

Minutes of Friends meeting Friday 9th May 2014

Present: Helen Marshall (HMar; Chair), Helen McNeill (HMc; Treasurer), Catriona Penty (Secretary), Leigh Carr, Margaret Jandrell, Georgina O'Connor (GO), Marie-Louise Thirlaway (MLT)

This was a short meeting primarily to make final arrangements for the climbing wall and Aldborough May Day.

Treasurer's report from March onwards:

Race Night netted £1,028; tea and cakes plus raffle and the end of last term made £198 combined; and the money from the November Bags to School (£179) and the Dunsforth pub's news letter sponsorship money (£35) had just arrived the morning of our meeting.

£450 was spent on the ipad covers. MLT said these cost only £30 each instead of the £50 previously quoted. We have still not had the invoice for the ipads, but as previously minuted, this will be around £10,000

Current account: £14,020; Savings account: £5,083

Other funds committed but not yet spent total £1,655 (climbing wall £269, archery £? (approx £230?); year 5/6 trip £335.75 (from bag packing); £800 for transport (from Open Gardens); "Great Fire of London" visitor £250.

Other matters discussed:

- HMc suggested match funding. Those of us who are employed at a medium to large firm may find that their employer has a corporate policy of match funding a chosen charity. So for example someone working for a large bank, accounting, law or manufacturing company could nominate the Friends of Marton School as their charity. Brian & Georgina O'Connor have kindly offered to help organise the October coffee morning (always a good fund raiser) and Brian's employer would match the funds raised, £ for £. GO also mentioned that for events such as the coffee morning she should be able to get free Betty's tea and coffee to serve.
- HMc informed us that the Annual Return to the Charities Commission needs to be submitted soon. They have asked for information as to the number of volunteers who help (answer given, 20) and also asked if the Friends own any land and buildings (no).
- We are still awaiting MLT's "wish list" so that we can plan spending. Capital spending next year will be around £6,000 so £600 will be requested from the Friends.
- We discussed the Climbing Wall / Archery fun afternoon, which was coming up the following week, and which Sue Timoney organised (more on that in the minutes of the next meeting).
- There was a suggestion for a future event that a Circus skills person could be drafted in to enable children to try out things (safely of course) like tightrope walking, unicycle riding, etc. HMar has more details.
- We also discussed the need for more volunteers for Aldborough May Day (a sign up sheet was put up)
- Bags to School Tuesday 20th May. Curtains, towels and bedding are no longer taken.

Upcoming dates for your diary:

- Next Friends meeting: 20th June, 9am
- Open Gardens on 22 June. Usually the Friends receive around £1,000 from the village after this event, so after half term we will start to [appeal for tombola prizes](#) (the Friends run the tombola).
- BBQ and camp out 12 July: there was some discussion about possibly doing a sponsored relay run / bike / horse ride but some felt that unless something is truly challenging, it is inappropriate to ask for sponsorship, other than close family. If we do decide to do such a thing, Gift Aid forms need to be sorted out.

- Disco! Jo Pollock & Sally McMurray are planning this very popular parents event for September. Date TBA very soon.
- There was a short discussion about whether it might be better to run the Book Fair in November so that people might purchase books for Christmas but it was decided to stick with World Book Day in March 2015.