



**FRIENDS OF BINFIELD SCHOOL**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1079512**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2020**

**PRESENT**

Suzie Featherstone-Wright  
Kirsty Sizeland  
Julie Nixon  
Jackie Rawes  
Claire Turner  
Lucy Rose  
Rob Reading  
Nicole Marsden  
Govind Mulinti

Kerry Mistry  
Purveen Hira  
Hayley Hammond  
Stacey Omokaro  
Tania Chizlett  
Craig Lidstone  
Gemma Jones  
Naomi Winmill  
Eloise Enon

Kate Hayes  
Debs Conneely  
Jo Maher  
Martin Always  
John Flynn  
Carla Aitchison  
Steve Rabjohns  
Nicola Jenkins

**APOLOGIES**

Andy Moorcroft

**MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Minutes were reviewed and accepted as a true representation of proceedings.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Suzie Featherstone-Wright, Headteacher)**

As I sat down to write this, and started to reflect on the work of FOBS last year, it now seems hard to remember a time when things were normal! I had to remind myself that last year started normally and that last September, none of us had any idea how things would change so dramatically mid-year! It was certainly a year of two halves and it continues to be a 'strange new normal' for at least the time being.

When times are tough, it is a good test of how strong your community is because this is when we need everyone to come together and support each other - FOBS have definitely done this. In the immediacy of the school closing back in March, many of you rolled up your sleeves and came into school to help. Toys were being sterilised; displays taken down; children's belongings were being bagged up and delivered to homes; many of you were helping children get logged onto tablets/devices etc. The sweets and treats supplied were also really appreciated too. During lock-down, you also helped to find spare uniform for children/families in need and you bought every child a packet of colouring pencils and a rubber so that they could return to school with their own equipment in September. Many, many thanks!

FOBS have always been such a huge part of our school community and the work you do is invaluable. The events you organise bring families, the local community and school staff together and strengthen the community partnership. It is lovely to see the range of members that volunteer and work so hard. The Christmas Fayre was an excellent example of this and the joint venture of Dragon's Den was particularly special for the children and staff. Just as school didn't feel the same without all of the children in it, neither did not having a Summer Fayre or Sports

Day. It is only when it's not there that you value it even more. And it's the little things you normally do – remembering a juice drink on sports day, the gifts for Year 6, the teacher floats, helping at the new Reception parents meeting – the list could go on!

FOBS wouldn't happen without someone taking the lead, and I want say a huge thank you to Stacey for chairing FOBS over this last year, to all of the committee members for organising events and managing fundraising ideas, and to all FOBS members who have contributed at the many events held throughout the year. The effort and hard work is really appreciated by the whole school community and this is giving the children extra resources and experiences that they would not otherwise have.

Last year you supported us with the purchase of wider curriculum resources, e.g. history artefacts; maps and atlases in Geography; more Reading books in KS2; more hands-on Maths equipment and play equipment for the new YR area. This is supporting and enriching these areas of the curriculum and will hopefully mean we can inspire a love of learning for children in these areas too. You also bought Y6 their red responsibility ties; an electric pencil sharpener in every class and more recently specialist charging cabinets for fast-charge of the children's IT equipment. Class budgets and Father Christmas presents were also very much appreciated, as were the additional support to run our enrichment weeks.

We are also fortunate to continue to have a great staff team here at Binfield where morale is very good and where staff are willing to learn and develop and persist through these challenging times. We are currently reinventing how we teach and learn under pandemic conditions. It is a test of resilience and a real application of logistics and organisation, but staff are doing it with a smile!

The impact of Covid-19 on the school's resources has been huge. As you know, we have propped up our budget through the business side of the school for many years now and many of these income streams have ceased, whilst costs continue to rise. Your support with fundraising will be even more essential as we move forwards through the coming months.

Looking ahead, there are many potential projects that will enhance the provision and learning for the children here at Binfield. We are always seeking other means of funding projects to supplement decreasing budget and we have just learnt that we have successfully secured a DFE grant to improve our nurture space. Miss Ridnell is also leading a project to begin to replace the old Adventure Trail with children's outdoor gym equipment. The latter is currently being costed and we intend to use some of the Sports Premium Money towards this, but it may be something FOBS would like to take part in, as it will have to be a phased project. We also want to continue to expand our IT for the children so that eventually we have a device for every child in Y1-Y6. Continuing to re-supply new books is also more important than ever. You may also want to consider sponsoring a Teaching Assistant or two so that we can maintain additional support in every class.

So, as we formally end last year and begin a new one, it is worth reflecting on the joint efforts of everyone at Binfield who are contributing to the education and well-being of the children. It is a true collaborative effort and we are so lucky to have such a great team of people.

The next few months are likely to be challenging for all of us to navigate and re-inventing how we do things, whilst keeping Covid-19 secure will be a test of creativity and resilience. However, we can only look forward to better times ahead! Many thanks once again to all of you and we look forward to 're-inventing' with you as we move forwards together.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Stacey Omokaro)**

FOBS continues to be a significant fundraiser for the school and without the support of so many the children would miss out on not only the bigger projects we partake in, but also those little extras that we are able to provide which enhance their learning.

I would like to say thank you to the amazing team of people without whom FOBS would struggle to continue and thrive. I truly am so grateful to you all for your time, support and passion for FOBS. In addition to the members of FOBS I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the school office, the Governors and Mr G for all the hard work they have put in over this past year and also the teachers who have given extra of their time to support FOBS ensuring the children can further benefit from the donations that FOBS has made..

Finally, I must thank all parents and carers' of the children – your continued support of FOBS and the events throughout the year is paramount and appreciated.

