

# Thriplow School PTA minutes

Meeting: 8pm on 12/11/2020 on Zoom

## Attendees:

Paul Joghee (Chair), Meghan Bonner (Deputy Chair), Dave Aston (Treasurer), Helen Joyce (Secretary), Jayne Pashley, Rebecca Wilkins, Lucy Davidson, Stephanie Dodds, Debbie Van Wyck, Olga Carozzo, Caroline Short.

## Apologies:

Victoria Penty (Head Teacher), Karen Brogan, Michela Morleo, Kelly Austin, Chloe Jenkin

## Welcome

PJ kicked off the meeting welcoming attendees! Minutes from previous meeting (AGM) were accepted.

## Finances

DA summarised the consideration for whether the PTA should become VAT registered. The committee voted to remain without being VAT registered.

PJ confirmed that 30+ families took part in the half term fundraiser which raised £1,042.50 (including gift aid).

1. DA will complete the ongoing gift aid claim with HMRC.
2. HJ to promote the use of the online shopping platforms (Amazon Smile and 'Give as You Live') who donate to the PTA charity.
3. HJ to make sure the total raised from the half term virtual challenge is shared with parents.

## Grant Applications

RW and MB confirmed Cornerstone grants have been submitted, though it's too early to expect an update. A grant application has been submitted to the Cambridge Community Fund for a mobile kitchen unit with an update expected in February. An application for a grant with South Cambs Community Chest for iPads is drafted and is waiting for parish council support before being submitted.

4. RW and MB to follow up a suggestion to apply for grants from the Stansted Community Fund.

## Wishlist

PJ informed the committee that the pond liner (paid for with a donation from the PTA) was installed today! The offer to organise a marquee over winter was kindly declined as the school are pursuing a grant to pay for a new awning.

5. PJ will contact Mrs Penty to agree the classroom budgets which the PTA will fund as before.

## Clean Up Days

PJ passed on gratitude from Mrs Penty to all those who helped with practical jobs around the school over half term. MB confirmed that 2 volunteer teams are on hold until after the current lockdown, who will jet-wash the playground and deal with the planter. Another volunteer team will paint the

Butterflies classroom over Easter. More parent volunteers for leaf clearing and other activities would be appreciated.

6. OC will investigate what is required to remove or repair the planter
7. MB to make sure parents are thanked for helping out so far and to ask for more volunteers.

### **Christmas fundraisers and activities**

PJ gave a roundup of the school's Christmas plans relating to fundraising and requiring parent support. Ideas for future fundraisers included buying Christmas trees (through a company in Great Chesterford) and a village treasure hunt.

8. PJ to organise suggested donations from parents who wish to download the nativity production (the school has the filming of the production in hand).
9. DvW will coordinate the team who will bake cupcakes
10. LD to run a Christmas hamper raffle, where each class donates themed items, collated into hamper prizes. HJ and DA offered practical support with the financial arrangements.

### **Other events and fundraisers**

11. JP and HJ to run a (Christmas themed) paper quiz to be sent home. PJ offered a bottle of wine as a prize!
12. PJ will chase up the auction prizes previously donated so these can (if still valid) be raffled off in a silent auction.

### **Thriplow Ball**

The committee discussed options for the ball, scheduled for October 2021.

13. DvW will connect PJ with the existing committee team members, with an offer to help chair the ball committee.
14. PJ to establish next steps and update at the next PTA meeting.

### **AOB**

15. DA to update the committee members and trustees currently registered with the Charity Commission.

**Next PTA meeting:** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 8pm on Zoom