



**Friends Of Brailes School (FOBS)**

**Annual General Meeting – Minutes**

**Thursday 19th June 2024, 8pm**

**Attendees:** Selina Hosell (SH), Mary Cole (MC), Susan Capper (SC), Kerry Goffin (KG), Dessie Dimitrova (DD) and Zoe Bardey (ZB)

**Apologies:** Alice Murray (AM) and Claire Johnson (CJ)

**1. Introduction**

- SH welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the AGM this evening.
- Discussion was held regarding the low attendance and suggestions made to change the time (as 8pm lands around bedtime for families) suggestion to hold AGM straight after school in person on the playing field.
- Quorum as per constitution for meeting was just met with attendees present so meeting could continue.
- N.B Further suggestion after meeting to request class reps attend the AGM as part of roles and discussion can be held early in the year re best time and can coordinate date accordingly.

**2. Discussion re meeting from last AGM 23/24**

- SH advised that we have received no further queries on the back of last years published meeting minutes, Co-Chair report or Treasurer report.

**3. Matters arising from the AGM minutes 23/24**

- SH advised at the last EGM it was agreed that a request would be raised with the charity commission to amend the FOBS constitution to reduce the number of committee members in relation to the struggles FOBS has in recruiting and to allow FOBS to continue. This was voted in at the EGM and SH confirmed that the changes had been approved by the charity commission in February 2025 and the amended constitution is now in place.
- Going forward a minimum of 3 people are needed to be on the committee, and they can take on any role of their choosing providing a chair is in place but all roles (Chair/Co-chair/Secretary and Treasurer) need to be covered and accounted for by the committee.
- No further queries raised at meeting.

**4. FOBS Co-Chairs Report 24/25– Mary Cole & Selina Hosell**

SH read out the chair report on behalf of MC and SH – Full report to be attached to minutes, as well as being made available on school website and shared to families via School PING.

#### **5. Treasurers report 24/25 for the year up until 19/06/2025**

- Read by SH- Full report to be attached to minutes as well as being made available on school website and shared to families via School PING.
- £6633.35 raised in total with Brailes 3 Hills Walk and the Brailes Show being the highest fundraisers for FOBS.
- We still have the summer raffle fundraiser to go which is due to be drawn next Friday (27<sup>th</sup> June).
- In addition, we have successfully transferred to school a total of £1421.16 from grants (Tesco Stronger Starts Grant in November) and Stour Valley Lions grant which was awarded last year (transferred in February 2025). We will be going live again for a further Tesco grant this time in Banbury between July – September.
- These grants are additional money that FOBS can access to increase the money we raise for school, some grants are open for FOBS to apply for and not school and vice versa so it's important to have both avenues. We will continue to explore grant opportunities next year.
- Expenditure we try to keep as minimal as possible to maximise our fundraising efforts.
- FOBS bank account currently has £11418.55. This includes £2000 ring fenced funds for the school canopy raised from the easter raffle 2024. With the remaining pledges for this academic year to pay for, and the same pledges for next year. This leaves us with £5553.33 Surplus.
- We feel that this is a sensible financial position to be in and on the back of the Future of FOBS Survey and zoom meeting and the challenges we have openly expressed that we are facing with recruiting new volunteers and committee members. It would be wise to ringfence £4000 of this money to cover a skeleton year.
- A skeleton year is a year whereby a new committee is not in place and the old committee or some new individuals who are named but maybe wish to be inactive can cover the same pledges we have made to school and keep FOBS open but not actively fundraise. Thus, allowing an extension of time for a new active committee to come forward.
- We still also have the proceeds from the summer raffle to come forward and our thoughts are that we will liaise with Mrs Childs regarding the use of these funds to further enhance our schools' resources.

#### **6. Election of Officers and Trustees of the committee**

- SH advised we have received no new nominations for new committee members ahead of this meeting.
- MC, SH and SC are happy to continue for a further year and will need to be voted in.
- However, SH informed it is important to note that we are not going to be able to continue running this as "full on" as we have this year SH will be taking on a new full-time job, MC and SC also have their own responsibilities and commitments and we are all juggling our children. So, we really could do with some more hands to help share the load. We strongly feel that there is still a need and a huge benefit for FOBS to remain open.

- Given the current financial position being strong this allows a steady fundraising year (25/26) with the focus on Break the rules days, Brailes 3 Hills Walk, Brailes Show and a disco for now.
- We will request classes to take on ownership of an event of their choosing to help with the little fundraisers to fit around their own commitments. For some of the older classes this may be a nice opportunity to get the children involved. To help the committee and further increase funds.

#### **Mary Cole (Co-Chair)**

Nomination not needed as already on committee

Voted in (unanimously)

#### **Selina Hosell (Co-Chair)**

Nomination not needed as already on committee

Voted in (unanimously)

#### **Susan Capper (Secretary)**

Nomination not needed as already on committee

Voted in (unanimously)

#### **All to cover treasurer role and responsibilities.**

#### **7. Any Other Business**

- ZB asked if FOBS were on Facebook/Instagram? SH confirmed that we were active on Facebook and there might be an old Instagram page set up for FOBS, but Facebook was more of what the committee is used to managing. We are open for offers to manage a FOBS Instagram page if anyone has expertise in this.
- KG suggested we discuss with Mrs Childs to draw up an Amazon Wishlist which we could promote to families and the wider community via Facebook and the Feldon News as some may wish to support by buying items or may have access to items to donate through work placements. SH advised we will discuss this with Mrs Childs in our September meeting. This may be something TAs could coordinate?
- ZB asked if we could ask School for some feedback which we could publish on how important FOBS is to them and what the funding is specifically used for and the impact of not having a PTA for families to understand. i.e. SH advised that school trips may have to be stopped if there were no FOBS support for this due to the costs and alternative free/grant trips sourced. This could be a big impact for the children as currently trips are subsidised by FOBS and link in with the school topics. It was agreed that this was important for families to be aware of. This will be discussed with Mrs Childs and communicated.
- ZB/KG suggested if we could hold another summer fete? ZB is happy to coordinate with SH in a similar format as the last one. SH agreed that this would be lovely and keen to do. Agreed we could ask Year 6's to help with some of the games. KG advised that last years was successful and Tracey at the pub also benefited which we all agreed was important given the support she gives us.