

Minutes of Friends meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016, 9am in the I.T. suite

Present: Alice Ackernley (AA), Georgina Bean (GB), Philippa Cook (PC), Sarah Harrison (SH), Helen McNeill (Treasurer, HMcN), Helen Medd (HMe) Jo Munns (JM), Catriona Penty (Secretary, CP), Marie-Louise Thirlaway (MLT)

The meeting began by PC thanking everyone for attending.

#### Recent Events and Fund Raisers:

- The Chocolate Bingo was very successful. We might make this, or something similar, an annual event as it went very well especially for the younger children. A special thank you to Vanessa Quarmby and Leigh Carr. £639 was made.
- Easter Tea and Cakes. Thank you to Wendy Dawson and Patti Hewitt for organising that and to those who baked. £68 was raised and we aim to keep this a regular event.
- Tonight is Movie Night for the first time for a while. 21 children are attending, mainly in reception and above. 21 (adults and children) are going on to the fish and chips at the Punch Bowl.
- Funds raised so far this year:
- We have already raised £6,361 this academic year but have only spent £126. Our 10% contribution to the extra building work will be due at some point when the figures are finalised. This will be approximately £5,000. We will also have to pay something towards the eaves being renovated. The Open Gardens Committee has been asked for a contribution towards this.

#### Upcoming events:

- Ice Cream Fridays will be starting after half term. Due to the building work it is difficult to start before then as the front playground is very congested. HMcN will buy the ice creams each week, store them and bring them to school. GB and Lisa Dickinson will run the sales side and other volunteers would be most welcome to help out. Can anyone volunteer for a week or two?
- A Royal Tea Party DATE CHANGE. This will now be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May (2pm), which is the day we break up for half term. A Friday afternoon usually works well in terms of attendance. We will probably have a red, white and blue dress code, take a photo for posterity and serve small cakes and maybe sandwiches. Weather permitting, we might do a game of rounders using the sports coaches who are there on a Friday afternoon anyway, and have music. We will try to borrow some of the games used at Aldborough May Day. We need volunteers please to organise the games and coordinate the food. Other ideas were face painting of a Union Jack, a fancy dress competition, and judging of best painting of the Queen. Some of this artwork could also be included in Open Gardens.
- Open Gardens 26<sup>th</sup> June. Tanya Cunningham and GO are organising the Friends side of the Open Gardens event. See also the Royal Tea Party bullet point. Regarding the Friend's stand at OG, last year we were short of people helping to set up on the day itself. Does anyone have ideas for games, which could be used on the village green to entertain the children?
- Bag to School 10<sup>th</sup> June. Start collecting now please. Villagers will be asked too.
- Sports Day refreshments on 17<sup>th</sup> June. The Friends will serve non-perishable items in case the weather is bad on the day and it is postponed.
- Barbeque 9<sup>th</sup> July
- Opening of the new entrance. We talked about altering the date of the Royal Tea Party (above) to combine it with the opening of the new building. After discussion we decided on just the Royal Tea Party and the opening will be done officially later in the year (September / October time). This gives time for landscaping and will also be able to include new parents.

Other items:

- “Scone for a School Trip” Helen Tesseyman will donate 25 pence per scone sold at Spellows Café at Rabbit Hill Park. The money will go towards school trips. Thank you to Helen.  
Location: Rabbit Hill Park, Great North Road, Arkendale, HG5 0RB. The next Friends meeting will be held here.
- Smarty Art. Last time we had a discussion about after school clubs (or lack of). The Smarty Art lady is available on a Wednesday afternoon. PC will ask her. The children would bring away high quality art items each week and therefore it would probably be £5 a session.
- There has been a meeting to discuss on what to spend some of the funds we have / will have raised. This may include the garden work after the building is finished and a cooking trolley. MLT advises that 2 smaller cooking trolleys would be better than 1 large one. The trolleys are around £250-300 each, and then a microwave and an oven would be needed. If possible it would be nice to have this by the time of the Royal Tea Party so that the children can do some baking for the event itself.
- We may designate some fund raisers to be specifically for certain items which are needed, e.g. the bike ride will be to raise money for new bikes in the playground.

Date of next meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> June, which will be at Spellow’s café, Rabbit Hill.