



Chairperson: Chris Thomas

Treasurer: Richard Hall

Secretary: Hollie Batha

Email: schoolcircle@longnorschool.co.uk

Registered charity number: 1154833

School Circle Meeting – Minutes

Date: Thursday 23rd September 2021

Time: 19:00

Location: School – Class 3

Present: Lisa Edgerton, Chris Thomas, Richard Hall, Hollie Batha, Rachel Reynolds, Jo Bell, Claire Brown, Vicky Regan, Gemma Ireland

Apologies: Sarah Marais, Jo Bullock, Susanne Lehmann, Rachel King, Charlotte Downes

Chair's Report

Chris welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first face to face one since covid began.

It was noted that the Charity Commission had been submitted and that new trustees were now needed. Gemma and Jo volunteered themselves as the new trustees.

Chris was re-elected as Chairperson of the School Circle and Rich as Treasurer - being nominated by Chris and seconded by Jo. Hollie was re-elected as Secretary and co-treasurer, being nominated by Chris and seconded by Jo.

It was discussed that the aim for the coming year is to raise as much money as possible for the school so that they can spend it on much needed items.

Treasurer's Report

Rich reported that despite not having any of the main fundraising events in the last year, the School Circle had still managed to accumulate £3600 from a variety of different sources such as the 100 club, Bags2School, the home section competition, donations and more. With keeping aside money allocated for floats, 100 club winnings, insurance costs etc., Rich was pleased to announce that the School Circle are able to donate £2200 to the school to spend as they choose.

Rich requested that new signatories be added to the School Circle bank account to assist with banking. It was discussed whether the account could be moved to a different bank that has more branches/easier access to deposit and withdraw cash.

Head's Report

Lisa welcomed the donation proposed by the School Circle and discussed two potential ideas for what the funds could be used on. The first idea was to use the money to go towards the costs of new computing equipment for the school as the desktop computers used are quite aged and the pads used by the school are currently on loan from Telford and Wrekin. The second idea was to invest in new books and soft furnishings for each classroom – creating a cosy area that the children could use to read their books. After much discussion the Circle decided to go with the books and soft furnishings idea, dividing the money equally between each class.

It was noted that the usual termly donations would stop for the time being and once fundraising was back to its usual levels then it would be discussed about these potentially being restarted. It was felt that the School Circle's contribution to subsidising the cost of school trips has not previously been recognised by parents so, should termly donations re-start, a greater emphasis would be put on this.

Events planning

All events will be subject to the relevant Covid guidelines at the time of the planned events.

- *Bags2School* – The next Bags2School collections will be held on Friday 24th September and Monday 27th September where bags will be collected in the Village Hall car park at 9am and 3pm.
- *Harvest festival* – Thursday 21st October at 2pm. This will be held at the church with refreshments being served in the school hall afterwards. Volunteers needed to serve refreshments.
- *Halloween Disco* – A Halloween disco will be held in the school hall on Thursday 21st October from 6 until 8pm. A DJ has already been arranged that will also play games with the children. Katie will be buying the food needed for the night and it was decided to use proper cups and plates this year instead of disposables as this is better for the environment. Stalls for the event will include tuck shop, tattoos, photo booth, drawings, pumpkin pop, guess the number of sweets in the jar and pin the brain on the zombie. Volunteers are needed to man these stalls, to wash cups and plates, toilet supervision, decoration of the hall and to man the exits. The event will cost £5 per ticket and this price includes a hot dog and a drink.
- *Frost Fayre* – Provisionally booked for Friday 3rd December. To be discussed further at next meeting.
- *Christmas Parties* – Wednesday 15th December at 1:30pm. To be discussed further at next meeting.
- *Christmas Carols* – Thursday 16th December at 2pm. This will be held at the church with refreshments being served in the school hall afterwards. Volunteers needed to serve refreshments.
- *Other potential events to be discussed at future meetings* – Pizza/popcorn/movie night, Christmas cards, Christmas jumper day, Summer Ball (Rachel to take charge with a sub-committee – potentially for May time, venues to begin being looked for).

Any Other Business

- Claire noted that 61 out of 100 tickets have currently been sold for the 100 club so has asked everyone to try and find more buyers. She will also try and catch new parents at the school gates.
- It was mentioned about putting more emphasis on things that the School Circle have organised or contributed to with a view to make us better known to the other parents and highlighting the things that our fundraising is contributing to. It was thought perhaps to put stickers/labels on things provided by the School Circle stating something like "Donated by School Circle" etc., and to mention more clearly on advertisements the contribution School Circle had made to the event in question.
- Rich will be looking to set up the School Circle on Amazon Smile
- Hollie will be setting up a School Circle Facebook group.

Next Meeting(s)

The next meeting date is yet to be confirmed.