

**MINUTES FROM FRIENDS OF CHITTLEHAMPTON SCHOOL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2016
Venue: The Bell Inn, 8pm**

Present: Amanda Rowe, Sharon Jones, Laury Hancock, Leonie Millichope, Charlotte Janisch.

Apologies: Rebecca Brewer, Amy Latham, Danny White.

Matters arising

Recent purchases for school: FOCS funded a number of items for the school at the end of the summer 2016 term, including headphones and a new play table for the playground. It was agreed this should be communicated to parents and that Sharon will give the details to Sarah to feature in the school newsletter.

Funding for new playground toys/equipment: we are still awaiting a wish-list of requirements from the School Council.

Funding requests from school: Mrs Evans updated FOCS on a number of new initiatives which the school would like FOCS to consider funding. These include:

1. The school requires some large, sturdy boxes for toy storage in the new shed. In principle FOCS agreed this should be feasible, but in order to make a decision, FOCS request more details on what is required and the costs involved.
2. Transport to South Molton Library for a whole school visit: FOCS suggest that this might be an occasion where parents could potentially help with transportation. Amanda will discuss options with Mrs Evans.
3. Christmas Panto: FOCS agreed we are happy to provide funds for Entertainingly Different to come in to school and perform for the children in December. To lower the costs Mrs Evans confirmed that this service will be purchased in partnership with Filleigh School. FOCS suggest that costs should be allocated in proportion to school headcount.
4. Outside gazebo: Mrs Evans would like to purchase a gazebo to create a flexible, additional learning and playing space for Chittlehampton pupils and any future pre-school attendees. FOCS agreed that they are very happy to consider supporting funding this project, but request further details about the type of structure planned and the costs involved.
5. ICT: the school is looking to update its resources and requests funding support. Again, FOCS are happy to consider this, but request more detail to understand what is required and costs involved.

FOCS coffee morning: all are welcome to this social get-together. Suggested date is Thursday 3rd November, commencing 9.00am in school.

Fundraising

Various fundraising ideas were discussed as follows:

1. Christmas Hampers: FOCS agreed to run its usual Christmas Hamper raffle. To get the ball rolling for 2016, Sharon will purchase the necessary lottery licence and order the raffle tickets.
2. Wine and mince pies: we discussed a potential Christmas gathering for parents, but have not as yet agreed a firm date or venue.
3. Christmas Quiz: FOCS is organising a pub quiz night to take place during the Christmas holidays. Amanda will clarify the date (potentially 29th December). The quiz master is already on board and he will also devise questions. FOCS need to organise raffle prizes for the quiz and letters to local organisations to request donations. At the quiz, FOCS will also need volunteers to help with selling raffle tickets and handing out quiz sheets/collecting money.

Any other business

Christmas Craft Club: FOCS would like to offer Christmas Craft Clubs for the children (one for Taw, one for Torridge). Can Mrs Evans let us know if there is space in the schedule to fix dates for these in December?

Reverse Advent Calendar: Danny White suggested that the children might participate in this type of initiative to contribute to the local food bank. One item is placed in a hamper or box each day for a month. It might be worth considering doing this through November, or mid-November to mid-December, to enable goods to reach the food bank in good time for distribution ahead of Christmas. FOCS requests Mrs Evans' feedback on this suggestion.

Christmas Cards: the idea was proposed to participate in a Christmas card scheme which also raises money for the school. Each of the children designs their own card which is then professionally printed, and sold back to the parents (with a portion of the selling price coming back to the school). Amanda agreed to raise the idea with Mrs Evans.

Parents Christmas Dinner: date was set for Friday 9th December, venue tbc.

Next meeting: the next FOCS meeting will be in school on Monday 21st November, at 3.30pm.