupt school too much in the run-up to it.

It was also agreed that a date would need to be chosen wisely so as not to conflict with other village activities (Christmas Light switch on, Nativity, Carol Service etc).

Action – Julia to find out when Christmas Light switch on is.

N.B. - This is 26th November, so potential date for Christmas Fayre could be late November and on a Friday (not the weekend).

It was agreed that it would be good to get children involved as much as possible in the Fayre, so ideas were suggested of having child-led stalls in classrooms, with small games etc.

Sophie mentioned that Great Longstone have a class hamper idea, where each class provides a large, colour-coordinated (red, gold, green) hamper to be raffled.

Jayne suggested that profits could be split 50/50, with half going to a charity that the children choose, so that they can use the event to be a blessing to others as well as receiving some benefit to themselves. This was agreed.

Action – Mrs Gilbertson to decide if we are to do a Christmas Fayre.

Future dates -

Action – LH and JT to publish a list of future dates once all have been agreed, in the newsletter and on the website, and liaise with Jayne to create Facebook events for them.

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 9th MARCH 2016