

Friends of Slingsby School ('FOSS') Annual General Meeting

Thursday, 17th October 2024

Attendees Staff: Emma Pearce, Emma Massey.

Attendees Parents: Kathryn Fairweather, Lisa Cuthbert, Sophie Reeves, Esme Bulmer, Sarah Bradshaw, Steph Philps, Fran Pern, Kate Pope, Rachel Atkinson, Rachel Morley and Lucy Haxton.

1. Welcome

Kathryn Fairweather (KF) opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies

Tynke Bakker, Laura Cotterall, Gemma Shipley, Sonja Sedran, Teri Wright, and Bev Quarton.

3. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 19th October 2023 were circulated. It was agreed that they are a true and correct record of the meeting and that there were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Chairman's report

KF reflected on a fantastic year of fundraising, with £11,700 raised. KF expressed her thanks to everyone for their hard work and for pulling together, especially as a relatively new team, and how lucky we are to have such a supportive school and local community. At the end of the school year £11,000 was donated to school, which has allowed the music provision to continue, with some funds held back to invest in equipment for events such as gazebos and an iPad. Some new events were added to the calendar last year including 'Frozen Fridays' which were very popular, and we expanded our offerings at existing larger events such as the bar at the Slingsby May Day celebrations, and the refreshments, BBQ and Ice Cream stall at the Duck Race. KF gave special thanks to our supportive school families which has made a huge difference to our increase in fundraising at the large events, especially Andrew and Fran Pern, and Paul and Laura Cotterall. Gratitude was also expressed to our new committee members, Miss Pearce who has joined as a school representative, and to school for their continued support and encouragement with our events. KF bid farewell to Sonja Sedran and Nicola Wood and acknowledged the generosity, hard work and commitment they have shown over the years. KF shared a calendar of events for the year ahead with dates finalised and wished everyone a successful year of fundraising, with hopes to continue to build the team to share the knowledge and allow the fundraising to continue in the future.

5. Treasurer's report

Lisa Cuthbert (LC) delivered the Treasurer's report.

LC shared a Financial Overview, providing a summary of the profit made from each event alongside data from previous years to compare against. LC expressed what a amazing amount we were able to donate to school as well as being able to start this financial year with a balance of £1728.22 which is slightly more than previous years. These extra funds are for additional items such as an iPad which will future proof our payment system for years to come, and in case we need to buy anything for the Christmas Fair which is an additional event for this year. LC explained that the Gift Aid is missing from the spreadsheet and came in at £88 which will form part of this year's total. LC mentioned that the Virgin academy bank account has changed from a charity account to a business account, allowing us to have debit cards now which should make it much easier to purchase items, and also means we earn Cashback on our purchases. There continues to be no transaction fees. LC noted that PTA membership has increased from £72.00 to £109.00, and pointed out that because the Duck Race was brought forward by a week to help with end of term admin, it resulted in 'Slingsby's Got Talent' and 'Sports Day' taking place afterwards and so this year they have been recorded separately to show a clearer picture.

New Fundraisers - This year we had two new events, 'Open Day' with a bake sale to celebrate the new playground, and 'Frozen Friday' which was very popular and a great success making £174.30 profit over two days, and we hope to build on this event this coming year.

Halloween Party - The tuck shop was a great addition to the Halloween party and will therefore continue this year.

Christmas Party - The total expense for the Christmas Party was less than in previous years, due to the school purchasing the children's book gifts using FOSS's donation from the previous year. Also, the party went back to the old format where children are seated around a table and served party food donated by families. This format was a success and so will continue this year. LC noted that Magic Mike, the party entertainer, has put his fees up by £15.00 which is a small extra cost.

Mother's Day Plant Stall - We generously received a large number of donated plants from Nicola Wood which allowed us to increase profits.

Scarecrow Weekend and May Day Celebrations - It was a huge success this year, notably thanks to Andrew and Fran Pern for running the bar refreshments on May Day which made a big difference. Also, huge gratitude to Laura and Paul Cotterall who ran the cafe.

Duck Race- Important to note that activities were run using a token system this year which affects comparisons against previous years. It was another great, well attended event which did fantastically well. The increased offerings and the BBQ kindly donated by Fran and Andrew Pern made a huge difference to the amount raised. Increased token sales and raffle ticket sales also contributed, as well as the addition of the ice cream cart generously organised by the Pern's and the Kelly's. However, it was noted that duck pre-sales through school are continuing to decline despite the school's increase in numbers so this is something to be looked at.

LC briefly touched upon the other events: Christmas Productions, Christmas Cards, Pre-loved Uniform sales, and the Krispy Kreme Doughnut sales for Father's Day and highlighted how all the information was provided in the report handed out and asked for any questions, none were raised. LC noted an overall discrepancy of 9 pence and that we are waiting for the accounts to be audited.

LC mentioned the new ASDA money initiative, and expressed that the year is already off to a good start.

LC finished by stating her gratitude to the many business, sponsors and volunteers whose continued support is vital to the overall success of FOSS.

6. Election of Committee

RM, LH and FP confirmed they are very happy to support and volunteer but are unable to commit to joining the committee at this time.

KF explained that Gemma Shipley and Teri Wright were happy to join the committee but unable to attend the AGM.

Committee members as volunteered and accepted - Kathryn Fairweather, Lisa Cuthbert, Sophie Reeves, Kate Pope, Bev Quarton, Laura Cotterall, Sarah Bradshaw, Steph Philips, Esme Bulmer, Gemma Shipley, Teri Wright, and Rachel Atkinson.

7. Election of Chair

SB nominated Kathryn Fairweather. KP seconded the nomination.

KF accepted the nomination. KF asked for further nominations but none were forthcoming.

KF duly elected as Chairperson.

8. Election of Secretary

KF nominated Sophie Reeves. LC seconded the nomination.

SR accepted the nomination. KF asked for further nominations but none were forthcoming.

SR duly elected as Secretary.

9. Election of Treasurer

SB nominated Lisa Cuthbert. KF seconded the nomination.

LC accepted the nomination. KF asked for further nominations but none were forthcoming.

LC duly elected as Treasurer.

10. Other business

KF asked if anyone had any other business. EM thanked FOSS on behalf of school and expressed how school wouldn't be able to provide all of the extra resources for art, science, music etc as well as books and outdoor equipment without FOSS's support and donations, and that it makes a huge difference.

11. Closing

KF thanked the attendees of the meeting for coming along and expressed a special thank you to EP and EM for attending the meeting.

Meeting closed at 7.20pm.