



PTA AGM Minutes

Held on 17th September 2025

Present Committee: Tina Shepherd (Co-Chair), Freya O'Mara (Chair), Narsing Chennamaneni (Treasurer), Sara Deadman (Secretary), Mark Wieder (Head), Adam Luk (AL), Sumit Kumar (SK), Victoria Duffield (VD), Lisa Mildiner (LM), Anna Arrowsmith (AA), Dr Gill (DG) – total attendees 11

Item	Minutes	Action
	Welcome and apologies from Emily Counihan	
1	Treasurer's Financial Report (NC) Fundraising Overview: Significant funds raised through events such as discos (£4555 across the 3 discos held last year), Diwali fayre, and match funding from parents' workplaces (£17,199). Several parents have left who contributed to this match funding and so we need to find any parents whose employer would offer this and ask if they would volunteer for events so we can take advantage of this. Bank Balances and Spending: The PTA started the year with a bank balance of approximately £65,700 which is roughly £4K less than the previous year, a trend seen over the past three years, with £30K available after accounting for committed and restricted funds. Committed Expenditures: Major committed funds included £14K for the school, with significant spending on the new stage and the pool boiler. Online Banking Transition: The move to online banking, which has reduced manual work, improved reporting accuracy, and is expected to enable earlier annual accounts submission, with all financial reports audited before submission to the Charity Commission. Acknowledgement of Co-Treasurer: Khyati Patel is stepping down as Co-Treasurer and thanks given for her contributions, especially in managing manual entries and supporting the transition to digital processes.	See attached report for further details.
2	Headteacher's report (MW) School Funding Challenges and PTA Support: Thanks given to the PTA and event organisers for their relentless energy and focus. The funds raised are extraordinary and our PTA must be one of the top fundraisers in the country! Pool club for years 1-6, purchase of the new stage, MS music tuition to name a few are only possible with the support of the PTA. School Budget Deficit: School's financial position is dire, with minimum national funding, 6% inflation, and a	Use the QR code below to join the PTA What's App chat to help with organising events, volunteering and raising necessary funds for our school!

	projected deficit in just a few weeks, necessitating a deficit recovery plan and potential cuts to extra-curricular activities. Moving forward the school will need to approach the PTA for support with things they would not normally.	 Aldryngton PTA WhatsApp group Scan or upload this QR code using the WhatsApp camera to join this group
3	• Fundraising requests: MW £3k for class cover costs in order to maintain the ability to release staff to attend extra-curricular events/competitions. There is a school budget pot that we use for sports competitions, but this is overspent. The £3k would cover release costs for: • Cross-country league • Rehearsals/ event cover for choir events • Other sporting events throughout the year such as District Sports. • Cross Country Event Funding Request: SD read a statement from Emily Counihan, who requested PTA funding and volunteer support to enable the school's continued participation in cross country events, highlighting the benefits for children's well-being and the urgency due to an upcoming race. ○ Discussion of Funding Requests: The group discussed the need to advertise cross country to new families, logistical challenges for working parents, and the importance of WhatsApp groups for transport. • £800-£1K to improve the pond area so it can be used as a quiet area for children when they need a place away from the classroom. Mrs Culham has applied for a grant to cover £1K of the cost and is asking for the PTA to supplement the rest. • Knitting club – funding of £40 to purchase children's knitting needles. • MS Garden storage box – current box is in disrepair. No quote received for this as yet. • DBS renewals - £9 for each certificate it was agreed we need to have each committee member plus each event lead to hold a DBS certificate. • School Council - £500 for playground equipment.	• £3K MW request approved • Pond area approved – school to confirm whether the grant is successful and confirm what funds the PTA need to supplement. • Knitting needles approved • School council approved • TS to approach local garden centres to see if they have offers or are willing to donate. • AL to confirm current event leads and then liaise with school office to arrange DBS certificates for those who need them. The people who need to renew theirs have already been contacted by the school office. Agreed in principle awaiting confirmation of numbers but estimate circa 10.

	• Election of Committee Roles ○ Chair – FOM nominated by TS, seconded by SD ○ Treasurer - NC nominated by TS, seconded by FOM ○ Co-Chair – TS nominated by FOM, seconded by VD ○ Secretary – AL nominated by TS, seconded by FOM No volunteers received for Co-Committee roles or event leads	• VD to arrange for the next newsletter to confirm the committee members and advertise event lead vacancies detailing estimate of how much of a commitment each role would need. • SD to liaise with AL re handover of secretary role
	• Chair's report (FOM) – 24/25 was another massive year it was good to see the Eid fayre making a return, pool club swimming was epic and we will continue our work to fundraise. Thank you to Sara for all your efforts over the past 4 years, everybody needs a 'Sara' to keep things organised! Welcome and thank you for volunteering to Adam. We lost a lot of volunteers at the end of last year and so we need to focus on recruitment. Thank you to the school, teachers and office members – we make a brilliant team! Good luck to all for 25/26!	
	• New events for 25/26 • Branded Wieder Chocolate bars sale – to include a free ticket to the school disco and house points (TS) • Christmas Wreath making workshop (TS)	• TS to confirm dates for the sale of the Wieder bars • TS & FOM to speak with parents or local florists to help arrange Wreath workshop.
	AOB • Discussed wealth of untapped knowledge held by our talented parents. • Discussed potential of an advertising page in the newsletter for parents who own their own business. Possibility of either charging £10 to advertise in all the additions over the year or to volunteer their time in exchange for free advertising. This would be on the basis of no liability for the school or PTA for any work undertaken as a result of the adverts. Needs further exploration.	• TS has created a form to capture skills from parents of 25/26 cohort and will share this to wider community. • VD to include details in next newsletter
	Next meeting agreed 6th November 2025 Next AGM 16th September 2026	

Sara Deadman Secretary for Aldryngton School PTA secretary@aldryngtonpta.com

1st written: 22.09.2025