

Friends of Chase Bridge (FOCB) AGM 2024 - minutes

9:00 Friday 11th October 2024

1. Welcome

- Katie Lyall (Chair) welcomed the attendees and explained purpose of the AGM

2. Chair's report

- Jo Humphreys and Katie Lyall were joint co-chairs for 2023/24, Jo's sons have left the school so she is stepping down
- Very rainy year for our events - it is a testament to the Chase Bridge community and our hard work that the events went ahead and fundraised so much for the school.
- Events held include:
 - Winter term events:
 - Uniform and cake sales
 - Christmas cards
 - Christmas Fair
 - Christmas concert
 - Spring term events:
 - Uniform and cake sales
 - Quiz night
 - Easter eggstravaganza
 - Summer term events:
 - Uniform, cake and ice lolly sales
 - Bounceathon
 - Summer fair
- Thank you to the team for all the behind-the-scenes work they do - lots of fun and friendship make it all worthwhile.
- Hoping to continue with these events and perhaps introduce some new events (TBC):
 - Wreath-making workshop in Nov (adults)
 - Silent disco in spring (adults)

3. Treasurer's Report

- Tori Chilcott has done a great job as our Treasurer and is stepping down this year.
- See attached report for full details of fundraising and spend this year
- Reminder: these events are not put on ONLY to fundraise, they are to bring fun to our school community, and ensure nobody is excluded from taking part if they cannot afford the expected costs

4. Feedback and fundraising priorities from the school

- Mr Bishop (headteacher) described his experiences of working with FOCB and how fantastic their fundraising for the school is, but also that any PTA also aims to galvanise the sense of community for our parents/carers and children. For example:
 - Fairly recent introduction of free tickets for families that need them
 - Some PTAs might make a bit more from their events, but the popularity of our events shows how much the community gets out of them
- Due to budget constraints, projects that the school can dedicate funds towards change over time, so the funds raised by FOCB are very important to the school.
- Suggested priorities for funds raised in this academic year:
 - **Developing and improving the edible garden**
 - Used throughout the year with children from all years, but upkeep is hard work
 - Things need replacing but they'd like to future-proof this special space for our children by using more durable materials
 - **World Book Day events** like inviting authors into school
 - **Branded hi-vis jackets** for school trips, to help us differentiate the children from all the others at (for example) the Natural History Museum
 - **Zoning the playground** - based on an approach called 'Opal' (though not in full) - supporting our core value of curiosity. Helping the children explore and find new things to play with
 - Eg. a course laid out for games in one area
 - Crates for making dens, etc.
 - Mrs Briggs leading it
 - Starting with younger years, where transitioning from play-based learning
 - **School busses** - fundraising towards replacing the busses (originally funded/part-funded by FPCB as well)
 - Cost of coaches has gone up about 130%
 - We are able to do school trips that other schools locally simply can't do
 - Using public transport for some trips (good life lessons for kids)
- Thanked the volunteer community
 - Highlighted a thank you event they run for volunteers in July, supported/lead by Year 6 pupils.

5. Election of 2024/25 committee

- We are a registered charity, which means we need a few elected officials to be registered with the Charities Commission:
 - **Chair** - Katie Lyall voted in as Chair
 - **Secretary** - Rachel Furze voted in as Secretary
 - **Treasurer** - Steve Furze voted in as Treasurer
- Non-elected roles:

- Events lead - Jen
- Events assistant - Tiff
- Designer - Ivana
- Volunteer Coordinator - Vanessa
- Wider team supporting all our events and activities in multiple ways
- Looking for:
 - Assistant treasurers (helping prepare floats for stalls, etc.)
 - Social media support

6. AOB

- None

Meeting ended at 9:30