

Friends of Woodberry Down School

Minutes from meeting on 9 September 2016

Attendees:

Bilal Theodule - Woodberry Down School Pastoral Officer
Anne Tipton – Chair
Aisha Phoenix – outgoing Secretary
Hilary Cohen - parent
Heba – parent
Angela Buxton - parent

1. Starting a Woodberry Down parent council

This was not on the agenda, but it was agreed it was important that Woodberry Down has a parent council where parents could meet with school representatives to discuss school developments, performance and any concerns. Both Shacklewell and Grazebrook have a parent council and so we could look at those models to see how to get this off the ground in Woodberry Down.

Action:

- **Aisha and Angela will both meet with Derek Hewie, Headteacher to discuss this proposal.**

NB Mr Hewie in favour of this idea and will make space to work with us on this after the start of term rush with a view to creating a parent council by half term.

2. Finding a new secretary for the group

Aisha confirmed she would be stepping down from the secretary role, but would still try to attend some group meetings. Aisha recommended Angela, a neighbour and new parent to the school, take on the role. It was agreed that Angela would take on the role with immediate effect.

3. Cake sales

There is a group of parents who would be willing to do regular bake sales in order to raise more funds. It was agreed that we should get these arranged.

Bilal asked whether the group would consider holding an annual MacMillan Cancer coffee morning to raise funds for their fight against cancer. The date is set for Friday, 30th September. It was suggested that we combine the first bake sale with this. We would be able to use this as an opportunity to promote the parent council idea.

We need to think about ways we can promote the event to get a good attendance from parents. Fliers and stickers handed out to kids and parents has worked well previously.

It was thought that 9 am would be the best start time.

It was suggested that in future we might consider a less wealthy charity, perhaps St. Mungo's, given the homelessness in our area.

Actions:

- **Bilal will talk to the school about getting the right space organised and teas and coffees provided by the school.**
- **Anne will email the bake sale team**
- **Anne will email wording about the event so it can be included in the school newsletter**
- **Anne will ask Kelly if she can design the fliers/posters**

4. Bank account and funds raised from summer party

Anne informed the group that they wouldn't be able to fully discuss this as Minnie, who is the group Treasurer, is on holiday. Anne said she knew we had set up the account and we now need to transfer the funds from the summer party from the school's account to this account. We need to confirm this has happened soon and also start to communicate about what the funds should be spent on.

A conversation took place about what a good use of the funds would be. The after school clubs and Our Space was discussed as needing more toys and more activities laid on. It was agreed that up to £500 from the funds should be set aside for after school provision.

The playground was also mentioned as needing attention. However, there was a view that Berkeley homes, who are leading the new housing developments in the area and also doing the current school refurbishments, should also upgrade the playground areas. Arlia, the New Wave Federation Business Manager, was leading this conversation with them.

It was agreed that we needed to put together a priority list of what to spend the other funds on. It was suggested we should ask the school council which is made up of pupils what their views are. This council is organised by Mr Lee.

Action:

- **Bilal agreed to do a shopping list with Gail about what the after school provision really needed.**
- **Anne will contact Mr Lee about talking to the school council**

5. Christmas Fayre

It was agreed that about £500 of the funds may be needed to hold a Christmas fayre this year. An initial date of **4pm on Friday, 9 December**, was suggested.

It was discussed whether we should ticket the event, given the hall has limited capacity. A children's performance would also be a good way to attract parents. Further details would be discussed at the next meeting.

Actions:

- **Angela will contact Mr Hewie about this and ask about getting the hall which has an opening onto the playground. As well as opening the playground so people could access it via that.**

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 9 am on 23 September.