



**FRIENDS OF BINFIELD SCHOOL**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1079512**  
**MINUTES OF FOBS MEETING HELD BY WEBEX- WEDNESDAY 20TH JANUARY 2021**

**1. PRESENT**

Hayley Hammond  
Joanne Maher  
Martyna Piatkowska  
Alice Watton  
Naomi Winmill

Claire Turner  
Purveen Hira  
Tracy McBeth  
Taiyibha Ahmed

Deborah Conneely  
Kate Hayes  
Lisa Collins  
Nick Foster

**2. APOLOGIES**

Jackie Rawes

Tania Chizlett

Julie Nixon

**3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mrs Ahmed shared thanks from the school for the new year 5 & 6 reading books, £500 out of the agreed £1000 has been spent so far and school will assess which additional books are needed when all children are back in school.

Individual headphones are requested for each child in years 3-6 (240 children) as with increasing use of technology in school during class time means it can be very distracting when multiple children using the tablets. School have selected a few robust options with storage cases. Cost is approx. £1727.10 for 270 headsets. Jo asked for clarification on which headphone connection is required (USB/headphone).

Financial support towards learning supplies for homeschooling parents may also be needed and this will be managed by school through the family support worker

Jo asked that a massive thank you be passed back to all teaching staff for their continued hard commitment and work.

#### **4. ACTIONS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

- 1.1. Tree and existing wooden adventure trail removal cost - Existing trail and tree will be removed in February half term. Removal cost will be confirmed at this point as it depends on exact condition of existing trail. Installation of new trail is planned for Easter holidays (Jo)
- 1.2. Usage levels of field adventure trail – to be addressed in Summer term (Jo)
- 1.3. Ongoing surface treatment (after initial free treatment) – Jo & Nicola Jenkins
- 1.4. Virtual Christmas feedback survey – to be sent out shortly by Jo
- 1.5. Skills sheet – ongoing (request to be put in newsletter) Jo
- 1.6. Quiz master availability – Kate has asked Neil Fenn if he would be willing to run event online and check quiz master etc. awaiting his reply.
- 1.7. February half term BOLE tidy up – still planned for February half term pending COVID restrictions. Update / request for volunteers will be shared using teams@ email. Purveen passed on that Binfield Environmental Group would like to know who is the BOLE teacher contact? Jo to find out and pass on although all contact should be routed through the main school email address.
- 1.8. FOBS committee list on PTA events – Debs to check and update Hayley who will email new members

#### **5. TREASURERS REPORT**

Bank balance	13.01.2021	<b>£13,069.79</b>
Stripe account		£0.00
Petty cash		£20.00
<b>Available funds</b>		<b>£13,089.79</b>

		<b>Agreed spend</b>	<b>Spent to date</b>	<b>Left to spend</b>
<b>Commitments</b>	Teachers Floats	£1,600.00	£204.27	£1,395.73
	Enrichment Week Spring Term	£950.00		£950.00
	Sports Week Summer Term	£950.00		£950.00
	Contribution to Year 6 leavers	£300.00		£300.00
<b>Agreed 2019/2020</b>	Shed	£2,500.00	£2,275.14	£224.86
	New adventure playground	£5,000.00		£5,000.00
	Books	£1,000.00	£499.12	£500.88
	<b>Committed to Date</b>	<b>£12,300.00</b>	<b>£2,978.53</b>	<b>£9,321.47</b>
	<b>Available</b>	<b>£3,768.32</b>		

Community Grant app done - Dec

<b>Income since last meeting</b>	
BFC Lottery	£106.00
Virtual Christmas events (Still waiting on Raffle income)	£2,500.69
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,606.69</b>

Claire advised the parish council grant application was unsuccessful however the Parish Clerk has suggested and offered to assist with an application for a Community Infrastructure Levy grant as these are generally for higher budget requests. No deadline as applications are reviewed at monthly meetings but application should be made asap to ensure potential grant is available in time for adventure trail purchase.

