

Minutes of the PA Meeting 24 March 2021

Present

Wayne Shirt, Sarah Bowmer, Vivienne Cogan, Kevin Huby, Simon Hinchliffe, Richard Ribeiro, Sarah Horsfield, Ollie Rogers, Samm Thompson, Jill Swift, Katie Stitson, Jean Pine, Leanne Carter, David Carter, Jessica Meyer, Brinder Sandhu, Janine Edwards, Kanchan Bahn-Mistry, Lucy Alderton

Apologies

Suzi Crookes, Jim Tullie

Welcome

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting. We had a good turn out and some interesting discussions.

Last Meeting Minutes

Proposed – Sarah Bowmer

Seconded – Jean Pine

Clock House World Book Day Bid

Before the meeting the PA agreed to a £300 donation to Clock House towards buying every child a book on world book day to celebrate whilst home schooling. Agreed by Jean Pine, Andrew Pine, Vivienne Cogan, Wayne Shirt, Edel Christie, Samantha Thompson, Kevin Huby and Sarah Bowmer via email.

Message from Charity Orviss – Clock House Deputy Head Academic 'I just wanted to thank you and to ask you to pass on my thanks to the BGS PA, for your wonderful support for our World Book Day event today. The children were thrilled to receive their books; we asked them all to open them simultaneously while they were in their live lessons and it was wonderful to hear their 'oohs' and 'aahs' as they opened their parcels.'

These thanks were re-iterated by The Clock House Headmaster Richard Ribeiro. Several parents told us how pleased the children were.



Bird Box Bid

This was a previously approved bid. We wanted to know if anything had been purchased but had not received any information.

Action: Wayne Shirt to chase up.

Art Bid for a New Kiln

Sarah Horsfield gave a very good PowerPoint presentation bid for a new kiln for the art department. Having a new kiln would give the department more scope to carry out pottery in classes and engage pupils in ceramics. The ceramics already being produced are to a very high standard. The old kiln is safe but the bricks inside keep falling and have to be repaired at a high cost during the annual service visit. This also decreases the actual performance of the kiln. The kiln Sarah would like to buy costs £17,381 and is very similar to the old kiln. This includes a cost of around £4500 for the removal and disposal of the old kiln.

Lots of discussion was had on how best to support this bid and who would benefit. School agreed with Sarah they would pay up to half the cost. Warranty and service charges are part of the school budget. The PA unanimously voted to pay £10,000 towards this bid (slightly more than half in case any extra costs arose). The PA would hope that more pupils would get the chance to be engaged in ceramics i.e. Clock House pupils, year 7 and maybe a lunch time club in the senior school. The PA would also like an article to be written for Hoc Age after the kiln had been installed with a mention of the PA funding.

Action: Jean Pine to contact Sarah Horsfield with the above information.

Sports Bid for Spinning Bikes

This bid had provisionally been agreed previously with an action for Ollie Rogers to look into different bikes available and making sure we purchased the best set up. After looking into what bike technology was out there Ollie Rogers has decided he would like to buy a set up costing around £25,000. This is part of a bigger plan he has for the sports department and asked the PA to 'ring fence' this money and to reassess in September 2022. The PA agreed to ring fence £10,000 from this year and £5000 for the next two years. The bid will then be discussed again in September 2022.

Action: Kevin Huby and Edel Christie to ring fence this money.

Treasurer's Update

The treasurer is changing at the end of the year. A bank mandate will need to be put together and people to sign. Need new people to be able to sign cheques.

Action: Kevin Huby and Wayne Shirt to discuss this and decide on who should be able to sign cheques in the future.

Second-hand Uniform

Message from Homera Najib, Bursar and Clerk to the Governors

'We are very keen to enable second hand uniform sales to start up again. I know how much our parents have missed this service. I think this will only be possible after social distancing measures are removed so if all goes well, after 21st June. We would be happy for you to use our facilities over the summer to host a uniform sale.'

The PA was in resounding agreement that we would like to see second hand uniform sales to start up again. We understand that we need to do this in a safe manner. Hopefully some second-hand sales will be able to be offered to new Clock House children, new year 7's and the rest of the school. On the financial side Homera will process any monies owed to parents via the school billing system. Some cheques need to be written.

Action: Samm Thompson and Poonam Verma to contact Homera directly to see how they can best start the sales again.

Future Events

The PA were thinking of holding an end of year event, maybe hiring some bouncy castles and assault courses for the pupils to just let their 'uncut' hair down and have a bit of fun. Simon Hinchliffe said unfortunately due to the bubble system having to be in place this is not realistic. However, the senior school are currently holding a range of events grouped as 'A Term to Remember' and hopefully the PA can be involved in some way to help with these. One of the events will be a Sports Day, Ollie Rogers is still planning this to make it inclusive for all pupils.

School have also started giving some thought to an end of term event to say goodbye to our year 13 leavers of this year and also of last year. The PA may be able to help at this event.

It was suggested we could maybe have a 'fun event' at the beginning of the next school year. A few ideas were discussed.

Action: Vivienne Cogan to contact Liz Greaves to see if we can help and to look into ideas for an event at the beginning of the new school year.

Date of Next Meeting – To be decided