

FROGS meeting
8 March 2019 at 915 at Grasmere Primary School

Present: Jenn Flandro (vice chair), Anna Leathley (co-secretary), Nicola Foster, Ruth Lewis (co-secretary), Ian Bonhote, Jamie Norton, Julia Williamson (deputy head), Tom Smith (treasurer), Anna Clara Giurleo, Natalie Hanman, Tanya [Tillett], Lou Power, Sally Lloyd-Thomas, Melda Konizi, Ed Wood, Nick Mallender (head), Sharon Geoghegan, Nicola Kleynhans, Julia Cockcroft,

Apologies: Kate Bonhote, Julia Warwick

In the absence of Kate and Julia, Jenn agreed to chair the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. It was noted that although the minutes stated that a change of chair would require an EGM, the constitution did allow for the committee to co-opt someone to fill a casual vacancy until the next AGM.

Appointment of new chair

Kate had only agreed to be chair for the purposes of the paperwork this year and wanted to step down. Ed Wood had put his name forward as a replacement. Ed introduced himself briefly. It was agreed to co-opt Ed as co-chair for the rest of the school year. Julia would continue as a co-chair and Kate would be a vice-chair for the rest of the school year. Ed then took over as chair of the meeting.

Treasurer's report

Income since the last meeting includes:

- £303.70 from the cinema night
- £102.96 from the Year 6 cake sake
- £5,000 donation to be allocated to the grounds project
- £67.30 from payroll giving from a parent working at Netflix
- £34.85 from Yield N16

Interest, school lottery and my donate totals have all also increased.

There is a balance after committed funds of £4,259.65 (general FROGS funds). Tom provided a separate statement for the grounds funds which has a balance of £25,427.45.

Tom advised that BT backed My Donate was closing from June and so he was looking at alternatives to handle donations including virgin money, just giving and local giving. These all have higher fees and commission. He will investigate further and report back.

Tom has looked into replacing the sheds which are no longer water tight. A shipping container will be around £1,000 but access to put this in place may be an issue. Nick said that Billy had a creative solution which involves using the basement next to the boiler room to storage, subject to putting in a fire door. The current sheds space could then be converted to a quiet space for the children to use. A spend of up to £1,000 was approved to either buy a container or pay to convert the basement and existing sheds space and Billy and Tom will take this forward. Parent volunteers may be needed.

Tom has identified a potential replacement treasurer who he will start to brief.

Not all allocated spends have been used. Nick will follow up with class teachers to get their wish list spend requests in this term.

Actions:

- *Billy and Tom to take forward the sheds project and let FROGS know if and when Billy needs parent helpers.*
- *Tom to report back on alternatives to my donate*
- *Nick and class reps to follow up with class teachers to spend the wish-list contribution*

Funding requests

In addition to the sheds, there was a request for £237 for trees for science week which has been allocated out of the grounds funds.

Debbie has asked for up to £100 to finish the sensory room and this was approved.

Grounds Project update

Nick reported that there would be a structure designed by Oliver and Stephen Foster in the KS2 playground to be made from scaffolding and a price was expected this half term.

Made from Scratch were confirming availability to start work on the KS1 playground his half term. The school is keen to move this forward, partly as the fence between early years and KS1 has been condemned. Although fundraising is ongoing, a parent has agreed to act as guarantor for any short fall.

The photography unit next to the garden have offered to recondition the garden after their works have finished.

On fundraising for the grounds project this would now take the form of an auction next term.

Year 3 / Mountfitchet trip

The Year 3 reps didn't feel that they have enough information about the Mountfitchet trip and what fundraising is required. It was explained that this isn't really a FROGS initiative although funds were collected via FROGS. Nick will raise with Lena.

Mark Owen / Grasmere music video

Jamie explained the background to the Mark Owen / Grasmere music video which it is planned to release around the London Marathon. He showed the video (which is amazing!). The release is planned for 26 April and any proceeds would be split between FROGS and Salisbury hospice. There is a whole promotion team involved and most of the time is being given for free. It is planned to hold a launch event at the school and Ed will take this forward with Jamie. It is hoped to engage parents and kids across the school.

Pollution

Classroom filters has been installed in each class room for free. The school will report this in the next school newsletter. Nick is speaking to the borough along with the head from William Patten about the measurement of pollution levels which seem to have been taken from the school entrance not the library which is much closer to Albion Road. The aim was to obtain funding for some plant screening for Albion Road. It was suggested that if funding isn't available this might be something that parents who haven't yet engaged with the grounds funding appeal might be targeted to make a donation for on the basis of the health benefits.

Jumble sale

This is taking place on Saturday 16 March. Posters are up and everything is in hand.

Actions:

- *Nick / Sharon to confirm where donations need to go as the medical room is no longer available.*
- *FROGS to send a mailchimp next week with the usual information.*

Easter egg hunt

Sharon and Charlie Tinson will coordinate. It will take place on the Tuesday before the end of term. Donations of eggs and helpers needed. Parents of children will allergies to supply their own eggs.

Actions:

- Sharon will put a shout out for eggs and helpers via the school office.
- FROGS can follow up with an email.

Library and buy a book initiative

Parent volunteers run sessions at lunchtimes on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday and after school on Thursdays and Fridays. This doesn't seem to be widely known.

The buy a book for the library initiative would be running again with Stoke Newington Bookshop where people could buy a book from a list provided by the school at a 10% discount. Carolina would let us know when this was up and running.

Actions:

- Ruth to check library times with Carolina and communicate this via class reps.
- Carolina to update on the buy a book initiative and FROGS to communicate via a mailchimp.

FROGS moving forward

Ed mentioned making changes to the constitution or mission / goals. Ruth said that as there are specific charities commission requirements this may not be possible.

We discussed how to mobilise parents across the school community. Ed would like to carry out class by class meetings. Ruth to provide a list of class reps to Ed.

Someone to check with Gaye when the school handbook would be updated so FROGS could input on that.

We discussed the possibility of a class rep checklist being provided, to pick up on things like the Mountfitchet trip.

2019 events - In addition to the music video launch, we discussed the summer fair / auction and Ed will follow up with Kate and Julia to make a decision on whether these should be combined.

Actions:

- Ruth to provide a list of class reps
- Ruth will check timing for school handbook with Gaye
- Ed to consider how to move forward on engaging parents and class meetings and report back
- Ed / Kate / Julia to take the auction / summer fair idea forward.

Dates for the diary

16 March	Spring jumble sale
26 April	Nursery / reception cake sale
8 May	FROGS meeting (evening)
10 May	Year 4 cake sale
18 May	Summer jumble sale
14 June	FROGS meeting (morning)
5/6 July	Summer fair / auction - tbc