Of course, 2020 has been a surreal year for everyone with the Covid-19 pandemic having an effect on all areas of life, with school being one of those. Lockdown guidelines and school closures have meant FOBS were unable to run several planned events including our much loved and popular Summer Fete, a table top sale, a ladies pamper night and the end of year school discos. Despite this, as a committee we have managed to raise in the region of £14,000 for the school which is amazing. So, what have we spent money on and what are the future goals for FOBS?

We have:

- Purchased brand new charging units for the electrical devices;
- Successfully supported the Maths department in purchasing current, up-to-date Maths curriculum and materials relevant to each year group;
- Provided the funds for the school to purchase up-to-date curriculum material in other core subjects including English, Science and History;
- Supported the development and purchase of modern home learning platforms and Lexia Core products, enabling pupils to receive a more personalised learning experience;
- Purchased outdoor play equipment for the new Year R outdoor areas;
- Purchased a portable P.A sound system;
- Purchased new reading books for the KS2 age groups;
- Provided stationery required for each child on return to school in September;
- Provided red responsibility ties for current year six pupils;
- Had a team of volunteers clear the BOLE and plant new trees and flowers in order to enhance this learning space.

In addition, we have, as with every year, supported the school with teachers' floats, Enrichment Week funds, Sports Week funds, Christmas celebrations and Y6 leavers' gifts.

All of this was managed because of the long list of events that have taken place over this school year. These include the quiz night, Christmas bazaar, junior and infant discos, a London Christmas shopping trip, several pre-loved uniform sale and Christmas cards and tote bags designed by the children, which were really popular.

So, what are aiming for as we go into the new academic year? Mrs Featherstone Wright and Mrs Mistry have shared their desire to explore designing and developing an enhanced nurture space for all children to have access to, an outside gym area and to continue building the I.T infrastructure within the school – FOBS are very keen to assist with these projects however we can.

FOBS are also very keen as always to assist with the mentioned additional curriculum equipment required throughout the school to aid children's learning.

We will, of course, support the school with purchasing any PPE and equipment required whilst they continue to

manoeuvre through the Covid-19 pandemic.

FOBS are very passionate about being as eco friendly as possible with our events and the equipment we use – we've had great feedback about parents being able to bring re-usable cups for hot drinks to events such as sports days and will continue persevering with fresh ideas to ensure we are environmentally friendly with what we purchase and provide.

I would like to finish by thanking you for attending this evening's AGM and to invite you to come to further FOBS meetings which take place every month – as a parent of the school, you are automatically a member of FOBS so are very welcome. Your opinions and ideas help FOBS to continue being relevant and successful, so please do come along or continue to be an active member.

And once again, thank you to the amazing team who have personally stood alongside me during my time as Chairperson for FOBS – it's been an amazing experience for me.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

<b>Treasurer's report - FOBS AGM - September 2020</b>	<b>Summary of 2019/2020</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Harrods Trip	£46.16
2nd hand Uniform Sales	£343.00
Christmas jumper sale	£56.00
Xmas bazaar	£4,085.15
Christmas puddings	£293.86
Christmas cards	£365.60
Christmas quiz	£85.00
Binfield 10k (2019 contribution)	£3,500.00
Quiz Night	£1,482.96
Discos	£1,076.14
Clothes Collection	£221.20
Easy fundraising, Amazon Smile, BFC Lottery contributions	£247.76
Additional fundraising (Parental fundmatching & crafts)	£1,231.14
	<b>£13,033.97</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Xmas Week	£768.15
Teachers Floats / Sports equipment for Bubbles	£1,413.28
Enrichment Week Autumn Term	£550.64
Contribution to Year 6 leavers (bags)	£168.00
Year R supplies	£2,338.68
Maths	£1,205.03
English	£2,845.93
History	£991.80
Science	£1,892.66
Home Learning (Century Tech)	£1,365.00
Lexia Core	£3,618.00
PA System	£267.00
Essential stationery - Electronic pencil sharpeners/Glue sticks/Colouring pencils/Rubbers	£2,083.73
New Yr6 Ties	£288.00
	<b>£19,795.90</b>

The 2019/2020 financial year accounts will be checked and verified by Sandra Douglas of SKD accounting.

### **ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Chairperson** – Jo Maher (voted by Stacey Omokaro / seconded by Debs Conneely)

**Vice Chair person** – Kate Hayes (voted by Nicola Jenkins / seconded by Jackie Rawes)

**Treasurer** - Claire Turner (voted by Gemma Jones / seconded by John Flynn)

**Vice Treasurer** – John Flynn (voted by Claire Turner / seconded by Jo Maher)

**Secretary** - Hayley Hammond (voted by Kirsty Sizeland / seconded by Tania Chizlett)

**Website Officer** - Kate Hayes (voted by Tania Chizlett / seconded by John Flynn)

Claire to update the new committee members names with the Charities Commission.

### **General members**

All meeting attendees voted and agreed to become general members. It was agreed general members are entitled to a vote if they have been active members of FOBS. The Constitution defines what constitutes an 'active' member. It also defines the committee's ability to remove a general member in the future.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Thanks** - Jo passed on a massive thank you to Stacey and Jackie on behalf of all the FOBS committee for their help and support.

**Fundraising** – Jo gave a brief overview of current planned activities and also a request for members to brainstorm new ideas which can be achieved in the new Covid secure environment. There should be a focus on helping parents alongside making money, e.g. better advertising of Amazon Smile before the Prime Christmas shopping days and fund matching through parents' employers.

### **PROPOSED EVENT DATES**

Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2020, 8pm	- FOBS meeting via webex
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2020, 8pm	- FOBS meeting via webex
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2020, 8pm	- FOBS meeting via webex
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January 2021, 8pm	- FOBS meeting
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2021, 8pm	- FOBS meeting
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 Wednesday 7th October at 8pm by Webex. All are very welcome.