



**Freshford School PTA
Committee Meeting
Thursday 28th March 2019**

MINUTES

Attendees: George Tomlinson, Louise Rudall, Caroline Villiers, Jo Taylor, Rachel Rice,

Apologies: Elizabeth Ellen, Shannon Neenan

Spending & Financial Update

Payment has now been made to pre-school for their share of fireworks profit.

The bank balance is still in good shape but need to ring fence promised funds not yet transferred to the school:

Hardship: £832

Additional TA hours: £2,728

Maths afternoon: £682

Approved wish list items: £1094

Termly book fund: £500

Concern of cost for Skern Lodge and financial pressure on parents – does it need to be offered for both year 5 & 6? Is it offered to both years because of minimum numbers? Suggest that parents are informed of cost in earlier years to allow for people to save.

Btmydonate - Replacement and Transition

Give As You Live seems to be the best alternative, and as the PTA already have an account with them it will hopefully make individual transitions easier for existing account holders.

Action – further research into GAYL version to see how it works – try and find other PTAs or similar to see how the pages display etc. Set up for start after Easter to help transition, give GAYL a general push to encourage more people to sign up/use.

Forthcoming events

Disco – Katie Scotland organising – 3rd April

Fliss – hoping to organise another SWISH – date tbc

Comedy night – Amelia and Jarred Christmas going to weigh up costs to see if it would be viable.

It would be good to have one other event next terms – possibilities - games night, 80s disco/quiz night.

Action – follow up possibility of comedy night and see if there would be interest in a games night or 80s disco.

AOB

Open Farm day – Sunday 9th June Peter Lord has asked the school if we'd like to do a cake sale/refreshments to raise money for the PTA. This could potentially be very profitable as the farm days are usually very popular, but would require a lot of support. Visitors need to pre-book so we should get a good idea of numbers before the day.

Action – discuss with Peter the requirements and available facilities so we can plan what refreshments we'd be able to offer.

Accounts – audit required – CV to organise – ideally find a parent would be able to audit the accounts for us – GT/CV to ask Mark Talboys.

Graham's advertising idea – create an advertising board as a way of raising money. Parents (or non parents) pay a fee to have their business card on display for a year – he suggested a board at the school gate and charging £50 for the year.

Update – need to get a general update out to parents with about info what PTA funds have been spent on so far this year and future spending. Also to include need for a new Treasurer – ideally we need to find some one before the summer holidays so the hand over can be as smooth as possible. We're still funding TAs – good to remind people that we still need to raise significant amounts of money each year to allow the school to provide our children with the best possible classroom support.

Pledge – suggested that at the beginning of the next school year, we ask all parents to make a pledge to the PTA – to help/organise with an event, take on a committee role, donate time/money etc.

Fireworks – this is a great community event but requires a huge amount of time and effort to organise, and relies heavily on finding sponsorship to make it financially worthwhile. GT to contact Homewood Park to see if there might be an opportunity to collaborate and to investigate if this would be financially viable.

Drums and musical instruments – follow up with Andrew the request to purchase a set of Djembe drums and any other instruments that the music teachers feel would be beneficial.

Lunchtime – concerns were raised that some children may not always have enough time to finish their packed lunch. [GT has since spoken to AW on this matter and he will investigate and make any changes needed to ensure all children have enough time to eat as much as they would like]

Next meeting (all welcome):

In an effort to encourage a few more people to the next meeting, we are trying a different time and place...

So the next meeting will be held on

Friday 17th May, in the school hall after drop off
with tea, coffee and biscuits