



Valley School PTA AGM Minutes

- Tuesday 20th September, 2:45pm, Studio
Meeting called by Heather Leveton, Chair.

Attended: Stephen Jackson, Heather Leveton, Amruta Sawant, Rachel Wolfendale, Tanya Scott, Sam Slatter, Laura House, Patricia Sullens, Charlotte English, Faith Bayley-Dainton, May Weng, Sarah Eaton Sproule, Leanne Lashbrook, Chantal Aina, Petia Balkanski, Sue Whittaker, Sarah Marcou, Artemis McGuinness, Kate Shilland, Wendy Anderson

Apologies: Sheetal Barve, Ellie Wells, Francis Griffiths

President's Report - Mr Jackson

Mr Jackson gave a verbal president's report summarising the year. Thanks were given to the PTA, parents and staff for all the work they do in supporting the school in enhancing the children's learning experience.

Mr Jackson outlined that there are two main aspects to the work of the PTA: Building Community and raising funds. He described one of the most recent items the PTA's work has supported: Thanks to PTA funding, over the summer the school was able to purchase new books for the library. They replaced the outdated books and were able to buy titles which will help support learning within the school better. This has included a selection of books in dual languages, which better reflects the diverse demographic of the school community. These books should be arriving in the next week or so.

It is important that the PTA continues to grow and reflect the demographic of the school. More volunteers are always needed to help and all are welcome.

Chair's Report – Heather Leveton

Heather gave the chair's end of year report. It has been a great year! Thanks to all, especially the committee who, though small in number, get a lot done. Thanks also to Mr Jackson and the Valley staff for ensuring that it continues to be an inclusive PTA, with closer communication between the school and the PTA as well as stronger support from staff at PTA events. This has enabled us to really start to make inroads with building community and has led to an increase in both the money raised and the number of people helping out at events. Big thanks also to all the parents who support us and help us achieve our goals. In particular this year we worked on improving community with various free events such as the food festival and book swap.

Heather announced that whilst she is re-standing for Chairperson at this meeting she will be standing down after Christmas. In addition whilst Amruta is re-standing as Treasurer at this meeting she too will be standing down in the next 6-12 months, so it is vital we find replacements in time to do a proper handover of duties so that the work of the PTA can continue in a smooth and orderly fashion.

Treasurer's Report – Amruta Sawant

Heather outlined the key financial figures in her report and Amruta provided a more detailed summary of 2015-2016. Key features were as follows:

Total income was £22,741

Net profit was £16,006

Items the PTA funded from this profit were:

Laptop; laptop Trolley; crossing Patrol; outdoor area improvements; digital piano; life bus; KS1 Party and

Christmas gifts; Christmas Panto; and a Flag.

Items funded from PTA surplus funds were: library books (as outlined in Mr Jackson's report)

Proposed amendments to the Valley PTA Constitution:

There was insufficient time at the meeting to circulate the proposed amendments to the constitution. This item is carried forward to the next meeting.

Committee members & Class Rep's

Members leaving & new members

Mr Jackson was confirmed as President.

Heather re-stood as Chair, Tanya re-stood as Secretary and Amruta re-stood as Treasurer.

The following ordinary members also re-stood:

Charlotte English; Sheetal Barve; Faith Bayley-Dainton; Ellie Wells; Francis Griffiths; Rachel Wolfendale (staff); Sue Whittaker (staff); Wendy Anderson (staff);

and Karen Davies stepped down as an ordinary member.

New ordinary members are as follows:

Tori Allerston; Laura House; Nick and Leanne Lashbrook

Votes were taken and carried.

Recruitment for class reps is currently ongoing.

Actions arising

PTA to recruit class reps.

PTA Objectives – 2015/16

The objectives for 2015/16, as set out below, with the exception of the outdoor classroom and the gift-aid application, these were all delivered.

Fundraising

- a. Improving outdoor play provision at Valley
 - i. EYFS Outdoor Area
 - ii. Provision of materials for playtime
- b. Supporting key school activities to deliver richer educational experience
 - i. Year 6 leavers party
 - ii. KS1 Christmas party
 - iii. KS1 gifts
 - iv. Pantomime
 - v. Life Bus
 - vi. Laptops and trolley
 - vii. Knitting clubs
 - viii. Crossing patrol
- c. Supporting ad-hoc requests
 - i. Black History Month
- d. Working towards long term goals
 - i. Outdoor Classroom - This was decided to be dropped following consultation with teachers
 - ii. Improving literacy resources - £15,000 spent on books for all years as part of program to improve resources within classroom and regenerate library.

- e. Promoting online fundraising via Giving Machine or Easyfundraising - This was promoted at parents evenings / new reception events
- f. Gift aid - no further progress has been made due to the complexity of the application and the amount of time taken in delivering other objectives.

Building Community

- a) Development of more free events / activities which bring together Valley's culturally and economically diverse community
 - i. Success of World Food Festival
 - ii. Book Exchange

Suggested PTA Objectives – 2016/17

Fundraising

- a. Proposed to develop school library into strong resource area and quiet zone.
 - i. Provide better facility for literary resources
 - ii. Provide a place of sanctuary for children who struggle with the hustle and bustle of the playground
 - iii. To provide softer space for Breakfast and After school clubs to use – especially in light of increase number of Reception children being placed in clubs
- b. Continuing to support key school activities / priorities
 - i. Year 6 leavers party
 - ii. KS1 Christmas party
 - iii. KS1 gifts
 - iv. Pantomime
 - v. Life Bus
 - vi. Crossing patrol
 - vii. Support extra-curricular clubs
- c. Support ad-hoc requests
- d. Promote online fundraising via giving machine and easy fundraising more widely
- e. Further investigation into either a Virginmoney or Justgiving account – to allow direct donations from parents/carers/friends of the school. 36% of survey respondents said they would like to donate this way (particularly working parents who cannot attend fundraising events).

Building School Community

- a) Development of more free events / activities which bring together Valley's culturally and economically diverse community
 - i) World Food Festival – can we develop a cook book to go with this?
 - ii) Book exchange
 - iii) Ideas welcome!

A vote was taken and the motion was carried.

Date of next AGM

March - tbc