

Friends of Orton

AGM

14.10.25

Minutes

Start Time: 3:40pm

Present: Jo Hayward (Chair), Debra Capstick (Treasurer), Megan Cotton-Dew (Secretary), Amalia Williams, Hannah Lingwood, Emma Pomfret (Headteacher).

Apologies: Gemma Lewis, Jenny Bowes, Vicki Capstick (Vice Chair), Lisa Elliott, Amy Potter.

Matters Arising: none

Chair Report:

Jo Hayward gave the following report:

There are lots of people to thank for the successes of last year. Megan is perhaps reaching for a record with 15 years under her belt as Secretary and always lends a hand at every event. Debra in her second year as Treasurer is acing the role as well as expertly managing the second hand uniform, turning a hand to graphic design and is always ready with great suggestions and ideas. There's a reliable (if small) army of volunteers who regularly turn up to meetings and help out at events and there are all the other contributors who bake cakes, volunteer, donate, buy raffle tickets and more. Together we raised £5664.87 last year, up on the previous year and a fantastic amount to be proud of. Thank you and well done!

Vicki Capstick is resigning from the role of Vice Chair after 4 years. Vicki will continue to coordinate the School Lottery for FoOS which raised £814.10 last year. If you haven't already signed up to this fundraiser, it's a great way to raise funds for school and receive the odd windfall too! Vicki also coordinates the M&S collections which raises £2-3,000 a year for school (separate to the FoOS funds); all very worthwhile and valuable contributions. Thank you for everything you have done for FoOS and continue to do Vicki.

If you would like to take on the supportive role of Vice Chair for FoOS, we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you to Emma Pomfret and all the teachers at school too, who are very supportive of our endeavours, opening up the school for various events and putting in extra hours to support them plus and most importantly, for providing such a nurturing and happy environment for our children to thrive in.

FOoS are already well into planning events for the rest of the year and some firm favourites are set to return with our festive Wreath-Making Course, Christmas Market Stall and Santa Shop. Not all the events we run are about making money, some like the Santa Shop and Ice Cream Fridays are about arranging fun things for the children. The funds we do raise though are very much for the 'children having fun' pot. And when photos of happy, smiling faces pop up from the annual residential or from a bus trip to somewhere exciting, it's good to remember that the funds FoOS raise help to make those memories.

If you would like to help FoOS in any way; perhaps you have a great idea for a fundraiser or would like to join the WhatsApp group to keep up with what's going on, please speak to any of the

committee members. We really would like to welcome lots of extra pairs of helping hands this year. If you would like more information about the funds we raised last year and how they were spent, please speak to Debra Capstick who has an impressive spreadsheet!

So, here's to another great year, working with some very good people to raise essential funds to support our school to help put smiles on little faces.

*Jo Hayward
Chair.*

Treasurer Report:

We have had another successful year of fundraising from Sept 2024 – August 2025.

Total income: £5,664.87

Total expenditure: £6,560.32

Surplus/Deficit: - £895.45

The closing balance at 31st August 2025 = £13,108.48

Represented by:

Current Account: £811.10

Savings Account: £12,297.38

The fundraiser making the greatest profit was the Fell Race with £1337.83 profit, followed by Your School Lottery which made a profit of £794.10 and Bingo which made a profit of £641.29.

The Santa Shop and Wreath Making Workshop carried the highest expenditure compared to profit made, with Santa Shop expenses at £113.50, making a loss of £27.50, and Wreath Making expenses at £123.25, making a profit of £101.75. It was noted that although these events do not make a huge profit, they do provide a pleasant experience. With this in mind they will continue again this year. If possible, we will endeavour to ensure the income from Santa Shop at least covers costs. This year we have Scot Mid vouchers to use for Santa Shop chocolates, so this will help offset costs.

With regards to Wreath Making, the cost of a ticket will be £20 this year, with 15 places available, so this could potentially make slightly more profit than last year.

The committee were asked to consider the events that don't make very much money such as, Christmas Tree chipping, Book Swap and Ice Cream Friday, and whether or not it is worth continuing them. It was decided that although they don't bring in much profit, they also don't require much work so it is worth keeping them in the fundraising calendar.

As was the case last year, the funding requests generating the greatest expenditures of the year were the contribution to the residential trips and transport costs for various trips throughout the year.

Election of Committee Officers

There were no nominations for any of the officer roles.

The committee members present were asked to consider if they would like to stand. The current officers agreed to remain in their roles for another year.

Chair - Joanna Hayward agreed to stay on a Chair.

Treasurer – Debra Capstick agreed to stay on as Treasurer.

Secretary – Megan Cotton-Dew agreed to stay on as Secretary.

Vice Chair – Vicki Capstick is stepping down from the role.

Jo Hayward will put out a message to the school community to see if anyone is willing to take on the role of Vice Chair. It is not vital to fill this role though so the committee will continue without a Vice Chair.

Any Other Business:

Debra Capstick has created a FoOS Newsletter detailing the work of FoOS over the past year, as well as advertising the upcoming events. This will be emailed out to parents with the school newsletter. Debra C will also send it to The Link to advertise the work of FoOS and the upcoming events to the community.

Events coming up:

Wreath Making: 20th November 7 -8.30pm at school. Fifteen places available at a cost of £20 a ticket. Debra C is coordinating this event this year and will advertise it on all local social media pages and around the villages.

Will require moss, foliage and rings. Jo H will speak to gardeners Owen and Steve to see if they can supply any and a request will go out to locals to donate any suitable foliage.

Christmas Fair at Orton Market Hall: 29th November – a request for Jolly Jars will go out to parents. Debra C will advertise this and put out requests to parents for support.

Textile Collection: December 5th – donations to be left at school from 8am to 9am on the 5th Dec.

Tea Towel Fundraiser:

This was done a few years ago as a fundraiser. It was agreed to do an updated version. Jo H will get the info and send it to school for the children to do their design to be printed in time for Christmas. The option to offer a tote bag and apron was discussed – Jo H will see whether we can order different items to offer a choice to buyers.

Farmers Market Plant and Cake Stall:

Bulbs and compost need to be bought/sourced for the Mother's Day Farmers Market plant stall. Jo H will look into this.

Amalia W suggested moving our fundraising efforts to different locations, eg other Christmas Fairs and events happening around the local area. This will be looked in to as a way to extend the fundraising capabilities of FoOS.

Funding Requests:

A request for funding for transport and ice cream for the Christmas KS2 trip to Blackpool was made to the committee. The committee agreed to this request.

A request was made for funding for transport and ice cream for the KS1 Christmas trip to The Dukes Lancaster. The committee agreed to this request.

Transport funding was requested for the Birch Class trip to the Wildlife Park to support and enhance their learning about animals and habitats. This was agreed to by the committee.

A request for a £2,000 contribution to the upcoming Residential trips for Year 3-6 was made. The committee agreed to this.

Class Donations – FoOS have agreed to give each class a donation of £350 for teachers to use as they see fit to provide extras for the children.

Colman Shelter – Emma P is researching options and will get back to the committee once a decision has been made.

Christmas Party funding contribution – FoOS have agreed to contribute £140 to provide the entertainment for the school party.

Next Meeting: TBC

Meeting concluded: 5pm