

Thriplow School PTA minutes

Meeting: 2pm on 13/01/23 at Thriplow School Hall

Attendees:

Paul Joghee (Chair), Helen Joyce (Secretary), Lucy How, Jessica Parkinson, Chloe Phillips, Jayne Pashley.

Apologies: Meghan Bonner (Deputy Chair), Dave Aston (Treasurer), Stephanie Dods, Karen Brogan

Welcome

PJ opened the meeting welcoming the attendees.

Financial update

Ahead of the PTA meeting, DA provided an overview of the fundraising over Christmas and the current available funds for the school. There is approximately £16k of available funds, taking into account money already allocated. The PTA have confirmed they will fund standing desks, rotary book storage, a visit by folk duo Megson, and subsidy of residential trip.

1. LH to make an invoice available so the PTA can provide the funds to subsidise a residential trip as previously agreed.

New request for PTA funds

As requested by parents, LH provided an updated list of new requests to the PTA. LH summarised the list of suggestions previously shared with the core committee, explaining why some previous requests have been adapted or discounted.

New suggestions (approved prior to final quotes) included mechanical litter pickers (low cost items), sand tray for ANTS class, a subscription to a new maths app, visualizers (IT kit) upgrading the greenhouse (but keeping it as a greenhouse for gardening purposes), running online safety courses for parents and children and potential wellbeing/mental health support for children.

The kit out of the new classroom with STEM equipment requires further research into what is appropriate, with the PTA keen to fund this when possible.

The committee agreed to fund the additional account to complete the hall upgrades, to include a better projector and sound system. The grant from the Daffodil weekend committee will cover some of these costs however there is a short fall.

Parents have also suggested (via the parent survey and directly to PTA core committee members) if the PTA can assist the school with ongoing SEND support.

2. LH to confirm the costs to complete the hall upgrade project to be paid by the PTA funds expected to be approx. £2,500.
3. LH to visit schools with recommended STEM classroom facilities to confirm the new classroom kit out requirements for Thriplow.
4. LH to investigate a group SEN training session available all teaching staff to be funded by the PTA (expected to be approx. £200)

5. LH to get a quote to provide online safety courses to also be available for parents.
6. PTA to support LH with advice over replacement/upgrade of greenhouse.

Grants / funding application

Unfortunately the Sawston fun run grant was unsuccessful. A PTA member has kindly organised for Thriplow PTA to be a beneficiary of the Tesco charity donations to be used on sports equipment.

Fundraising events

A movie night is organised for 20th January with some merchandise available to be sold to raise additional funds.

7. PTA to go ahead with organising a parent's social event to create artwork, led by a parent of the school. LH agreed (in theory) the school hall can be used for this evening event.
8. PTA to organise a tea room committee for the Daffodil weekend and to find someone willing to coordinate the team of volunteers
9. HJ to confirm if Tom's Trust are planning a fun run in Thriplow in 2023.

PTA new roles and survey responses

PJ (Chair) confirmed that he and MB (Deputy Chair) will be stepping down at the AGM in April. Some parents have expressed an interest in being members of the core committee to help support the school

10. PJ to write to parents to promote and explain the roles and organise handovers.

Clubs and Workshops

There are more sport clubs available which is appreciated by parents, including tag rugby and tennis. LH explained that the Little Performers club on Mondays which was popular has started to dwindle.

11. LH to promote the benefits of the Little Performers club as possibly it's not well known to new parents

Cornerstone update

Planning permission has been granted but the Governors are getting new quotes to make sure the work undertaken is of good value.

AOB

Scotdales garden centre have donated a pre-lit Christmas tree and decorations.

As previously discussed at a PTA meeting, a Community Readers project is progressing with meetings arranged with local residents willing to come into the school to listen to children reading.

12. PTA agreed to deactivate the ongoing subscriptions to allow payments through the website to sell tickets to the wider public

Dates for PTA meetings

Date	Venue
Tuesday 28 th February -8pm	Zoom
Friday 28 th April – 9am (AGM)	School Hall (after drop-off)
Friday 16 th June – 2pm	School Hall (ahead of Celebration assembly)