



Friends of Brailes School AGM Tuesday, 3rd December 2019
The George Inn, Lower Brailes

Present: Rachel Locke, Katie Haycock, Louisa Holloway, Hannah Bridgewater Kirsty Righton, Trez Griffin, Heather Childs, Amy Morgan, Lois Dudfiled, George Lock Cassie Worthy

Apologies: Christian Hilton, Kendra Spooner, Clare Head, Vicky Salmon, Iona Corbett, Kerry Goffin

1. Chairs Report

Katie gave the following report on the year.

As I approach the end of my first year in the role of Chair of The Friends of Brailes School, I've enjoyed looking back at what has been achieved in 2019. Tonight, is a chance for everyone present to reflect on what has been a successful year with lots of things to celebrate.

In terms of fundraising this kicked off before I officially took office with the Film Night last December and refreshments at the Christmas plays. The Ferret Racing evening launched 2019 fundraising with style in February with people from across the generations and from beyond the village coming to try their luck on which furry creature would reach the end of the pipe first. I myself couldn't make this event but I have one of the best pictures of my little boy Joe when he won first prize on one of the races.

March saw lots of clothes bagged up and brought to school for the Rags to Riches collection; this is a great example of re-use and really is easy money from an effort perspective in terms of volunteers needed. The Easter Raffle was a new event on the FOBS calendar this year, again a fairly low effort event which raised over £600. Knitted chicks went on sale in the playground at the end of the spring term proving popular with the children.

In April I was delighted to receive £1,500 from Spitfire Bespoke Homes who are building the houses just opposite the village hall. This was granted simply by my e-mailing and calling to ask if they had some funds available to help local causes and goes to show that money is available if someone puts in the time to go and simply ask for it.

In the Spring, FOBS's contribution to the Brailes 3 Hills Walk was fantastically supported with volunteers giving their time and their cake to keep everyone fed and watered in the village hall; as one of the key fundraisers for FOBS it really does demonstrate how well a lot of hands make quite light and tasty work. Maypole dancing shortly after was a sell out I believe and gave the children lots of fun while learning something new.

We held a grounds night in June where wood and (various body parts) were stained either brown or green; the retiring secretary is best placed to explain how to remove wood stain from the skin I believe so do ask if you need to know. This evening also saw a shed re-built by practical helpers.

As we moved on to summer, the end of term disco was a packed evening of groovy moves, hot dogs and donuts – a first Brailes School disco for me and I doubt my last. In August we had a small presence at Brailes Show – unfortunately on this occasion the weather was against us.

The parents or carers of new starters to the school in September were welcomed on the first day with coffee and croissants and tissues if required and once again this proved a happy initiative which I think will happen again.

FOBStober returned and enabled individuals and businesses to do their own things to raise funds for school; the silver smarties challenge once again proved a popular initiative as part of this. In terms of businesses – The George in Brailes and The Forge Garage both held events to support demonstrating how lucky the school is to have the support of businesses in and around the village. R Locke and Sons also deserve a mention for all the printing they do throughout the year.

November saw our annual village bonfire where not even a bucket load of rain and mud dissuaded an army of volunteers from donning their wellies and waterproofs to support our school once again. Although the event didn't make a profit this year it succeeded in uniting the community for our grateful cause once again. The donation of an AGA to sell by Jervis Homes shortly after helped to recover £300 of the money lost shortly after, followed by a fantastic Christmas Wreath Workshop in the school hall organised by Lois Dudfield. Everyone present really enjoyed creating their masterpieces over the evening and also enjoyed spiced apple juice and mince pies.

So with fundraisers summarised what have we done with the money we've generated? Our retiring vice, Rachel has put together a fantastic summary with the figures on which have been provided by our retiring treasurer Louisa so I won't go into details on the numbers but in terms of initiatives we have funded AstroTurf for the playground, a visit from singing playgrounds, Chrome Books and coach costs for theatre trips. Class allowances have been spent on a range of things including Forest School resources, dictionaries and a visit to Banbury Toy Museum. We have also transferred £8,000 to the school towards development of the outdoor area so they can use this as proof of funds in their applications for match funding.

So, all in all another successful year with lots going on and truly FOBStastic support for our village school. We've seen issues discussed and debated at FOBS meetings with all members invited to give their opinions and views; this has led to challenges in various ways but shows at the end of the day that people care and I, as chair, love that! Although it isn't always easy to manage differences of opinion, it's preferable to apathy which drives me bananas!

The last thing to do is to thank everyone who has contributed over the year – there really are too many to mention all of them but specific thanks has to go to Rachel, Louisa and Hannah who have supported me in my first year as chair and who now step aside for a new committee to be elected. Thank you ladies for all your help – FOBS definitely isn't something you can do on your own. Also, thanks to Heather and Christian for your guidance and support and ultimately providing the purpose for FOBS. Finally, thank you to every member of FOBS who may or may not be here who has attended a meeting, bought a raffle ticket, baked a cake or done anything at all, and an equal thank you to the wider community around us, who don't have to support our school but do anyway.

I look forward to seeing what FOBS will accomplish in 2020, with the new committee about to mount the starting blocks for what I'm sure will be another busy year. As a taste of what's in store we have a great Gatsby ball among the ideas – so please do continue to support our fantastic school.

