

MINUTES FROM FRIENDS OF CHITTLEHAMPTON SCHOOL MEETING
THURSDAY 18th MAY, 2017
Venue: Chittlehampton School, 2.30pm

Present: Charlotte Janisch (Chair), Rebecca Brewer (Vice-Chair), Amanda Rowe (Treasurer), Leonie Millichope (Secretary), Amy Latham, Jackie Lethaby, Rebecca Mac-Mills, , Maria Hince, Annette Mills, Hazel Maxwell, Amy Lessiter, Mark Millichope, Vicky Williams.

Apologies: Sarah Slow, Laury Hancock, Wendy Evans.

Matters Arising:

FOCS meeting planning: we agreed that FOCS would meet once every half term on an ongoing basis and that these meetings would alternate between in-school and after school/evening to give everyone the best opportunity to attend. We agreed that one meeting per term should take the form of a coffee morning or afternoon tea to include a performance from Taw or Torridge (to be arranged with Wendy/Phil as appropriate). It was agreed that this brings a fun element to the meetings and a great opportunity to share in some of the great work the children are doing.

Funding activities:

1. Amanda updated everyone on new funding requests as follows:
 - a. Compost: requested by Mr Parsons for planting in school (already approved).
 - b. Installation of an outside tap (cost estimated at £15-£20). This was approved.
2. Sports Day: FOCS agreed that we would provide prizes for Sports Day (probably: inexpensive medals for Taw participants; a metal badge/pin for Torridge participants), plus fund an ice-pop for each child on the day. Amanda to action. Costs to be confirmed.
3. Christmas theatre trip: Mrs Evans has details of a Christmas theatre production at the Plough in Torrington for the children to attend. This would cost £6 for tickets per child, plus transport costs (usually around £125). FOCS agreed they would be happy to fund this.
4. To recap, the following existing funding commitments should also be noted:
 - a. Mrs Evans is purchasing rubber covers for the 6 new school tablets. The school will source these. Costs to be confirmed.
 - b. Transport for Taw Class to Exmoor Zoo. Costs estimated at £125.
 - c. Transport for Torridge Class to attend the 'Mix on the Move' music festival at Tapely Park, Barnstaple (June 28th 2017). Taw may also attend, this is still to be confirmed. Costs estimated at £125.

Ongoing FOCS Projects

Access to the Pony Paddock – update (Leonie/Rebecca M): Rebecca Mac-Mills updated the group on progress to date. Discussions with John Andow (Chair of

Chittlehampton Cricket Club) have been positive. A letter has been given to John to share with his Committee indicating that FOCS would like to rent access to the lower corner of the field for the children at an annual cost of £10. We have indicated that we shall wish to fence this area off and that FOCS will organise appropriate insurance before the children access the space. Rebecca and Leonie will await a response from John and his Committee and, in the meantime, investigate insurance options.

Improving the playground: A sub-group of Rebecca Mac-Mills, Mark Millichope and Amanda Rowe was formed to progress this project. They will be calling on Kevin Latham and Guy Williams for support and expertise. It was agreed that the first step is for the sub-group to visit the playground and make a wish-list of requirements. Rebecca Mac-Mills raised the point that FOCS may wish to consider separating the organising group for projects like the playground from a working group who are doing the actual jobs at some future point. We agreed the activity is probably small enough to manage as we are at the moment. Rebecca Brewer also noted that FOCS has entered the school for an RGB competition to win materials for a playground makeover.

Future fundraising events:

End of half-term treats: FOCS agreed to sell after-school goodies at the end of each half-term. This will take place outside the school and is open to all (i.e. siblings, parents, villagers). It was agreed that FOCS will vary what is on offer to suit the seasons and make it interesting. This Friday we will be selling lollies and ice-creams at 50p each. We shall need to publicise the event to parents. Rebecca Brewer agreed to source the goodies, but will need volunteers in the village with freezer space.

Family sports/cricket day (20th July, 2017, in the afternoon): Amy Lessiter and Leonie agreed to form a sub-group to lead on organising this event. The main focus will be on a fun, family sports event (for both children and parents to participate in). Plans must include some fundraising ideas. Ideas discussed at the meeting include: making this a ticketed event, including a sponsored sporty event/challenge, a raffle, selling refreshments and games stalls. Amy and Leonie will arrange to meet separately to get the ball rolling.

Sports Day: we agreed to offer cold drinks and ice-pops outside the village hall on Sports Day. We agreed that the format whereby everyone helps themselves and leaves money in a pot worked well (allowing all parents to watch the children). Committee members need to allocate responsibility for organising this. Amy Lessiter raised the point that it would be good to have parents more involved with Sports Day, but we did not fix on any specific actions.

Sandcastle Building Competition: We did not get time to discuss this great idea put forward by Sarah Slow, so we shall put it on the agenda for our next meeting in June.

Next meeting: our next FOCS meeting will take place in school at 3.30pm 21st June.