



## Friends of the Mead AGM Minutes – 27 September 2023

### Attendees:

Sara Wright (SW), Charlie Thomas (CT), Lora Grogan (LG), Lucy Rudge (LR), Stuart Hetherington (SH), Matt Grogan (MG), Tom Matthewman (TM), Alice Patience (AP), Leah Pippard (LP), Chris Campbell (CCa), Claire Cheshire (CCh), Kelly Roche (KR), Katie Hunt (KH), Rachelle Kakouris (RK), Catherine Cook (CCo), Rebecca Curran (RC), Tessa Duff (TD), Carrie Steer (CS), Dani Clinton (DC), Gemma Wilson (GW), Bianca Gadea (BG)

### Apologies:

John Hunt (JH), Lucy Renton (LR), Charlotte Walters (CW), Cath Newland (CN), Alice Grebot (AG), Hetty Maher (HM), Becki Penfold (BP), Liz Steedman (LS), Kate Corby (KC), George Ellse (GE), Rachel Pattison (RP), Alex Jackson (AJ)

### 1. Welcome & Introduction

- SW welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the meeting – the main purpose of the AGM is to officially elect in the new committee.

### 2. Election of the new committee

- SW thanked the outgoing members of the committee – Sarah Jane Churcher, Rachel West, Matt Cullimore & Andy Martin.
- SW asked if all attendees were happy to vote in the new committee – all accepted with no objections.
- SW remarked that the make-up of the current committee will be more of a team effort and thanked the class reps for stepping up to the committee in a more formal capacity.
- See below confirmation of the current FoM committee:

Chairpersons	Sara Wright		Charlie Thomas	
Deputy Chairpersons	Lora Grogan		Lucy Rudge	
Secretary	Stuart Hetherington			
Treasurers	Matt Grogan		Tom Matthewman	
Year 6 Class reps	Lucy Renton	Cath Newland	Alex Jackson	Alice Grebot
Year 5 class reps	Kate Corby		George Ellse	
Year 4 class reps	Alice Patience		Hetty Maher	
Year 3 class reps	Leah Pippard		Rachel Pattison	
Year 2 class reps	Becki Penfold		Charlotte Walters	
Year 1 class reps	Chris Campbell		John Hunt	
Reception Class reps	Claire Cheshire		Kelly Roche	
Pre-reception Class reps	Katie Hunt		Liz Steedman	

### 3. Role of the PTA and reminder of mission statement

SW provided a reminder of the role and mission of FoM.

Friends of the Mead (FoM) is the official name of The Mead School's 'Parent and Teacher Association (PTA)'.

FoM is a charity and is made up of volunteer parents and teachers, who work together to:

- Raise funds to enhance the school environment and our children's education, **over and above what the school already provide.**
- Bring the Mead community together outside of the classroom by delivering fun events and other creative initiatives.

### 4. Achievements so far and upcoming events

CT provided an overview of what FoM have achieved to date, and what fundraising initiatives we have to look forward to.

Achieved to date (non-exhaustive):

- Playground equipment
- Early years outdoor equipment
- Sewing kits and light boxes for animation
- Skipping ropes
- Gym floor
- PA system
- Gazebos for outdoor events
- Furniture and library equipment

Upcoming and prospective events:

Event(s)	Year group committed if applicable	Discussion if any	Action if any
The Winter Ball	N/A	Tickets sold and plans in progress	
'Meadfest'	N/A	SW and CT will manage but help will be needed from all	
Santa's Grotto & Quiz	Year 6	None	
Bake sale	Year 5	Bake sale event each term. A date will be communicated via Parentmail in due course for the first event.	
Easter event	Year 4	None	
Secondhand uniform sales	Year 3	The first to be end of this term to coincide with the summer to winter uniform transition. It was commented that they might want to use the card machine to enable sales and eliminate 'IOUs'. Despite this service taking a small percentage, roughly 2% on each	Action>> MG: make card machine available to year 3 for this event.

		sale, the committee agreed is was well worth it.	
Christmas event help	Year 2	This is normally the Assembly Halls Panto, however due to it starting later than usual, there are no opportunities to hold this during the school term. Despite neither year 2 rep in attendance today, both aware of the commitment prior to this meeting.	
Ice cream stalls & help with Christmas events	Year 1	GW commented that the school are getting a new freezer delivered that will help with storage.	
Christmas hampers	Reception	None	
Christmas cards	Pre-reception	Christmas cards design already in progress. SW congratulated class reps on getting this important initiative underway.	
Movie night	TBC	FoM hope to hold this popular event again this year but do not currently have anyone designated to run it.	
'Bag to school'	N/A	The concept of bringing a bin bag of secondhand clothes, bed linen, etc. and we receive money per kilogram collected.	
'Easy fundraising'	N/A	A service whereby we receive a percentage of money on items purchased through this route. Has the potential to be a huge amount of money, just requires some reminding to use it. MG stated that it could generate up to £400 a year <u>without</u> reminders.	Action>> GW: offered to add a reminder to the weekly parent week ahead as a standing item.
Christmas Fayre	N/A	Previously held at the Mead, several ideas have already been generated for such an event, but it was noted that it would need to be held during the school week and not a weekend due to limited availability, so open to children only.	

- CT and SW encouraged class reps to put forward other ideas. Action>> All.

## 5. Financial update

MG, who will be serving one more year jointly with TM, provided the financial update summarised below:

Closing balance end of year	£1,629.17
Current balance	£13,432.00
Last years' income	£16,804.37
Last years' outgoings	£40,622.82

- The current balance is an artificial figure, largely due to income generated from winter ball ticket sales (£11,175), charity payment (£566.20) and 'easy fundraising' (£61.63).
- The delayed Meadfest accounts for last years' figures.

## 6. Fundraising requests

SW provided an overview of the fundraising requests:

- 'Baby Owls' at the Amelia for pre-reception, kindly put forward by Mrs Hunt. Discussion about also opening up to reception and needs costing.
- Pre-reception have asked for new trikes and scooters as current stock is a little dilapidated.
  - Committee suggested asking for parent donations initially – SW agreed and asked if parents willing to donate could send a picture to [FOM@thameadschool.co.uk](mailto:FOM@thameadschool.co.uk) so she could collate and send to Mrs Hunt. **Action>> Class reps to message their respective year groups for any donations.**
  - CCa also kindly offered to do refurbishes.
- The school council have requested the following:
  - A bigger bike shed – leading to a discussion around whether the existing one just needed to be organised better. **Action>> FoM: to investigate options and progress.**
  - Charity bike ride – a weekend meet with an opportunity for sponsorship. Raised questions of whether we would need to carry out a risk assessment, but a similar event has been run successfully in the past. **Action>> FoM: to investigate options and progress.**
- Living eggs – we are a regular participant in this programme, the children having the opportunity to see developing eggs hatch and baby chicks.
- Library improvements – painting, books, etc. This is quite a sizeable request that will need to be reviewed separately with GW and Mrs Openshaw.

## 7. AOB

There was no AOB, questions or feedback for the committee.

AGM closed with thanks.