

Minutes of Cheney Friends Tuesday 12th June 2018

Present:

- Sue Harmer (Chair)
- Priscilla Goldby (Treasurer)
- Kirsten Burrell (Secretary)
- Marie-Alice Frappat
- Tamasin Lilwall
- Louise Marsh (staff)
- Ben Pinches
- Emma Plugge
- Richard Stamper
- Claire Stevenson
- Alison White
- Hannah Whitley

Matters arising from minutes of meeting on 5th March

1. Parentalk

- The next course will be at Cheney from October. It will probably be held in the library for ease of access (and to loos and drinks). Alison will need several volunteer helpers (especially from people who have done it before). There will be an email to parents at the end of term and publicised to next year's Y7 parents in transition packs. Thanks were extended to Alison for organising Parentalk. **Action: Carried forward.**

2. Sixth Form

- SH spoke to Sarah Warbrick about the £300 we have for the Sixth Form and it has been decided that the money will go towards an interactive board for the Lane building (costs in the region of £370). Sarah has cheque payee details for PG. **Action: PG**

3. Uniform

- We had previously discussed collecting second-hand uniform items at Parent Evenings and it had also been suggested that we could utilise the last non-uniform day of the year as a collection event, with bins in the library. **Action: LM to check dates of forthcoming non-uniform days; KB to check with Vicky Hathaway and Jill Fenton re decision on collection bins**

Cheney Friends communications and meetings

Communications: SH had met with Vicky Hathaway to discuss an online presence and alternatives to the Yahoo group. VH suggested using a gmail address instead of Cheney Friends having a school email address and for any news to go via the school Facebook site rather than a separate CF FB site, to avoid duplication. BP was thanked for setting up the CF WhatsApp group. It was decided to keep the Yahoo group for now (it may come to a natural end as parents leave) **Action: BP to look into the functionality of a Google address.**

Meetings: Alternating Communications/Fundraising sub groups with the big CF meetings had worked well this term. For next year, there will be a big meeting in the first half of the Autumn term, the AGM in the second half and then 1 big meeting each in the Spring and Summer terms, dates of these and sub-group meetings to be decided.

Support for school events

Twelfth Night 21st June: Claire & Tamasin

Sports Awards 27th June: Hannah & Ben

Summer show 5th July: Emma, Priscilla & Claire

Priscilla has applied for licences for all three events.

Cricket match 6th July: Emma has an advert ready to send out. Mr Ford is the captain of the staff team. LM to catch up with him to provide match stats for over the years. This may help pique interest – it would be good to have as many current staff on the team as possible. **Action: EP; LM.**

The Year 6/7 transition evenings are also coming up on 5th & 6th July. **Action: LM to check with Vicky H the level of CF support required; WhatsApp survey to see who is available.**

Finance

PG circulated the finance report. Available funds: £1533 (of which £300 will be going to the Sixth Form).

There are 110 registered users of Easyfundraising (an increase of 2!) and the total raised to date is £796. Cheney Falcons Rowing Club has a separate Easyfundraising entity. PG has been updating the CF page on the website in preparation for the new website launch and queried whether Cheney Falcons still went under this name as there was no mention of it on the website. **Action: LM to check.** The outgoing auditor, Gillian Robinson has been given a Blackwell gift card to thank her for her help.

Fundraising

CS and HW reported back on Fundraising activities. CS has been asking for donations for tools and equipment for DT and targeting stores selling or donating equipment. She contacted Homebase and other local stores but the only reply so far was from Jewson who couldn't provide anything immediately but were helpful in signposting the Building Better Communities initiative. CF would have to put a funding proposal together to be shortlisted and voted for on the public website. This year's round has closed so this is one for next year. CS wrote to ask stores for donations and it was suggested that she follow up by email with the letter attached, to encourage replies. **Action: CS.**

HW has been targeting supermarkets. Cheney is now on the waiting list to be featured in the Waitrose Community Matters green token scheme. Tesco also has a similar Community Champions scheme at both the retail and Cowley Rd branches. **Action: HW to update when Waitrose confirm CF has a spot and apply to both Tesco branches.** Mr Olubodun has confirmed that the DT department would like a wood-turning lathe. HW has emailed the HOD at the School of Architecture at Brookes re equipment they may no longer require. TL had been told by Clare Ridley that there is a store of cast-off furniture and equipment that Brookes staff can help themselves to. **Action: TL to speak to Clare Ridley.**

SH has also put in a bid for DT equipment funds to the Doris Field Trust - they will need proof of purchase. Other organisations to apply to include the Thomas Dawson Educational Trust and the Reuben Foundation (who contributed to the Business Faculty building at Spire Academy).

It was suggested that any funds raised at the cricket match and Sports Award evening could go towards paying for team kits. Parents who own small businesses could also be targeted as there are tax efficiencies in providing sponsorship. KB asked LM if the school still needed sponsorship for prizes for the celebration evenings (this had been originally raised a year ago). LM mentioned this might take the form of 1 payment to the Finance office of £250 (5 prizes of £50 to 5 year groups). **Action: LM to talk to Finance Office and Heads of Year.**

The timeline mural for the English department was also discussed (to feature writers and texts through time. Funds for this could also be included in a bid for Creative Arts (also lighting for Drama and Music Tech). **Action: M-AF to talk to Jo Acty; LM to take photos and send to M-AF.**

Open Agenda

A Level options: options seemed to have been reduced for next year's Y12. LM confirmed that there are no language A levels offered next year and that subjects need 8 students in order to be viable. PG asked whether it was possible for local schools to band together in order to offer subjects that each couldn't offer individually. There were also questions about publicity and promotion for the Sixth Form. The Cherwell open day is after Cheney's so potential Cherwell students tend to focus on this and miss the deadline for applying to Cheney Sixth Form.

20 minutes a day reading initiative: this will provide expectations for families who don't have reading established in daily life and support regular reading.

Sports offered in PE: these are decided on a year-by-year basis by the criteria of needs/skill of each year group and staff expertise and include invasion, striking and fielding games, trampolining, racquet sports and athletics. BP mentioned that he had booked the hall for indoor football and that there was a possible opportunity to open it to a wider audience, either extra-curricular or perhaps within PE. **Action: LM to discuss with Head of PE and feed back to BP.**

Next meeting

Wednesday 26th September at 7.15pm in the school library.

Summary of action points

- Parentalk: **Carried forward.**
- Sixth Form: The £300 held over from 2015 for the Sixth Form is to go towards an interactive board for the Lane Building. **PG to arrange payment**
- Second-hand uniform: **Action: LM to check dates of forthcoming non-uniform days; KB to check with Vicky Hathaway and Jill Fenton re decision on collection bins**
- Cheney Friends communications and meetings: **Action: BP to look into the functionality of a Google address for Cheney Friends**
- Support for school events: **EP to send out advert for cricket match; LM to talk to Mr Ford re match stats to encourage staff sign-up. LM to check with Vicky H re CF support for Y6/7 transition evenings; WhatsApp survey to see who is available.**
- Finance: **LM to check current operating name of Cheney Falcons Rowing Club**
- Fundraising: Fundraising committee: **CS to follow up letters to stores re DT equipment with email (with original letter attached); Action: HW to update when Waitrose confirm CF has a spot in green token scheme and apply to both Tesco branches; TL to speak to Clare Ridley re cast-off furniture store at Brookes; LM to talk to Finance Office and Heads of Year re prizes for celebration evenings; M-AF to talk to Jo Acty re English mural; LM to take photos and send to M-AF**
- AOB: **LM to discuss indoor football with Head of PE and feed back to BP.**