

Friends of Wedmore First School
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 12th November 2009



Present:	Anita French	Carol Morten	Bev Keift
	Sue Moreman	Jane Higginbottom	Sue Thomas
	Richard Harris	Paula Gledhill	Sarah Rant
	Mal Johnson	Paula Renton	Jo Keen
	Jackie Hipwell	Sue Ham	Ceri Pearce

Matters Arising from the Meeting		
Item No	Description	Person to Action
8	Friends Loft (School paperwork)	Sue Ham
10	Christmas Presents	Sarah Rant
10	Friends Social	Carol Morten
11	Licence with Sedgemoor District Council	Bev Kieft

ACTION

1.	<p><u>Apologies given and accepted</u> Apologies were given by the following people: Tracey West, Ali Chetwode, Gabi Bulcock, Lucy Gerrard, Jane Manning, Clare Bean, Catherine Carter, Cathy Bird, Dae Sasitorn</p>	
2.	<p><u>Approval of the minutes from the last meeting.</u> The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>There was then a discussion regarding the Claude Duffield grant for photographic project for year 2. Richard Harris recapped on scheme, which hopes to go ahead in April 2010. Further discussion is needed for the backing from friends to the sum of £1100 pledge. Decided to vote after treasurers' report, to ensure funds were available.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Matters Arising from the last meeting</u> Ceri spoke to Ashlea regarding the money required in the account for uniforms. £1500 was needed, so Ceri transferred the additional money to make it £1400.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Chairs Report</u> Nothing to report at this stage.</p>	

5.	<p><u>Treasurers Report</u></p> <p>Ceri summarised the report that was distributed at the meeting.</p> <p>Expenditure this year is expected to be nearly £13K. Mal mentioned the possibility of getting match funding for grants from other sources ie; Harvest Home. This would help Friends save money. Ceri said there was £2k unallocated in the pot but we may need this for the initial outlay for the summer ball for deposits etc</p> <p>£1500 was hoped to come from the Christmas Craft Fayre at the end of November.</p> <p>A vote for the Claude Duffield project was taken and was unanimous that it should go ahead.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Head Teachers Report</u></p> <p>Jackie Hipwell recapped on the last meeting about the requests for funds from friends, and how the school budget was not enough to cover all the extra activities etc and that without them the children would receive a basic education and not an enriched one, to which all agreed.</p> <p>Money raised by Friends should be for items on the School Development Plan (SDP). This should be posted on the friend's website for all parents to see.</p> <p>Brass Tuition (Year 3 only). Half of the cost comes from the government, the rest friends. Discussion re children's enjoyment of this and that it is a good introduction to music notation, sound and rhythm development etc</p> <p>Maths Equipment was discussed. Sue Ham talked about Numicon. A new fun, hands on, visual aid used in reception and possible playgroup to help with early numeracy. £750 donated by friends last year and it was spent on staff training in its use.</p> <p>Mal talked about the ICT Suite grand opening on 1st Dec. He explained that Medlock Trust would send a reporter and photographer and needed a few friends to pose for pics.</p> <p>Forest Schools - Jackie passed around photos of yr 4 outdoor activities. These include making shelters, outdoor camp fires for heating water in Kelly kettles (under close adult supervision) etc etc</p>	

	<p>Sue Ham said that a new 'outdoor' classroom would be coming soon. Jackie said that the uniform would be extended to include willies and waterproofs etc.</p> <p>The School uniform was discussed and Jackie stated that it would stay the same at present. Richard Harris pointed out that it was the 20th anniversary of the school next year and this may be a good time to change the logo. It was felt that a newsletter announcement is needed to inform parents.</p> <p>The Swimming pool financing was discussed. The liner could cost £5K and thus may limit the funds for other needs. Richard Harris commented that pool running costs could go down with the solar panels ie; reduce heating bills. He also has a cost for an enclosure to enable use out of season and thus hire out to raise money.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Governor Report</u></p> <p>Mal talked about how school budgets from Somerset County Council would be down again after 2012.</p> <p>He mentioned that the building works were finished (changing rooms to be finished this week). The kitchen would be moving very soon which would free the space for group rooms.</p> <p>He talked of all the support given by local contractors and other people who gave their time for free and he will be taking them out as a thank you!</p>	
8.	<p><u>Friends Website</u></p> <p>Good feedback from all regarding Dae's efforts. All would like to say a big thank you for all her hard work and dedication. There was a discussion about obtaining email addresses from parents. Classroom reps found it awkward asking for these as not sure what to say they would be used for. Some parents declined to give them. Talk on whether parents would want minutes/reports etc. Need to discuss further on this to inform parents on its use and ensure privacy etc.</p> <p>It was mentioned that when we send out emails to lots of people we should use bcc and not cc, the b stands for blind - email address not visible. Most of us not aware of this.</p> <p>The Friends loft storage area needs sorting out. Paula mentioned that</p>	

	<p>there were boxes of school records up there to which Jackie and Sue had no idea. Sue Ham agreed to check them out.</p> <p>Ceri raised the uniform storage problem- which was poor at present, and suggested an alternative - which was agreed and would cost around £100.</p>	Sue Ham
9.	<p><u>Review of the last fundraising Event</u></p> <p>The cake sale was a success with lots of cakes donated. The book sale raised £120, which was a good achievement.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Forthcoming and Possible Events</u></p> <p>Sue Thomas gave an idea for a CD of the children singing Christmas carols. All thought it a good idea and would give it some consideration, may be too late for this Christmas. Perhaps do next year.</p> <p><u>Christmas Craft Fayre</u> Jayne asked for any help necessary to decorate on Monday 23rd November, and on the night itself. Activities room has no volunteers at present.</p> <p><u>Wedmore by Candlelight</u> Ellie Oliver to serve mulled wine from her front garden to raise funds for friends.</p> <p><u>Summer Ball</u> Cathy would like a volunteers list. A meeting on this will be held in a few weeks.</p> <p><u>Christmas Disco</u> To be held on 17 Dec 2009 at School with the same format as last year - 3.30-4.30 year R,1,2 and 4.30-5.30 year 3,4. The cost is £2 per child. Sue Ham reported that there will be no refreshments other than water this year as it didn't work well last year.</p> <p><u>Christmas Presents</u> Sarah Rant to buy presents soon and arrange wrapping etc.. Sue Ham to ask Jill's husband to play Santa again.</p> <p><u>Christmas Friends Social</u> This was agreed to be a good idea and Carol to arrange date and time at table 8 if possible. Will email all asap with possible dates.</p>	<p>Sarah Rant</p> <p>Carol Morten</p>

11.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Ceri asked for trustees for our Constitution. Agreed to be Anita and Dae as Co Chairs, Ceri as Treasurer and Cathy as Secretary.</p> <p>In order to sell raffle tickets to the general public, you need a licence, which takes weeks to sort out with Sedgemoor District Council, so an alternative is to ask a question (can be very easy) to make it a quiz/draw, saving the cost of the licence and also the ticket printing which can be £50-60. Bev Keift, being new to the post, wasn't aware of what was needed to be done and when, but will look into it asap.</p> <p>A Pool meeting will go ahead late Jan/Feb 2010 when Jo has had her baby and recovered!!</p>	Bev Keift
11.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday December 2nd at Ceri's house, 8pm start.</p>	