

FOLS meeting minutes

5th October 2023

The Board Inn, Lealholm

Attendees: Kirsty Knight, Jo Trousdale, Gilly Perry, Vinnie Oliver, Ruth Welford, Ellen Dowson & Amanda Smith. Helen Purtill & Rebecca Whitwell on video call.

Apologies: Nicola Kirkbride & Lynn Foster.

Election of roles

Chair: Kirsty. Nominated by Jo, seconded by Gilly.

Vice chair: Ruth. Nominated by Gilly, seconded by Jo.

Secretary: Joint secretaries Ellen (nominated by Kirsty, seconded by Vinnie) & Nicola (nominated by Kirsty, seconded by Ellen)

Treasurer: Amanda. Nominated by Kirsty, seconded by Ellen.

New role Social media manager: Gilly. Nominated by Ruth, seconded by Kirsty.

Plan to add Nicola as admin of Facebook and Whatsapp groups.

Financial update from Amanda

Income last year of £3759.15. In total over £7000 in account.

Events for the year

Christmas party

Decided on a date, Friday 8th December 5-7pm. Gilly to book the Ley Hall. Food options discussed, idea for sausage buns, Kirsty to organise.

Soup lunch

Date Saturday 10th February. Other details to be arranged nearer the time.

Christmas hampers

Plan to pack hampers Monday 18th December, so donations to be in school for Thursday 14th (PD day on Friday 15th). To be raffled off at the Christmas plays 19th & 20th December.

FOLS Christmas meal out

We will use the Whatsapp group to find the date that suits most people then put it out to all parents and teachers. Likely a Saturday in December. Location TBC, Board Inn and Fox at Roxby are initial ideas.

Halloween Bingo

We will ask school if they are happy to host this again and which night would be best (ideally the week before half term, w/c 23rd Oct).

Summer event

Some ideas discussed but nothing arranged as yet.

Christmas tea towels

Tea towels with the children's drawings/self-portraits on to sell. Unsure as to whether we have enough time to get them for Christmas. Amanda will look into this.

School business

Funding for trips

Paralympian visit will apparently cost £90 for transport, just need to confirm this with school. There is a day trip to Middlesbrough also planned, FOLS discussed paying in full for this. Costs will likely be quite low if it is just the train trip plus McDonalds lunch to pay for.

Going forward FOLS are more than happy to support educational trips and visits – will ask school to approach FOLS for funds as needed.

Residential: FOLS are happy to pay for the bus. There were some concerns raised over the year groups that are going, the plan appears to be for Year 3 & 4 to go on the Peat Rigg trip which would mean the current Year 5 will miss out on going on two residential trips during their time at Lealholm like all other pupils have previously done.

Garden

Mr Everson is currently not at the school, so the garden is looking a little neglected. Some of the parents have volunteered to help tidy and weed one night after school, Thursday seems to be the most convenient night. We will ask school if this is OK in the next week or so.

Willow tunnel: since it was trimmed, it has not been weaved back in so has once again become overgrown. Amanda will ask the National Park if there is anyone who could help with the management of it. The idea of removing the tunnel completely was also discussed.

Christmas trip

No plan for a panto trip this year. Once the details of a Christmas trip have been confirmed, FOLS will discuss contributing financially.

School uniform

Review supplier and other possible options. The possibility of FOLS buying in bulk and selling at school to keep costs down for parents. Glaisdale & Castleton use a different, apparently cheaper, supplier - we will find out more

details about it. Jo will also get a quote from Jet Print and Gilly will ask Rachel Hodgson if she would consider supplying uniforms.

Spending donations

We still need to spend the Danby & Houlsyke senior citizen donation plus 100 club donations, around £380 in total. Discussions about a bench, picnic table, play equipment, swing chair. Most popular option seemed to be a circular or hexagonal bench with tree in the middle. To look into whether Victoria Farm or Nobels could supply something like this.

Wasps

The wasp issue was discussed. The feeling is that the ivy on the side of school is attracting them. Also concerns that the ivy is structurally integral to the wall!

Other spending

Discussion around spending more FOLS money with the bank balance looking quite 'healthy'. Ideas included: river school equipment, sports supplies, Christmas play costumes, games, art supplies, playground games (like giant jenga), playground storage, more garden supplies or bulbs, seeds, etc. Plan to ask school for other ideas.

No other business.

No date set for next meeting as yet.