



**FOES Meeting**  
at Easingwold School, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Minutes**

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**Present** Susan Deery (SD, Chair), Lorna Wood (LW, Treasurer), Fiona Skelton (FS, Secretary), Emma Robins (ER), Gill Burn (GB)

Meeting commenced 7.15pm

**1 Apologies**

Vivienne Cooper (VC), Rachel Ainger (RA), Elaine Walker (EW), Amy Howland (AH), Heidi Jolly (HJ), Phil Benaiges (PB)

**2 Minutes from the previous meeting**

The minutes from the previous meeting, on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016, were approved.

**3 Matters arising from the minutes**

The importance of FOES being able to communicate via email with the parents of new starters from the start of the Autumn term, or even earlier, was re-emphasised, especially if we decide to go ahead with another Autumn Dance this year.

PB had suggested using Onedrive for sharing documents, and setting up a FOES email address.

**4 Financial Report**

The balance of the FOES account is currently £4624.

**5 Funding requests**

Funding requests were received, and agreed, from the Humanities Department, Youthy, the Examinations Officer, Mr Tiffany (GCSE Revision) and the Wider Key Skills Project, as detailed in the Bi-Centenary minutes.

**6 Easter Raffle review**

The raffle made a profit of £1515.04.

- SD noted that the Reception staff had been very supportive, collecting money/tickets and displaying FOES' advertising board.
- SD also felt that it had been good for FOES to have had a presence at the drama production in February selling raffle tickets.
- John Butcher had added a fantastic write up about FOES, and the raffle, on the back of the drama production programme.
- Selling raffle tickets in the Market Place was very lucrative (~£170 in two hours), however, we were very short of volunteers. If we could encourage more parents to help, next time it would be great to be able to sell tickets over two weekends rather than one.
- It was generally agreed that holding an Easter raffle was better than at Christmas as it is not such a busy time, for families, as well as school.

**Action**

ER to ask Karen Shires (in charge of Transition) to monitor emails to new parents to make sure they are getting through.

ER to follow up with PB.

- LW had received some very positive feedback about the quality of the hampers.
- It was noted that some forms didn't sell any tickets, however, on the whole it was felt that the form tutors had been very supportive in encouraging students to sell tickets.
- FOES have not heard any more about the House Points that had been promised to the Form, and the House, that sold the most raffle tickets.

ER to follow up with PB.

## 7 PTAsocial update

We have 46 members to date.

What has been done so far to promote PTAsocial?

- Initial launch email to all parents (28<sup>th</sup> January).
- Individual invitations to parents who have provided FOES with their email address in the past.
- Presentation at Open Evening for new parents.
- Information on our page of the school website, including a button to click on to join, and a link to a 'Why Join?' video.
- Links to the same on the bottom of every FOES email to parents.

How is PTAsocial working out so far?

- We gained additional help in the lead up to the Easter raffle on three occasions as a direct result of PTAsocial.
- There has been interest expressed in what we do, and an offer of help at a future event from a new member.

How to make better use of PTAsocial?

- We need to keep the calendar populated with events, whether they are school events that FOES are not involved with, or our own events with associated tasks.
- We should aim to plan a future event entirely through PTAsocial, such as the Autumn Dance.
- It would be good to make use of the Event Manager function so there is a better spread of FOES members visible on PTAsocial.

## 8 Future events

### • Summer Concert (13th July 2016)

FOES usually provide refreshments at the Summer Concert in the form of wine, and teas/coffees. SD suggested adding cheese to the wine, and home baking to the teas/coffees. ER thought school would be fine with this. FOES would need to discuss these additions with Christine Cookman (CC), EW and RA, and organise the extra help required.

CC has indicated that she is ready to hand over responsibility for refreshments – FS offered to take over. SD is keen to ensure thanks are expressed to CC, who has provided refreshments at the Christmas and Summer concerts on behalf of FOES for many years.

FS to contact CC about refreshments at Summer Concert.

SD to thank CC.

### • Treasure Hunt

SD proposed that FOES should be present at the Y6 Treasure Hunt in June, and enquired as to whether FOES would be able to provide teas/coffees, and home baking at this event.

FS to email Karen Shires for dates of Transition events, and check with her on how FOES can be involved.

### • Sports Day

FOES is keen to support a wider range of school activities, and to promote our cause more proactively within the school community. With this in mind, SD suggested that FOES could provide trophies/medals at the School Sports Day, and/or a display board for Sports Achievements.

ER to discuss with Head of PE.

- **Autumn Dance/Social?**

Given the success of last year's Autumn Dance, it was agreed that FOES would start preparing now for another one, provided John Butcher's band, Traces, were willing/available to perform again. Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October was proposed as a possible date for the event.

Once the date is confirmed, it was decided to hold a separate meeting to plan for the Autumn Dance, using PTAsocial to let parents know what we need help with.

FS to contact John Butcher regarding the band's availability on the proposed date.

SD to send details of the event to ER to organise printing of posters, tickets, etc.

FS to book hall.

**9 Correspondence**

FOES were delighted to receive an incredibly generous £1000 donation from a parent at the most recent music concert, in recognition of 'the good work FOES does'.

FS to send thank you on behalf of FOES.

**10 Other Business**

- **New Parents Evening review**

This was an important event for FOES to attend. SD and FS were given the opportunity to speak to the new parents about FOES and PTAsocial respectively. We had a good response from parents, many of whom showed an interest in FOES, and signed up to PTAsocial following the evening.

- **FOES display in school?**

SD enquired about the possibility of a more permanent FOES display in the school Reception area.

ER to ask about an empty board behind Reception.

SD suggested that FOES may be able to fund the advertisement of future drama and music concerts if school thought it appropriate.

ER to ask the appropriate members of staff.

**11 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is the AGM and will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016, at 7.15pm.

FS to book meeting room.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm.