



**The Pate's Grammar School Parents' Association
Meeting
Thursday, 21 May, 2020
4:00 pm Zoom**

Attending:

AMM - Anna Macey-Michael - Chair
AD - Anne Daly - Vice Chair
BS - Bronwyn Syiek - Secretary
MK - Margaret Kula - Treasurer
JP - Jo Pearce
SC - Sarah Cartwright
CH - Carolyn Hopper
TG - Tabitha Gilchrist
SL - Stephen Locke
RA - Rachel Abbott

1. Apologies

- i. Alex Colishaw
- ii. Eleanor Fea
- iii. Nadiya Bowden
- iv. Stephen Senior
- v. Ping Thomas
- vi. Graham Palmer
- vii. Alison Everett
- viii. Ping Thomas

2. Previous minutes approval

AM-M

Everyone was happy with them apart from one minor change: it was Stephen and not Graham who approved the banners

3. Matters arising

AM-M

Nothing to note.

4. Finance Report

MK

We only had a few weeks fundraising prior to Lockdown. Made over £11k altogether for the Spring Fair. £992 is going directly to school so that they can claim gift aid

Need to add planners onto "already promised for school"

Discussed things the Sports Dept had requested: 4 bootbrushes will cost £1832 inc delivery. The water fountains cost £1k each. Carolyn raised the question of spreading germs at the water fountain and SL explained that they are bottle fillers rather than water fountains.

Everyone agreed to the PA funding both requests. SL will place orders for all.

RA raised the point that we should keep plenty of money in reserve because we won't be raising much more this year due to lockdown. Anne pointed out that the money this academic year has been raised for the Sports Dept so we need to bear that in mind and it may be that we have to give them priority when we look at future spending.

5. Update on purchases SC/SL

6. 100 Club AC

- Quite a few shares have dropped.
- We are pulling Feb, March and April
 - Feb: Christobel Shaw, ADitya Shikaria
 - March: Neumann North, Suzie Oakley
 - April: Steven Fee, Swathi Mohalpatra

7. Match Funding GP
No update. Can't get in touch with Graham. SL will send contact to SC or AM-M

8. Bar stock EF/AD

We have purchased stock that should last till September. Need to check this. Eleanor was going to do a stock take. But hasn't yet. She is going to check the dates. She let Margaret know that she will do it after half term. Chocolate is likely to be a problem. Perhaps the PA can take this off the PA's hands!

CH suggested we look for dates before December as don't expect we will be back for big events in September.

Luckily EF said she hasn't done any additional shopping. AD will contact Eleanor to assist and will contact her.

SL suggested that if anyone is coming in that they email SL first and he will organize it with Phil. There is no problem with this.

9. Second-hand uniform

JP/AD

Did well at Spring Fair. Already getting inquiries from year 7 entrants. Have had about six requests so far.

Did a stock take. Everything except one is Surridge. We have only one piece of Canterbury Kit. Ok to sell it as spares. Means we have no PE kit to sell.

JP said she is happy to go in but has no way to give it to parents as they can't come into school. JP asked if there was going to be an induction day. SL said that it is unlikely that there will be induction dates in June or July. But there is new guidance coming from the government on 28th May.

AMM said that another school is doing email orders and setting up appointments for parents to come in to collect from School. Wondering whether we can do something similar. Asked SL to opine whether meetings by appointment can be run? SL said yes we can do something and it would be great for new parents. AMM said PA could wear PPE equipment and she could bring some from her business for this. AMM said another option is to post out (parent pays).

JP said let's wait and see what Government announces and make a decision mid-June

CH asked whether we also see if we can ask parents to drop off small sizes. SL said that we can find a way to facilitate drop offs - commented that Pate's have thousands of pounds worth of school books outstanding at the moment. CH said possibly we can have a big bin like we did for the recycling event. Doesn't need to be a person present. SL said that the reality is that we are still getting deliveries at school and packages are being dropped between the double doors.

10. Past events

AM-M

Spring fair was a huge success. AM-M said that she was delighted with the result of the online raffle. Many Thanks to Anne and her husband who put it together. We did handwrite 6,500 tickets which we will never have to do again. In future will be completely paperless. We had a database to prove that everyone who bought a ticket had a number. The computer chose the number.

SL said the experience was all positive and a huge success.

The concert Mrs. Attwood organised was very quiet. We made around \$100. It was poorly attended. AMM commented that the Year 7 was also poorly attended and

wondered if this was a trend. SL confirmed that there has been less attendance to events and he doesn't know why as the demographic hasn't changed materially.

No other events.

11. Fundraising plans moving forward:

AMM is keen to do something as we don't know when we will be able to have another large event.

BS idea for an online Pate's Got Talent show - either submission of recordings. CH suggested that we should stay in the fundraising space so that we don't confuse things.

We could do an online quiz, or hamper raffle. We could do a branded item for Christmas - not just the badge but with other graphics/ messaging. AMM said that the primary school she is involved with are doing mugs. Could do art onto the mugs.

SL on a slight tangent we are seeing a dip off on the Making Ends Meet Campaign.

RA said that Charlton Kings had organised a virtual pop-up. Could do closer to Christmas and encourage parents to shop there. AMM said it would be a nice way of saying thank you to the regular stall holders as would be advertising for them. RA confirmed that some of the stall holders were disappointed that we aren't doing a Christmas bazaar. Of course some don't sell online. RA will touch base with them to gauge their interest.

AMM asked if SL had any issue with a quiz online that could be sent out via the Head's message. SL said no issues, thinks it would be really positive. AMM said that the online ticketing for the raffle means we could do that around Christmas. TB wondered if it would be worth having a chat with Simon (the quizmaster) to see if he can do one for us in the Autumn. CH said she would ask but her slight concern is that Simon is a teacher and will be v. Busy. TC mentioned that Mike Hart, a parent of a child that is just leaving, does quizzes. Suggested that we ask SS if he has time to organize this in the autumn and to reach out to Mike Hart. AMM will contact SS.

12. Annual newsletter - eversion to parents. Who can do this if Janey can't?

SC showed last year's newsletter. It probably would have gone out ready for the new parents meeting at the end of June/ into July. As that isn't happening as usual, wondered if we could do it as an enewsletter letter. P Soc has gone online and wondered if we want to email out a newsletter to parents in the next month or so - could add about the student council donations and the money PA is donating for the books. As a way of keeping in touch with the parent community and the new community.

AD said that the P Soc one is very impressive.

AMM said that preparing the newsletter is not her strength but seems like would be a good idea if someone wants to take it on.

13. AGM contingency plans

AGM contingency plans - we will do it by Zoom. We will send out the link by the Head's message. CH said that we might get more people this way as it's "safer" and people live far away. Hope we will get new parents with this event.

Is there a deadline to put the information on the website. AD said that we need it to be 21 days before the meeting. Accounts need to be completed and handed to SL well before long. Will plan to send an email invitation to join the meeting.

CH suggested that AMM records a message to new parents. AMM said she engages with parent's the most at the new Year 7 parents evening. AMM is happy to record a message to be circulated with any virtual welcome event that school is doing for new Year 7's.

14. School Council wishlist funding - confirm action

Confirmed we just need to send the money.

15. Any other business

AM-M

Nothing to note

16. School Text Books - confirm Action

17. Any other business

Nothing to note

18. Date of next meeting

AM-M

Date for Next meeting: AD suggested sometime before the end of term if school knows what is going to happen with Year 7 - to hear from SL. Gives us some idea where we might be heading in the Autumn term. CH suggested we let SL drop us a note when a decision is made. SL agreed. Would be v. Useful to have the meeting.