

Thriplow School PTA minutes

Meeting: 8pm on 20/05/2021 on Zoom

Attendees:

Paul Joghee (Chair), Meghan Bonner (Deputy Chair), Dave Aston (Treasurer), Helen Joyce (Secretary), Michela Morleo, Catherine Flanagan, Victoria Penty, Jayne Pashley, Stephanie Dods, Philip Bushell.

Welcome

All committee members were given a warm welcome.

Finance update

DA informed the PTA the Easter fundraiser raised £602.55 (profit) not including the gift aid on donations, which is a combination of donations and match funding support.

1. DA will continue to pursue the gift aid payment from previous donations and has recently submitted a form to update the authorized person who can apply to HMRC.

Grant applications

MB summarised the current grant applications status:

- A grant of just under £1,000 to pay for iPads has been received from the Sawston fun run.
- Another grant of £1000 also for iPads from Mathworks is waiting on a letter to be signed and for an invoice to be sent.
- £1000 from the Community Chest fund to cover costs for a bench and gazebo is expected. A BACS form needs to be completed to receive the funds.
- A potential grant has become available for the PTA to apply for relating to sustainability and eco projects.

Cornerstone update

MB and SD gave an update. In summary, options are still being considered. The project remains live.

School wish list

VP requested financial support to the school from the PTA for the following:

- Sponsoring a poetry competition with costs up to the value of £50.
- Contributing to Year 6 send-off events.
- The revamp of the playground area behind the gazebo

The PTA committee confirmed support for all.

2. VP to ask teachers for large scale suggestions (in support of arts, science and sports) for use of PTA funds.

Outside mural

MB relayed the kind offer from a parent to paint a mural. The committee discussed options for the location and the subject of the mural.

3. VP to speak directly with the parent about the suitable location.

Revamp of area behind the gazebo

VP gave an update relating to the considerations for the area of the playground which the school are keen to improve. There are complications due to a tree which has been assessed. The school are considering quotes, getting children's' views for what to do with the area and consulting with their property manager. The PTA are keen to support this bigger project when it's been scoped out.

4. MB to support Linda with handling the complications due to the tree.

Clean up days

VP relayed the huge thanks for the work done by parents around the school, organised by the PTA. MB confirmed that 17 families came forwards to offer help. The winners from the redesign of the tractor and boat will be announced shortly. A parent family have also kindly offered to replace wooden stairs which lead out of the playground when it became clear they in a worse state.

5. PTA confirmed they are happy to pay for paint and brushes
6. MB to share the 'before and after' photos and the link to come forward to help

Fundraising event ideas for half term

The PTA discussed ideas for the next fundraising events and the most appropriate timing.

7. MB to organise a fundraiser through <https://bag2school.com> after half term.
8. HJ to organise a sunflower and pumpkin growing competition to kick off before half term.
9. The PTA to organise ice-cream when restrictions are lifted.

Summer event ideas

VP confirmed the school are waiting on further risk assessments due to Covid and are not yet able to confirm when restrictions can be relaxed which makes it difficult to plan upcoming events such as Sports day.

HJ relayed a proposal to consider a curry night as a fundraiser/social event. PJ suggested other social events such as a repeat of the Brew Board night.

10. VP to update the PTA on whether refreshments on Sports day can be organised as a fundraiser.
11. PJ & HJ to research social events

AOB

SD gave an update as a governor to the parent body, and asked what parents would like to know from governors. The PTA also discussed the ball and the upcoming 2nd hand uniform sale, with an offer of help from JP.

12. PJ to coordinate questions coming from the parent body for SD to take to the governors.
13. DA to organise a card machine to avoid handling cash.
14. PJ and MB to promote getting a ball committee together following some recent interest.

Date of next meeting: 8th July at 8pm on zoom