2. Treasurers Report

Reported that this year's figures are significantly down due to Bonfire night where a loss of £1100 was made.

Current bank stands at £3261

Outstanding payments to be made:
£200 to Pavilion for 2019 & 2018 Bonfire night
£824 Trip allowance if all in claimed.

We still have around £3000 to come in from the 2019 3 Hills Walk

A brief explanation of trip allowance and class allowance was then given for those who were not aware of it.

Projected end of year balance of £3500 was given. Basic costs including bonfire, trip allowance and class allowance equal £5300 so a short fall on £1800 for the 20/21 school year.

Full report Attached

3. Review of Constitution

Explained that the constitution we currently use is offered by Parent Kind of who we are members and also provide our insurance. It is used by most PTA committees. There have been on changes in the last 12 months.

All Agreed, Signed by Katie Haycock.

4. Election of Committee

Position	Name	Proposed	Seconded
Chair	Katie Haycock	George Locke	Louisa Holloway
Vice Chair	Lois Dudfield	Kendra Spooner	Hannah Bridgewater
Treasurer	Trez Griffin	Kendra Spooner	Rachel Locke
Secretary	Amy Morgan	Katie Haycock	Hannah Bridgewater
Committee	Rachel Locke	Verity Cole	Elly Synge

Katie Haycock proposed that an honorary role of President be added to the committee. It was proposed that this role should be offered to Heather Childs to reflect all the work she puts in for the school as a whole.

President Heather Childs, proposed by Katie Haycock, seconded by Rachel Locke

All positions agreed

5. Class Representatives

Agreed that this was still the best way to communicate to the wider school.

This Years rep are as follows:

Reception	Cassie Worthy	Year 4	Clare Head
Year 1	Lois Dudfield	Year 5	Clare Wisniewska
Year 2	Hannah Bridgewater	Year 6	Rachel Locke
Year 3	Kirsty Righton		

Agreed that a rep for Nursery was probably not necessary.

6. Bonfire Debrief

No accidents reported on the night. Cotswold First Aid have not produced an event report as attended but were not used. No other accidents have been reported since the event up until this meeting. As safety officer on the night Rachel Locke completed the safety report which is available should anyone need to reference it.

The weather conditions affected the event greatly this year which meant the event made a loss over all of £1100. This was better than if we had cancelled the event and it was positive that we had so many helpers that turned out and many families from the school still attended.

Suggested that pre sales were done for school connections next year to try and increase sales and provide an income event if weather is against us.

The question of why we didn't have cancellation insurance was asked and if it would have been able to be put it to force. Explained that we did look at this however the circumstances of a claim were extreme, and it was not worth it.

Comments that this years display was longer than previous years. George Locke explained that they changed the format of lighting following last years feedback that it was a bit fast and furious. Other factors were some fireworks had become damp and did not go off.

Proposed that we go back to a slightly small pack of fireworks and keep new format of lighting next year. All agreed this was a good idea.

A new storage area needs to be found for the fireworks in lead up the event as it was a concern that the present place is slightly damp if large amount of rain.

Sponsorship was discussed and agreed needs to be looked at for 2020 to cover costs. Need to put together a list of previous sponsors and local companies as a starting point.

It was put forward that if the planning of the event is spread between the committee members as apposed to having a lead person it would make the task much easier.

Popcorn was discussed as very labour intensive and therefore probably one to miss next year.

Refreshments which were moved due to ground conditions were to hidden and needed to be better placed by the food again next year.

Food - corn on the cob was well received and people commented was a good vegan option as no butter.

Amy commented that she has a contact that offers similar Hog roasts and that next year might be a good opportunity to compare prices.

Free Food for the marshals this year was not offered so readily so going forward it was decided that if people are given a chance to purchase before they go to positions this will be enough.

21 people asked about glow toys and their availability.

7. Diary of Events

5th December – KS1 play refreshments

29th Feb - Race Night with a difference

March – Rags to Riches collection

1st April – School Film Night

10th May – VE walk

12th September - Gatsby Ball

7th November – Bonfire

Katie Haycock is arranging a Physic Supper on 21st January as a fundraiser and it was discussed whether proceeds could be donated to FOBS. A concern was raised that for a C of E school this might not be appropriate so school governors need to be consulted.

8. AOB

Ideas for other fundraisers

Snowmen have been made need selling before Christmas

Sponsored 5K or 10K – Amy has a route around her farm which would lend itself well to this and as it is not on roads would help health and safety issues. Suggested we look at Tempo Events who could run it depending on costs.

Cycle ride – Steve Westmoreland is still wanting to do this as his company will match fund money raised up to the value of £250. Idea that if it fits in could be done on sports day so children can see him off and return.

100 club – to be looked at for early in New Year – Trez and Hannah

It was requested that we hold more fundraising events for the children to get involved in.

Gift Aid need to be utilised more going forward

Parent kind offer a free webpage to advertise fundraising events

It has been suggested that FOBS may run the raffle at Brailes show and this will be discussed further at our next open meeting. It was commented that charities commission have guidelines on charities raising funds for other organisations and need to be sure when selling tickets people know money is for the show not FOBS directly.

Constitution states that general meetings need 21days notice in advance with this in mind it was agreed that they should be set 1 per term well in advance and then separate committee meetings can be held around these.

9. Date of next meeting 13th January 2020

Meeting closed 9.30pm