



FOES Committee Meeting
at Easingwold School, Wednesday 16th November 2016

Minutes

1 Present Susan Deery (SD, Chair), Lorna Wood (LW, Treasurer), Fiona Skelton (FS, Secretary), Rachel Ainger (RA), Elaine Walker (EW), Jon Wright (JW), Mark Welborn (MW), Gill Burn (GB), Paul Brockwell (PB)

Meeting commenced at 7.15pm (following a general discussion regarding the changes at school)

Action

2 Apologies

Kate Stirton (KS), Vivienne Cooper (VC), Emma Robins (ER)

3 Jon Wright (Vice-Chair of Governors + Chair of Sports Hall Committee) & Mark Welborn (Easingwold School Business Manager) – Fundraising and planning for an All Weather pitch at Easingwold School

JW explained that the planning application for a new Sports Hall and Astroturf pitch for Easingwold School had been approved in July. The overall cost is estimated at approx £2 million. It had been decided to focus on the Astroturf pitch first, and then on the Sports Hall.

The Sports Hall Committee had been successful in obtaining a number of grants to fund the cost of the building work, including one from the Football Foundation, as well as funding from Hambleton Council through Section 106.

However, there remains a shortfall of £30k for the building of the Astroturf pitch. JW outlined the Committee's plans for raising this amount. With the help of the school, they are hoping to engage a fundraising committee comprising parents, students, teachers, and members of the Easingwold community, to organise a series of whole school fundraising activities.

However, with building work due to start in June 2017, time is short, and JW asked if FOES would consider making up any shortfall in funds nearer the time if needed.

It was agreed that in principle FOES would like to support this request, but that given the changes currently taking place in school, and possible implications, in particular with regard to the ownership of any future donations from FOES to the school, we would need to take advice before fully committing to it.

4 Minutes from the previous FOES and Bicentenary meetings

The minutes from the previous meeting, on 27th April 2016, were approved.

5 Matters arising from the minutes

It was agreed that as FOES had not heard any more regarding the bid for computers from the Music/Drama Department from over a year ago, that a fresh bid should be submitted if the equipment is still required.

LW confirmed that all the funding requests from April 2016 had been paid.

SD provided a quick recap regarding the review of the Constitution. The new Constitution had been agreed at the AGM in September. The purpose of the review had been to simplify processes, such as holding only one meeting to cover both FOES and BiCentenary matters, and providing clarity as to how excess funds in the BiCentenary Trust fund may be spent. The Constitution is still currently with the solicitors, Harrowells, and it was noted that there are likely to be further changes required now given Easingwold School's change of name and overall management to an Academy Trust.

6 Financial Report

General Fund... £2029.27

Bicentenary Fund... £6019.48

7 Fundraising requests

There was only one funding request received (attached) from Jim Riordan, for a one year subscription to The Day, the current affairs website, at a cost of £510.

It was agreed that we should contact the new leadership before committing to this bid, to check if they already have access to a subscription themselves to The Day, or something equivalent. And if not, it was felt best to check first whether The Day would be approved for use, prior to paying for it.

SD to approach Sir Michael Wilkins to arrange a meeting to discuss this and other matters.

8 Autumn Social Review

The Autumn Social in October raised a total of £918.19, which everyone agreed was very good given the low turnout for the event. We were pleased we persevered with it this time, but it was decided that FOES will not repeat this event in the foreseeable future. It put a lot of pressure on the handful of people organising it, and it was agreed that in the future we will consider smaller, more manageable events, that hopefully will hold more appeal for the current parent population.

9 Changes within school – Implications for FOES

PB suggested that the change to an academy may necessitate a change to FOES' terms of reference.

- Purchases for school by FOES – will ownership pass to Outwood Grange Academy Trust?

PB suggested that we may find it useful to request a copy of Outwood Grange Academy Trust's Constitution for information.

It was agreed that FOES would need to seek legal advice regarding future purchases, and would need to amend the Constitution again to reflect any changes to the current arrangements for distributing funds.

- Phil Benaiges is currently a Trustee for the FOES Bicentenary Fund as well as a signatory for FOES current account

LW had contacted Brewin Dolphin, who require a letter from the new leadership confirming Mr Benaiges' departure.

SD to request a copy of the Outwood Grange Academy Trust Constitution.

SD to arrange a meeting with Harrowells Solicitors once FOES have met with Sir Michael Wilkins.

To be discussed at the meeting with Sir Michael Wilkins.

10 Future events

- Christmas Concert

Mr Blackburn had confirmed that the date for the Christmas Concert would be Wednesday 7th December, at 7pm (doors open at 6.30pm). He was grateful to FOES for offering to provide refreshments at this event once again.

- Easter Raffle

PB suggested that we should speak to the new leadership team to confirm they are happy for FOES to hold the Easter Raffle in 2017.

- FOES social evening

It was agreed that we would look for a date in the new year to have a social evening (no fundraising or jobs, just for fun).

11 Correspondence

None

12 Any other business

None

13 Date of next meeting

To be decided following a meeting with new leadership team.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm

FS to add the Christmas Concert as an event on PTAsocial, and send out appeals for help with baking, etc.

To be discussed at the meeting with Sir Michael Wilkins.