

Thriplow School PTA minutes

Meeting: 7.30pm on 04/02/2021 on Zoom

Attendees:

Paul Joghee (Chair), Meghan Bonner (Deputy Chair), Dave Aston (Treasurer), Helen Joyce (Secretary), Victoria Penty (Head Teacher), Jayne Pashley, Jules White, Debbie Van Wyck, Chloe Jenkin.

Apologies:

Rebecca Wilkins, Lucy Davidson, Olga Carozzo, Karen Brogan, Kelly Austin, Lauren Ingram

Welcome

Members of the PTA kicked off the meeting by sharing supportive messages.

Thriplow Ball

PJ referred to the options paper sent round to the parents by email on 02/02/2021 relating to the ball and how to proceed. The PTA committee discussed the options, with support favouring option 3, which is to postpone the Ball to 2022 and take this opportunity to review the format.

Ideas were shared for how to set the fundraising goals and run an inclusive event (or set of events) for both parents and the wider Thriplow community.

1. All parents and teachers are invited to email Paul Joghee pauljoghee@gmail.com if they would like to discuss the options paper and offer their views.
2. HJ to advertise the recruitment of an Events Team who will (assuming option 3 is taken forward) discuss the ideas and organize the event. Email pauljoghee@gmail.com if you'd like to be part of the Events team. This team will be supported by the PTA, with clear subcommittee guidance in place.

School Wish-list

VP informed the PTA on positive news related to the provision on laptops. Ipads (with durable cases) are still in demand. The wishlist will need to be revisited when restrictions are lifted.

3. MB to pursue grant applications in relation to additional ipads for the school
4. VP to recommend how an available grant for £1000 could be used to buy resources that are jointly beneficial for the school and the Thriplow community.

Cornerstone Update

VP informed the PTA that the school governors are preparing a Cornerstone update which will be published soon. In the meantime MB confirmed that Cornerstone remains as a live charity fundraiser with donations continuing to come in.

Clean up Days

MB gave a debrief of the clean-up days where families supported with practical tasks around the school grounds from October 2020 onwards. There is a team ready to jet wash the playground and paint the Butterflies classroom when restrictions allow. VP confirmed the value of this support and the PTA agreed that these should continue.

5. VP to provide a list of jobs for future clean-up days

Finances

DA updated on the gift aid claims that have been submitted to HMRC. The PTA will receive an additional £465 on donations previously made, assuming the current claim is successful. The online platform used to receive donations makes gift aid claims straightforward. However there are past donations which the PTA could make a further gift aid claim to HMRC if the donation details are complete.

6. DA to convene a group to do the forensic administration to complete a new gift aid claim.
7. DA to offer advice on the reserves policy in relation to the PTA running a big event.

DA reported on the recent fundraising totals (after any costs to run events were paid).

- Virtual half term challenge - £859.24
- Christmas Hampers - £815.44
- Quiz - £128.80

Charity Commission Administration

8. PJ to update the PTA charity commission information which is out of date.

Fundraising Events

The PTA discussed appropriate events to run over half term (less than 2 weeks away). Ideas for an Easter event were also discussed.

9. DvW to produce a poster for a Photography competition over half term
10. HJ to set up a donation page for the photography competition.

AOB

JW brought forward a suggestion for the PTA to organize a fund to provide a 'wellbeing' treat of gift to teachers and the support staff given the appreciation the parents have for the dedication through the pandemic.

11. HJ to organise a separate fund for parents to donate to a 'thank you' gift for teachers and supporting team
12. VP to provide a list of the teaching and supporting team to the PTA
13. PJ to follow up on previous donated auction prizes to find out if still available

Date of next meeting

11th March 2021 at 8pm on Zoom (TBC)