



PTA Meeting Minutes

Held on 22nd January 2025

Present Committee: Freya O'Mara - Chair (FOM), Mark Wieder- Head (MW), Sara Deadman (SD), Tina Shepherd (TS), Anna Arrowsmith (AA), Daljit Kinghorn (DK) – 6 attendees.

Item	Minutes	Action
1	Welcome and apologies – Narsing Chennamaneni, Victoria Duffield and Khyati Patel send their apologies.	
2	Treasurer's report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regrettably the treasurers were unable to attend. It was agreed that we would publish the accounting figures separately. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NC/KP to provide the accounting figures for the Autumn/Winter term (to follow these minutes).
3	Head Teacher's report (MW) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently the situation is financially challenging and this is likely to increase next year with the prediction that the school will be in deficit. With this in view, the school have prioritised their wishlist for funding as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pool Maintenance (this is documented in detail below). £2000 to update the reading books used in class. The availability of books was highlighted and commended by Ofsted and representatives from other schools. £200 for the Eco- council to buy bee friendly plants to be planted by the main entrance. Mrs Culham has applied for a grant for this but has approached the PTA in case this is unsuccessful. £1350 for drama workshops for each class (repeat of last year's successful visit). Mrs Boba requested a table for the lunchtime club (a space where pupils can go if they feel overwhelmed by the playground). This is on hold pending further details (the school may have something suitable in storage). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PTA to confirm with MW if funds can be allocated to these requests once the treasurers have been contacted.
4	Pool Maintenance (TS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has been established that in order to comply with legislation and to open pool club safely the following maintenance will need to be undertaken: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement of broken boiler – the pool needs two working boilers to maintain a warm enough temperature for the children. 1 boiler broke last season and needs replacing quoted £2899. Fire Alarm to be wired into main system - £6719.75, necessary to comply with regulations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was decided to agree points 1-3 in principle (we need to speak with the treasurers to confirm available funds). Total £12,683.50 It was decided to replace the roof instead of just repairing to mitigate further problems in the near future. Whilst the pool cover would be useful it was decided it can be postponed until next year as the

	<p>3. Repair/Replacement of changing room roof – Leak in girls changing room. Quote received for repair £1092. Quote for replacement £3064.75.</p> <p>4. Replacement pool cover – Replacement would be more cost effective as it would retain heat and chemicals more efficiently. Quote £3967.30.</p> <p>5. Mr Bridge had also flagged the following as needing repair: retiling of pool bottom, paving/edging around the pool, replacement skimmers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unanimously decided that the pool was an asset to the school not only for the current pupils to use and enjoy but also to be able to attract new pupils in the increasingly competitive environment due to the low birth rate in the area. 	<p>current one is in working order albeit less efficient.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TS to ask the office to obtain quotes for Mr Bridge’s additional items. MW/PTA to continue to look into further grants to help with this cost. Earley Town Council have opened a grant but the details were unknown. Targeted approach to fundraising to work towards the pool specifically.
4	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Happy Circus – booking Summer/Eid fayre - Looking to combine a celebration for Eid fayre with a summer celebration for the school’s 60th Anniversary. Urgently need a lead. Dress a decade (24th Jan) – it was agreed that the funds from this could be used to buy each pupil and teacher a gift for the 60th Anniversary PTA Newsletter – to include photos from the groundworks party and a community page where parents with their own business could advertise in exchange for a donation to the PTA (details of which TBC). Pool Club membership – we should have details of new cohort in May and it was discussed to open up pool membership to them to help raise funds. National Hot Chocolate day (31st Jan) – DK to lead hot chocolate station in pagoda on main field plus an extra doughnut stall by foundation gate. Link this to the Lunar New Year celebrations. Mental Health Week Coffee Morning (4th Feb) – Mrs Boba has asked for volunteers to help on the day. 60th Anniversary trail - AA to lead with a view to being held either easter holidays or May Half Term. Designs to be put into parent’s windows to create a trail. Maps could be sold in Tesco or shops in Maiden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TS to call Happy Circus to see if we get a discount for rebooking from last year. Looking to book for 2026. TS to get quotes for personalised stationery/magnets for 60th Anniversary gifts. FOM to speak with Vicki Duffield to discuss what to include in the newsletter. TS to create and send out form to capture parents with their own business who would like to advertise in the newsletter and on the school website. To also be used for each new cohort. TS to include new cohort in pool club arrangements. DK to contact other PTA members to support with the set up of hot chocolate stalls. SD to put out a request for coffee morning volunteers on the year group WhatsApp chats. AA to organise the trail. TS to speak with Tiffany Forshaw re personalised pencils order as a prize. DK to speak with friend who runs wreath making workshops.

	<p>Place to increase reach and fundraising potential. Could also put local business advertising on the back for a fee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents craft evening/wreath making – Idea for the future to hold a craft evening for parents (similar to and including Christmas wreath making workshop). SD to refine details. • Quiz/curry night – FOM has written a quiz and will lead a fundraising night for the pool equipment. Details to follow. 	
8	<p>Date of next Committee meeting – Wed 30th April 2025 7pm via Teams</p>	

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1st written: 23.01.25