## **6. CHAIR REPORT**

### **6.1 Assistance to home-schooling families**

There are currently 110 pupils in school which is approx. ¼ of total school population. School believe that a significant number of families may be struggling to provide basic learning supplies and they are trying to help families wherever possible. Jo has checked the FOBS constitution and It was agreed that FOBS would set aside £250 as an initial amount to be reviewed at our monthly meetings. All requests should be made to the school Family Support Advisor, [Sharon.Cox@binfieldschool.com](mailto:Sharon.Cox@binfieldschool.com). Free school lunches are still being provided to qualifying families and Claire reminded us that The Foxes Den also have a small fund available for providing assistance to families struggling to feed themselves at any time.

### **6.2 Headphones**

As requested by the teachers, school have asked if we can support the provision of individual headphone sets for every KS2 child (years 3-6 – 240 children) to enable effective use of technology during the school day. School have obtained several quotes and the preferred option is £1727.10 for 270 robust sets including storage cases. The committee unanimously agreed to support this request.

### **6.3 Book event update**

Naomi reported that Usborne and The Guinness Book of Records are collaborating to organise a sponsored reading event around World Book Day (4<sup>th</sup> March). FOBS agreed this would be a good event to organise and will await further information from Usborne.

### **6.4 Shed update**

Our ½ price deal (£70/month) on the storage facility ends on 31/1/21 so costs will increase to £140/month. New shed is currently not water-tight and the roof felt needs replacing with higher spec material / corrugated sheets as currently wooden roof does not have sufficient overhang for water to clear shed walls. 3 quotes have been obtained.

A1. New roof felt and roof base extension - £280. Material only as labour will be donated by ex-parent but one volunteer appreciated)

A2. Corrugated sheeting – £200-£250 approx. This is the easiest option as includes roof extension and no need for replacement felt. Will also last longer, again material only as labour donated.

B. New roof felt - £390. Includes material and labour

There is currently £224 remaining from the initial shed budget which will be used for the storage fees so an additional £250 is needed. Committee voted to proceed with option A2 hopefully within the next two weeks.

## **2021 Fund raising ideas**

1. Virtual Quiz – Hopefully to run in March, awaiting feedback from previous event owner (Neil Fenn)
2. CO-OP membership – Tracy will keep checking CO-OP website for when we can sign up for this
3. Waitrose Token Scheme – Hayley to contact Waitrose Community team to request nomination
4. Bag2School – Jo will book another collection date for after February half term pending COVID restrictions
5. Wine tasting event with food pairing / nibbles – potentially to be booked for Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February. Jo to contact The Tasting Barn
6. Fund matching – General plea to be included in next FOBS newsletter and Jo also plans to contact specific parents. Thanks were passed on to Jackie for advising her employer will fund match up to £250, we just need to decide which event to apply this to.
7. Small change donation boxes – it was suggested we could place these in local businesses. Secure donation boxes would be needed, available on eBay. To be reviewed post COVID restrictions

8. Easter Events – Binfield Egg Hunt to run during Easter holidays pending COVID restrictions. Vicky Lunn to update shortly.
9. Sponsored events – March Reading event discussed above and we could also organise a sponsored distance event in July.
10. Tania to look into international awareness days for other event opportunities.
11. Ink cartridge recycling – The Parish Council have agreed to host a collection box when reopen after lockdown. Claire to investigate schemes available.
12. Half term art / photography event – something similar to October half term was proposed as an option but will not be pursued due to timing available.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Debs advised the newsletter is in progress and will be available shortly.
- Claire proposed that we could look into running a cooking event fundraiser during February half term as Robyns Nest café have started selling pizza making kits. Jo will contact Robyn to discuss.
- Kate proposed selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts after lockdown ends as they offer a fundraiser discount price (£6/box of 10). Boxes of 10 glazed doughnuts can be ordered in advance via PTA events (price £10/box?) and then need to be collected from the Windsor store by FOBS for collection in Binfield. Depending on success, we could make this a monthly Friday event. We believe there is a minimum order quantity of 5 boxes. Tracy suggested we could advertise that parents buy a box for the teachers however this would need to be checked with school due to nut allergies.

### **EVENT DATES**

Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2021, 8pm	- FOBS meeting via Webex
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021, 8pm	- FOBS meeting
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2021, 8pm	- FOBS meeting
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2021	- Binfield 10K
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2021, 8pm	- FOBS meeting
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2021, 8pm	- FOBS meeting
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	- Summer fete (provisional)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2021, 8pm	- AGM

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 8.00pm via webex. All are very welcome.