

Thriplow School PTA AGM minutes

Meeting: 8pm on 08/10/2020 on Zoom

Attendees:

Paul Joghee (Chair), Meghan Bonner (Deputy Chair), Dave Aston (Treasurer), Helen Joyce (Secretary), Victoria Penty (Head Teacher), Nicole Padayachee, Michela Morleo, Jayne Pashley, Karen Brogan, Rebecca Wilkins, Nick Barker, Kelly Austin, Lucy Davidson, Stephanie Dods, Chloe Jenkin, Dan Jenkin, Debbie Van Wyck, Pete Van Wyck, Olga Carozzo

AGM

Welcome and Chairs report

PJ gave an overview of the Chairs' report. VP welcomed the committee and gave thanks for achievements.

Treasurers report and financial statement

DA summarized the financial statement which had been emailed to parents in advance. The committee agreed to sign off the financial report for 2019.

Cornerstone Update

MB presented the update with he hope the project will progress in the coming months, so the whole school can benefit.

Core Committee Election

Those standing in the PTA core committee election were nominated. The outcome of the election was as follows:

Chair – Paul Joghee
Deputy Chair – Meghan Bonner
Treasurer - David Aston (Dave)
Secretary – Helen Joyce (Nell)

PTA meeting

Welcome to new parents

PJ welcomed new Thriplow parents to the PTA and reminded that all parents are welcome to contribute.

Finances

DA gave an overview of the current activities, including claiming gift aid from previous donations and confirming the PTA has applied for a raffle license.

1. DA to submit the claim for gift aid now that he has the list of previous donors
2. VP to organise the invoice from the school to the PTA for ball costs
3. DA to consider the benefits of the PTA being VAT registered (mentioned at this meeting to simplify invoicing directly to the PTA)

Wishlist

MB and PJ reported on the school wish list, where support from the PTA would be appreciated:

- Christmas – decoration day
 - Classroom budgets of £200 per class
 - Pond liner for wild space
 - Costs to film the nativity production (which can later be shared with parents)
 - Ipads and laptops
 - Kitchen equipment – oven and accessories
4. HJ to inform the school on the PTA decision to pay for the pond liner from existing funds -once the costs are agreed.
 5. MB and RW to investigate grant applications. There are two potential applications; one larger grant to cover something more substantial, potentially the kitchen equipment and a smaller community grant.

PTA additional support suggestions

The PTA discussed ideas to support the school, particularly through a difficult year with respect to Covid. The ideas suggested included a marquee (to provide additional outside cover over winter), support with practical Covid mitigations and sports equipment or help with sport events and clubs.

6. JP and PJ to check with school regarding the marquee suggestion and follow up known contacts.

Autumnal jobs around the school

PJ suggested the jobs the PTA could help with following discussions at the school. The list of jobs isn't complete but includes gardening jobs to dismantle a wooden planter, cutting hedges and tidying a border at the front. The Butterflies classroom also needs painting. Volunteers came forward including directly from Rowan Pashley.

7. PJ to get a full list of jobs and potential dates.
8. HJ to organise a parent rota once we have the jobs and potential dates.

Upcoming events and fundraisers

PJ relayed the current thoughts and progress with the upcoming PTA events.

9. The PTA will discuss and organise a fundraiser paper quiz at the next meeting. This will be a quiz completed at home and the suggestion is to organise this in January.
10. PJ to investigate extending the deadline for auction prizes due to expire. These are to be auctioned off through the school.
11. HJ to organise a virtual challenge for half term – parents and children to sign up for a run/cycle/triathlon/swim, and complete over half term. Suggestions for entry fees (to include gift aid) and providing medals was agreed.

Christmas activities and fundraisers

The PTA heard the school are preparing to make the Christmas period extra special. The PTA are expecting to support the costs or provide practical support to film a nativity production which may be a fundraiser if parents buy a copy. The PTA also discussed ideas including online parties and events.

12. PJ to investigate children entertainers if this is appropriate for the school
13. JP to investigate a potential panto online event.
14. MB to contact the school regarding the Christmas cards fundraiser (already organised).
15. DvW to organise tea towels to be sold at Christmas.

The Thriplow ball

PJ reported the ball is rescheduled to take place in October 2021. There is additional support required within the ball committee to handle this project. Ideas and suggestions were shared, ahead of the ball committee taking these for consideration.

16. CJ to provide the list of current ball committee members.
17. PJ to communicate the vacancy to chair the ball committee and help appoint a replacement.

AOB

18. DvW to form a cupcake team for the Christmas lunch. Volunteers came forward for this, though more are welcome!
19. LD offered support to grant applications and fundraising in general which will be taken up by MB and RW who currently offer support to this PTA activity.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12th November at 8pm on Zoom