

Friends of Whitefield

Minutes 08-05-18

Attendees: N. Simpson, S. Holmes, C. Hartley, J. Haslem-Bantoft, J. Crawford, J. Shorrocks, I Moore.

Apologies: S. Foster, N. Tayburn, A. Holden, K. Mitchell, L. Mellis, K. Farmer, N. Hanlon, B. Caslake.

Actions from last meeting:

- Still awaiting info on new pitch and fair from Mrs F.
- Mr. Huntington has some 'reasonable quotes' for the pitch, still waiting to see those.

Summer Fair: Katie Mitchell has passed on all info re: Summer fair, including names for organisation committee consisting of

Nicola Simpson, Joanne Shorrocks, Joanne Crawford, Becky Caslake, Sheralyn Holmes, Jessica Haslem-Bantoft and Claire Hartley.

Planning meeting to be arranged by Nicola Simpson in roughly 2 weeks time.

Discussions about what worked and what didn't, along with a list of different ideas to be discussed at planning meeting, including:

- Donkeys - Nicola to ask Katie why donkeys were decided against last year
- Candy Floss - Is a food sales licence required?
- Enterprise Stalls – FoW would be willing to help classes out in preparation/design surrounding a stall by offering lunchtime help for example.
- Stalls for Parents – FB post and email to be sent out to parents offering stall spaces for the fair
- Cake competition – Cake decorating competition instead of baking contest a possibility. Cupcakes to decorate on the day?
- Gazebos – They need replacing as lots got broken at last year's fair due to bad weather. An industrial 'pop up' gazebo would cost around £120. Post to go on facebook to ask if anyone has links for buying one at reduced rate/knows of a company willing to let us loan one/more in exchange for advertising at the fair.

New Starters evening: Reception new starters evening set for 22nd May at 5.30pm. Confirmation needed about if it is just one meeting this year and what time it will finish.

FoW members to help - Joanne Shorrocks, Jess H-B, Claire Hartley, Sheralyn Holmes and possibly others depending on availability.

FoW presence similar to last year with a hamper hopefully being arranged again by Lesley as a raffle prize.

Short address to parents from member of FoW, possibly Jess H-B.

Welcome pack leaflets to be O.K'ed by Nicola and printed by Joanne Crawford, including info on Summer Fair, New Starters Party, Stay and Play, FoW event list and form for joining the FoW.

Board and t-shirts to be located!

Nicola to speak to Katie about lanyards, maybe a possibility for making FoW members more identifiable.

New Starters Party! Successful last year, so planned again for September 22nd.

Funded by FoW with roughly £200 budget for entertainment, food, sweets etc.

Year 6 hoodies and leavers party: FoW funded hoodies at same cost as last year.

Leavers party to be FoW funded too, with entertainment, balloons etc.

Rebranding of FoW: Suggestion of redesigning FoW logo, possibly with a competition for school children to design it! Forms could be sent out through school including a section for parent email to add to FoW contact list.

Last Disco: Concerns again regarding children using phones in toilets. Children and parents were informed that there should be no phones brought to the disco, and if they were brought they could be safely kept in a secure location. This is a safeguarding issue and no phones is the same as the school rules. Suggestions to combat this in future are to have limited children in the toilet at once, for example only 2 or 3 at a time.

Easy Fundraising: Nicola to share info on Easy Fundraising to raise funds for school.

Sports Day: Free/reduced price refreshments to be sourced for Sports Day. Supermarkets to be contacted to make a request. This would be a good opportunity to promote FoW via the leaflet given to pupils/parents.

Makro Card: Nicola to speak to Lesley about getting together the paperwork for a Makro card in the name of FoW.

Annual Return: Nicola to discuss with Lesley.

FoW FB page: Members to add new people, other parents etc and to share it within class year group social media platforms.

Survey: 48 responses, quite representative of the school. General consensus is that people know who the FoW are, but not really what we do. People found experiences of volunteering for FoW mostly positive. Only negative feedback was that some found themselves 'standing around' if they weren't given a specific job. Lots of people want to be more involved with FoW and have suggested that a different meeting time/place, plus the offer of a creche facility or similar would get more people to meetings.

It is suggested that children being allowed to attend is made clearer when promoting meetings. It is also suggested that meetings be given more specific titles such as 'summer fair planning meeting' so people are more aware of the things we do.

The most negative thing to be found from the survey was that communication is poor. Many would prefer emails to be sent directly to them. Suggestion of a newsletter was made, which could go out via email every term with a roundup of FoW work in the previous term, along with upcoming dates and info on the events themselves, particularly for new parents.

People weren't keen for adult only events and would prefer them to be local and cheap! E.G. bingo nights, BBQ etc.

Next meeting pencilled in for September, with a possible FoW night out to happen beforehand!