

Minutes of the Association Meeting - 24th February 2016.

Welcome given to David Gleeson and brief explanation of what we do. Apologies from CB, FW, NB, LR, RH, SV and DW. Present: JN, CH, AR, EH and DG. CM has stepped down from the committee due to other commitments and we thank her for all the help and support shown over the years.

Head's report - JN thanked the association and wider Panto team for all their dedication and commitment to Panto this year. The Panto received very positive feedback. JN wished to express her feelings that staff cannot be "expected" to join in with Panto especially in terms of being in the cast, due to their already huge commitment of time to school as teachers and assistants. Those who feel able to help will of course continue to be supported in their choice. The committee agreed wholeheartedly. A great deal of thought needs to go in to the plan for our 40th anniversary performances and whether this may be our last. EH meeting with outgoing producer and EB 25/2/16 for debrief and will then take on producer role for 2017.

JN informed committee that funds had become available within the school budget to cover purchase of PCs and tablets, so Association funds will be put towards a complete refurbishment of the school library. It was suggested that Tesco be approached to see if painting and decorating can be done by their community volunteers plus willing parents and helpers. After our sponsored read during the Easter holidays AR suggested we ask parents for feedback regarding what reading materials they would like their children to be able to access in the library.

We will continue to subsidise all trips and visits to keep costs to parents down to a maximum of £10 per child per trip/visit. A visiting theatre is booked for 9th June 2016 which the Association will fund in full.

NY has offered to run a disco for the children on 18th March as it is dress up for World Book day and Sport Relief too. Some funds raised will go to Sport Relief, perhaps a quarter, to be decided. Thanks to NY for running this.

Treasurer's report - see attached statement of account. Panto profit total is now an accurate £3525.03 contrary to the published amount. The expenditure was higher this year on lighting, technology, one off purchases and hall hire. It was felt that going forward we should try and secure the loan of equipment from Woodland as in previous years and reduce the amount of technology in the shows, keeping it as a traditional, amateur, village hall pantomime. Some major purchases such as the new black hole and crew t-shirts meant costs were higher as a one off. Also radios which were previously hired at just £10 each ran into the hundreds as we had to use a different supplier.

CH highlighted the fact that Football club are paying to hire the 3G pitch on Saturdays. It is unknown why they are not playing at school. JN to contact SB.

Circus - date change to 7/10/16, Friday evening now, so should attract a larger crowd. Planning committee will be put together at next Association meeting, 20/4/16.

Sponsored read/listen - Easter hols - in conjunction with Usbourne books we are holding a sponsored read/listen over the Easter holidays. Letters will go out in final week of term - EH to organise. If we can raise over £600 (to spend on books) we stand to gain £360 in additional free books.

Bingo this Friday - YB kindly organised this event which hope to be as fun as usual! Prizes have been provided by the Association and we will run a tuck shop.

Pop up shop - Monday - Mother's day gifts. LR - 155 children are taking part and LR has cut, stapled and hand written 268 labels. This means (drum roll) we have raised for the school £268. (Liz gets £268). LR will email Mrs New to find out what order she would like the classes to go in. The biggest gift collection goes to Foundation with 82 gifts. LR will put a notice in the next newsletter about amounts raised. Father's Day shop is on 6/6/16.

Quiz night - 18th March - AM and EB have offered to organise this for us. EB to write and call questions. £7 per person max 6 in a team, to include supper. BYO event this time to see how it goes. EH will organise prizes and AM organising wooden spoons.

Summer fete and fun run date 24/6/16 - we are going to try holding the fete on Fun run day. Each class will be responsible for planning and running a stall from 3.30 to 5/5.30pm. We hope to recruit a band to then play a set from say 6pm until 7.30pm while having fun activities for the children, BBQ and bar etc.

AR reminded us of her idea to give each foundation child a book bag as a welcome gift from the Association. We will investigate various options and have it approved by JN in due course, ready to roll out for September intake.

Next meeting will be Wednesday 20th April, 7pm.