



## Friends of the Mead Meeting Minutes – 18 January 2024

### Attendees:

Lora Grogan (LG), Stuart Hetherington (SH), Matt Grogan (MG), Kelly Roche (KR), Dani Clinton (DC), Tom Matthewman (TM), Alice Grebot (AG), Kate Corby (KC), Gemma Wilson (GW)

### Apologies:

Sara Wright (SW), Charlie Thomas (CT), Lucy Rudge (LR), Claire Cheshire (CCh), Becki Penfold (BP), Charlotte Walters (CW), Liz Steedman (LS), Hetty Maher (HM), Katie Hunt (KH), Leah Pippard (LP), John Hunt (JH), Rachel Pattison (RP), Lucy Renton (LR), Cath Newland (CN), Chris Campbell (CCa)

### 1. Welcome & Introduction

- LG chairing the meeting in the absence of SW and CT.
- Depleted committee, to be expected with work commitments – suggestion of holding on MS Teams, to be discussed at AoB.
- LG welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the meeting.

### 2. Open actions

Action	Owner	Start date	Due date	Comments/update	Status (active / closed)
Bike sheds - to investigate options and progress	FoM	27/09/2023	18/01/2024	16/11: Request an update from CCa update to inform whether we need to fund anything for it or if existing shed can be 'made good'. 05/12: Cca met with Carlos. Next steps to compare price of fix versus replacing with a new shed. 12/12: Carlos to get Nigel Wheeler to cost up materials for a new shed that Carlos and Nigel can build - price to be compared with basis refurb but if feasible, new shed the best option due to size of existing shed and water damage. 17/01/24: CCa waiting to hear back from Paul, Nigel's replacement.	active
Charity bike ride - to investigate options and progress	FoM	27/09/2023	18/01/2024	16/11: On pause post Xmas events but some discussion around combining with run/colour run, catering or social event and venues.	active

Volunteers to be sought out for Movie Night in Sprint term.	FoM	12/12/2023	18/01/2024		open
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### 3. Treasurer update

MG confirmed there was approx. £6.7k in the account. Notable incomings - £797.14 from second-hand uniform sales, and £1,437.71 from the Winter Ball.

### 4. Upcoming events

LG led a discussion around upcoming events and planning involved, summarised in the below table:

Event(s)	Year group committed if applicable	Discussion if any	Action if any
<b>TERM 2</b>			
Quiz night	Year 6	In the diary for Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March – LR will support year 6 organisers with set-up and communications, to be in line with previous years. KC and Tammy can also advise on how to run this event successfully as in previous years.	Action >> FoM to support with getting the quiz night date and arrangements communicated asap.
Second hand uniform sale	Year 3	The next one is scheduled Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February, to be communicated more broadly. Card machine already set-up and preferable to cash/loUs despite the service taking a very small percentage of approx. 2%.	Action >> Date for next second-hand uniform sale to be communicated.
'Bag to school'	CT	Collection arranged for Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January – ParentMail with further details and bags to go in to book bags planned this coming Friday. Carlos will help with storage of items donated on the Monday afternoon prior. Volunteers will be needed to take final bags received Tuesday morning ready for collection between 9 and 11am – SH offered his support and will seek one more.	
Movie night	TBC	Still seeking volunteers as per action – it won't go ahead without.  Discussion held on the need for volunteers, who has done it in previous years and what it's entailed, and the date it can be held - agreed the event didn't need to be tied to the autumn term. Outdoor in the summer term also an option. From GW/school perspective, the following Friday dates were preferable – 19 <sup>th</sup> or 26 <sup>th</sup> April, or 3 <sup>rd</sup> May. This is all moot without volunteers to help organise so a final call is needed.	Action >> FoM reps to make final call-out for volunteers to support with Movie Night. A single yeargroup need not be accountable.

TERM 3			
Meadfest		The previous Meadfest was held in May 2023. FoM agreed we needed to set a date before seeking support. From school perspective all Sundays are fine.	Action >> FoM to set a date for Meadfest initially ahead of seeking out volunteers to help with the running of the event.
Golf Day		TM confirmed Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June provisionally booked at the Nevill GC – there is a limit of 48 persons for the golf itself, but other non-playing parents might be welcomed. The event will be preceded by refreshments, tee times from 1pm onwards (format tbc based on numbers), followed by a 2-course meal and prizegiving.	Action >> TM/FoM to prepare comms for Golf Day in order to get a feel for numbers.
Cycle/Fun Run		FoM agreed a fun run might be easier to hold logistically than a cycle. Discussion around possible venues. It was also suggested the event support the house charities, rather than FoM.  Like other events already discussed, volunteers needed in first instance to continue the discussions. SH agreed to take forward.	Action >> SH to give the cycle/fun run event further thought and seek out volunteers.
Cake sale		KC confirmed there will be another cake sale ran by year 5 reps this term, further details to be shared in due course.	Action >> KC and year 5 reps to communicate plans for the next cake sale.

## 5. Current funding requests

### Library:

- GW sent an updated request with some items removed for FoM approval.

Action >> SW to share latest library funding request with the core FoM group for review and approval

### Bike shed:

- SH updated the group on CCa's behalf – awaiting costings for materials to build a new shed, to compare against the cost of a refurb to the existing shed. Paul, Nigel's replacement, will be sharing these costings soon with CCa.

### Subscriptions:

- DC provided details of several magazine subscriptions FoM are seemingly accountable for. GW remarked that they're well used by the children.

Action >> DC to share details of subscriptions with MG to be reviewed ahead of approving via committee.

### **Playground equipment:**

- GW commented that the equipment already purchased as been a great hit with the children. There are some outstanding items she wonders if they might've dropped from the radar.

Action >> MG to check with SW if all playground equipment has been signed off. GW to await FoM confirmation before ordering the remaining items.

### **6. Parking**

- While not in FoM's remit, but as a collective parent's voice, LG initiated discussion around dangerous parking at drop off and pick-up times.
- GW commented that school have already used strong wording to mitigate against this and there is little else they can do legally.
- Those present suggested parking 'obstructions' as used by other local schools such as Claremont, although there is the matter of liability GW remarked, if for example someone tripped on one.
- There had been a proposal of an open forum organised by the school, to discuss the matter in further detail, but it was agreed the first step would be for FoM reps to make further pleas in their respective year groups, while GW will add another note to the parent week ahead.
- GW also committed to investigate the signs used by other local schools where they seem to have had the desired effect of minimizing dangerous and anti-social parking.

Action >> FoM to issue a further plea via their respective year groups around safe and responsible parking during drop-off and pick-up times.

Action >> GW to add another note around safe and responsible parking to the parent week ahead, and investigate tried and tested methods adopted by other local schools.

### **7. AoB**

#### **Next FoM meeting:**

- It was agreed the next FoM meeting in the second half of the sprint term be held as a hybrid meeting, with the option to dial in remotely via MS Teams.

Action >> SH to make arrangements for the next FoM meeting to be held via MS Teams, communicating join-in instructions in advance.

#### **School council:**

- GW confirmed the main asks were around a bike shed, movie night and a cycle/fun run, all of which have already been covered today.
- They were thankful for the new playground equipment.
- It was commented that a lot of the upcoming events might be held over evenings/weekends, and it would be helpful if the council could be asked to prioritise, to help inform FoM on which to pursue most.

Action >> GW to ask the school council to prioritise upcoming events where short for volunteers at present – movie night vs fun run for example.

**[Meeting closed]**