

LOWER PARK SCHOOL PTA
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 15TH JANUARY 2013 AT 8PM

ATTENDANCE

12 members.

WELCOME

Welcome to the first meeting of 2013 and happy new year. Welcome to new member Fran Fallon.

APOLOGIES

Julie Knight & Sally Ward.

REVIEW OF FILM NIGHT – JULIA GRUNDY

All seemed to run smoothly. The brown paper bags for the snack packs seemed to work, they were easier to hand out and fitted everything in. I tried to save some to reuse but a lot were wrecked.

Snack packing was done by 5 of us and in record time apparently so thanks to all the helpers.

The hardest part was handing out the snack bags in time so we ended up starting the KS1 showing a bit late. Would it be an idea to hand out snack bags in the classrooms beforehand so that they sit straight down with them or would it be too much for the little ones to carry with book bags, coats etc?

It took even longer to hand out snack bags for the KS2 showing as they came in at all different times and year groups etc. Can't think of a way to speed this up? Mr Banks's did a great job of identifying all the children quickly if he hadn't been there it would have taken even longer! It was suggested that we have stations in the corners of the hall for each year group so that they can collect their bags before taking their seats – we will try this next time. Profits were good (£343.75) considering the lower number of sales in KS1. Increasing the cost of the snack bag seems to have worked so I think we should stick with this next time. No one complained about the price although there were a few people that didn't order snack packs but whether that was choice or because of the cost I don't know but I haven't heard anything.

Helpers for KS1 showing numbers were right as there were lots of toilet trips as predicted. I think just one child got upset and went home but that seems to happen every time. KS2 helpers after the manic time of handing out snack packs we almost seemed to have too many helpers as there were no assisted toilet trips. But it did mean that we got cleared away quickly. It may be that next time we have less KS2 helpers but ask some of the KS1 helpers to stay just while we hand out the snack bags.

I think we should try for 2 different films next time if suitable ones are available as that might help the KS1 ticket sales as KS2 children might watch both films.

Next time tickets need to be printed at least a week before they go on sale so that I can number them at home and it will greatly cut down on the admin work.

I am happy to continue with the film night but like this time will need some help with the buying as I am only off one day so I'm restricted on time. We can't book for April as he's busy – other dates to be discussed later on.

REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS FAIR – MICHELLE MASSEY

We had some complaints about out of date chocolates in the hampers and some alcoholic ones made it into one hamper which was luckily won by a PTA member. We need to double check dates next time but also perhaps put a note on the flyers when we ask for donations to make sure that they are in date. We had lots of issues with face painting – the long queues and the helpers staying on too long. Next time we will issue a ticket system like we did with Father Christmas. Michelle will get a face painting work shop organised so that other parents can learn how to do it to be able to help out. Father Christmas tickets worked much better so we will keep this up for next time. The profit was £3055.00 which is very good. The burgers stayed the same price and we are going to keep it that way as we think that everyone comes to the fair with a set amount of money so it would just mean that another stall took less.

Christmas fundraiser, wrapping paper and the fair all generated a total profit of £3599.00 in December alone which is fantastic.

BARN DANCE UPDATE – JENNY RIGG

Thanks to everyone that has volunteered so far. The band is costing £425.00 and we think we can only get about 30 families in the hall due to numbers. We need to make as much as we can then on food and drink. It's never a big earning event more of a social event for the children. Ticket prices agreed were £15.00 per family of 2 adults & up to 3 kids, £5.00 per adult, £3.00 per child.

Mr Coulson will organise the tickets and put details in the Beacon this week. Sharon will organise a float for ticket sales.

Times are 5pm until 8.30pm with food starting at 5pm and dancing at 5.30pm.

Food – James Bagnall will do it in the afternoon. Hot dogs for kids and jacket potatoes with chilli or beans. Decided not to offer cheese because last time we threw so much away.

Definitely have to make sure that we are a nut free zone.

Last time we had a raffle so Michelle will source some raffle prizes. Mr Coulson suggested Whiskey roll which Justine kindly offered to run on the night.

Michelle will buy the stock for the bar and Fran will buy for the kids snack bar.

Jenny has sent off for the licence so that should be through soon.

Helpers on the night so far are:- Jenny, Sharon, Justine, Susan and Wendy. Jenny will organise a rota for the helpers. We will also need helpers for the end of the night to tidy up.

HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT – MR COULSON

The main priority for this year is going to be the playground development. Money has been spent on games tables, new house competition system and playground pals. Thanks to everyone for all their support throughout Christmas and thanks to Michelle for providing suitable crackers for Christmas dinner.

Mrs Beddows has just returned so Mr Coulson would like her to oversee the purchasing for the new books as she has the best knowledge of what we have/need. In 2-3 weeks she will be ready to do that so we should need the money for the books mid February. We haven't got the full amount of funds available that we committed originally. We have £5250.00 available but the total cost would be £7500.00 so agreed to do it in 2 stages. Agreed to provide £3500.00 now and the rest later in the year. Jenny suggested that we put stickers in each new book to say that the PTA had donated them so that the message gets to the parents.

2 requests for funds:-

SEN budget – maths equipment for 5 children on 1 to 1 costing £100.00 – agreed.

Science week – 12th March Philip Roles is booked again costing £775.00 this time. Agreed at £375.00 from PTA and the rest from the parents.

LOTTO DRAW – JULIA GRUNDY

November draw

1ST Prize – 36 Nicky Waller

2nd Prize – 78 Claire Harrison

3rd Prize – 12 Odette Steele

December draw

1st Prize – 76 Vesna Higginbotham

2nd Prize – 2 Nicky Wylie

3rd Prize – 41 John Mallender

Julia is going to hand over to Justine as soon as the accounts are up to date and profits transferred to the main account.

AOB

Film Night – April date isn't possible 2 other dates in May that were offered don't suit our calendar so decided to leave it until November. Julia will try to book Friday 8th November or the week after.

Diary Changes – Disco has moved to 22nd March. June PTA meeting moved to 13th. Next meeting changed to 12th February.

Summer Fair – It has been decided to have the go karts again as well as the tea cup ride & donkeys but to use a different firm – Michelle will book now.

Vacant Positions

Secretary - Julia is stepping down Fran Fallon kindly offered to take this over asap.

Vice Chair – still available if anyone wants to think of offering.

Lotto – Justine will take over from Julia asap.

Publicity – Karen will be stepping down at the end of the school year. Michelle will ask Nicky Wood if she will do it as she has shown an interest in the past.

Diary Dates

Summer Fair – 6th July

Film Night – 8th November – to be confirmed.

Christmas Fair – 30th November.

Christmas Fund Raiser – It was decided to do Christmas cards this year as they were so popular. Wendy offered to still organise this.

O2 Mobiles – There is potential to earn money from old mobiles and asking parents to donate them to school, might think about it next Christmas.

Art Exhibition – Jenny has a flyer about it and Michelle remembers the last time that we did it 7 years ago it was really good so Jenny will look into it further.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 12th February.

Julia Grundy