



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Friends of Watford Grammar School
for Boys,
Rickmansworth Road, Watford, Herts WD18 7JF
Held on the 9th December 2015 @ 7.30 pm - GS3**

Attendance

Archana Singh - Chair
Amanda Hardy -Treasurer
Rachael Speirs - secretary newly appointed

Andrea Allen
Deborah Bush
Victoria Conquest
Jay Izzet
Lan La
Luzia Lai
Jeanette McLeod
Paul Marmor
Ms Phanisree
Mrs Stevenson
Danielle Wright

Apologies

Anne Maria Farnsworth
Howard Wall

1/ Introduction - Archana Singh(AS)

AGM Minutes from the 14th November accepted – No comments

2/ Report from the AGM

- Archana Singh voted in as chairperson for the next coming year
- Amanda Hardy voted in as treasurer for the next coming year
- Rachael Speirs, was voted in as Secretary for the coming year

3/ Update on Quiz - Danielle Wright (DW)

DW confirmed that she would be happy to run the annual quiz this coming year. Offer gratefully accepted by the rest of the Committee.

General feedback on the quiz was that it was enjoyable and that Mr Cooksey got the level of questions right and would be asked to do it again next year.

DW confirmed that actual ticket sales were down this year from 147 to 104. However we raised as much as last year. Bar sales were on a par with last year and the ability to buy back the joker was fun, raised £90 and should be kept.

No teachers came. Discussions took place as to how to entice more teachers to come (usually the English and Maths Department come). Perhaps a competition between teachers' tables could be introduced. More work needed to be done next year on this.

The Quiz date this year conflicted with Diwali and the Committee agreed to aim for the 3rd week in November next year (a date which would not conflict). The date should be set prior to Year 7 fun day and tickets should be sold on the fun day and also at the Year 7 Introduction to WBGS night.

Food may need to be revisited due to the mix up by Domino Pizzas this year, perhaps a "bring your own food" concept could be investigated.

4/ Grants – Mrs Stevenson (ES)

ES tabled a request for £8,500 for Cameras for the English Department. It was agreed that this would be acceptable but that we would need to do some more fundraising before the Committee could confirm.

Amanda Hardy (AH) confirmed that money for the Laptop trolley would be paid across to the School.

5/ Parent helpers and Newsletter - Deborah Bush (DB)

DB confirmed that she (with her son's help) has set up a common secure email system with various sub domains for Friends and Parent helpers, where a link would be available for individuals who wished to do so would enter their details which could then be shared. Still under discussion, as no decision was made. However, it was acknowledged that some domain was required as the traffic across personal emails too great. AS to set up meeting with RS and DB in early January.

ES confirmed that the Head wanted to set up a system of Class reps and the Committee thought this would be a good way of strengthening the School community and would like ES to report back when this was done. They were hoping it would be done under the umbrella of the Friends.

ES confirmed that RS would need to prepare insert on what the Friends were doing approximately a week before the Headmaster's Newsletter published, but that she would prepare this half term's.

Chair Report still needs to go up on website (ES).

6/ Executive Committee Members - *Rachael Speirs (RS)*

Further Committee members were appointed in accordance with the Constitution, namely DW, Jeanette McLeod and DB. The headmaster and ES as well as the Honorary Officers (AS, RS, AH) are also members of the Executive Committee.

It was agreed that the Constitution may well be in need of an update and should be looked at.

RS stated that she would not be in the position to give any legal advice to the Committee in the context of her appointment as secretary.

7/ Upcoming events

The committee had agreed in principle on hosting 3 further fund-raising events for next year.

Talent Show - (Archana Singh (AS)/ Rachael Speirs(RS))

The date given was March 3rd. It was agreed that this may well need to be postponed to next academic year as the potential date confirmed for the theatre conflicted with various musical events (i.e. Opera for SW Herts in late February) and moving it to the next term would conflict with the music competition and exams. More thought needed to be given earlier to exactly what format any Talent Show format would take (although AS stated she was in favour of a singing competition and RS a

drama competition). Early communication with the Music Dept. is required (ES). Prize should be awarded (mini ipad?) (AS). Jay Izzet (JI) has also agreed to help with any Talent Show.

Golf Day in March or May (date to be confirmed) - Jay Izzet (JI)

JI has agreed to arrange this and would report back to the Committee next meeting. He was also hopeful of getting sponsorship. He was in favour of an early May date for weather reasons and thought he would be able to arrange this for a good price through his contacts.

Dance on 25th June - (Archana Singh (AS))

A sub Committee Meeting should be arranged for 3rd week in January. AS to confirm exact date.

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8/ Any other business

None