

Pimperne Primary PTA

Wednesday 15th January

Attendees; Samantha Lillington (Chair), Jonathan Bowell (Minutes), Miss Tatham, Claire Booth, Keltie Ford, Emily Vernon, Sarah Pickering, Emma Lane,

Apologies; Diz Farnhill (Treasurer), Emma Bartlett, Amanda Dallison, Sam Gale,

Finance report; Current Balance £2,595.59, Deposit account £10,045.51

Xmas fair made profit of £2464, which includes £1000 sponsorship. However there was £719 of deposits in December which details need to be provided for and currently assumed that they are from the Xmas fair need to be confirmed.

We have not received the £1101 expected from School money for firework tickets, which would increase our balance. Can we chase the office?

Finance requests from school;

No new finance request from school although there was advance warning that a request may be made for funds for up to 12 laptops for year 3. No costs available currently but would expect to be a couple of thousand pounds.

PTA need to pay our lottery licence, details to be provided to Diz. Approximately £20.

Review Prior events;

Christmas Fair;

The early pick up of children is not to be repeated at future events, it caused too much disruption. There are still some of the 'secret presents' in stock that can be used again next year. There are some books still in stock that can be at any future event. The silent auction went well but it was felt that it could have raised even more if announcements of the current state of bids were made during the event. More time would be helpful with set up although it may be worth talking with the Post Office as they don't use the main hall. The craft bags were appreciated. The overall format worked well and should be repeated.

Christmas dinner;

General feedback was positive, the following feedback was provided from school, responses in italics;

- Thank you for the help – it wouldn't have happened without you.
- Calm and organised going over
- Great to be kept informed on timings for departure
- No coats a good idea – saved 10 minutes sort out at the end (however, if raining we would have to wear them)
- LFL tins – need to find a system to get these washed & 'return ready' to their standard as school gets penalized. *An extra effort was made this year after prior issues more attention will be needed next year.*
- Return of equipment to the school hall – ASC had to help put this away as only 1 helper. (This compromised children/staff). *The school hall was occupied when equipment was*

returned so it could be not be put away, we will need to ensure access after next year's event.

- *Some children find too noisy – perhaps KS1 in school hall / KS2 in Village hall. This would double the amount of work and helpers required and it is felt that the reason for the event is to do something as a whole school. Unless there is significant need to change it was felt best to stay as we are.*
- *Do we need crackers? (a nice touch but not good for environment/waste) We had considered this issue but though that something is required to make the event different and special, additional research will be undertaken. Environmentally friendly crackers were out of stock when we purchased ours.*
- *2 seatings? Although would mean a changeover.*
- *Decorations – if we have some (General feel is we are trying to reduce one-off waste - = environmental – hence lack of bunting) School made decorations were used. Re-usable bunting is available.*
- *Unsure if all food was hot by the time it got to table. We are not aware of any problems.*
- *Possibly feed the youngest first. This has been tried before but ended in food waste as KS1 did not eat all their food and older children were left short hence current arrangements.*

There was also an issue with photographs being taken during the event where one helper was questioned multiple times after a picture was taken. This needs to be addressed so the school is confident that pictures are used appropriately and not put on social media. It was suggested that the best option be that for PTA events a school device (Ipad or similar) could be provided, pictures vetted and any approval for use of pictures sought before returning them to the PTA. Miss Tatham to follow up and confirm.

Christmas disco;

This seemed to be a positive event with no significant issues with the change in price, although further price increases should be avoided. More organised games would be advantageous but people need to arrange and run them. In the event of any accidents teachers will be onsite and should be contacted to ensure appropriate treatment is given in line with school policies.

There was an offer of an alternative DJ who has done our events before for no charge being able to do them in future, this should be investigated.

There was feedback that there was possibly too much sugar given to the children and it was agreed that a drink and crisps would be provided and not sweets as well in future. If less sugary drinks for a similar price can be found for future events that would be positive. Environmental impact needs to be considered as well as value for money for the children. Children could bring water bottle boxes into the hall for further drinks requirements.

Lantern Parade;

The event went well and it seemed that there were more children attending than in prior years but there was feedback that the lantern making workshop was missed by some. It was suggested that we could keep with a lantern made of commonly recycled materials that could be made at home but that a workshop could be arranged where people can come together and make lanterns with materials that they provide in a school community event.

Christmas Cards/ tea towels etc;

No further feedback.

Fireworks;

The event is pencilled in with the firework supplier for the 6th November. A meeting with the supplier needs to be arranged for a Wednesday soon do discuss the event, finalise the feedback and create the event plan for this year. Sam L to arrange a date.

Future Events;

Bingo;

This is arranged for March 6th in the school hall. Mick Rayne has agreed to be caller. We will need more Rio – can Sam G provide some more please. Emma L is going to check the cupboard for stock of books and dibbers and Sam L will order more as required. Emma L will provide prizes.

Miss Tatham is going to check to see if it would be possible for a parent to supervise children in a classroom with a DVD/ colouring as and when their attention wains from Bingo.

Movie Night;

This is booked for the 7th of February, DVD will be Toy Story 4. Tickets £3 in advance to be sold in the week of the event, £14 float should still be in the PTA locker. Volunteers required to supervise the event. Emma L to check drink and popcorn stocks and top up as required.

Non school uniform day;

Confirmed as the 14th of February.

Egg Tombola;

Suggested as for Wednesday 1st April. Eggs will need to be purchased, special dietary requirement eggs provided by parents of said children.

Easter Fair;

This is proposed as the 27th March, the hall needs to be booked (Keltie to book and confirm) same times as the Christmas fair. The fair will be open from 3 -4:30. If each class can provide a stall that would be lovely. Competition for decorated eggs to be made at home and judged at the fair rather than bonnets. Emily V will create a post asking for volunteers and then a subcommittee formed to run this event.

It was felt that if we can create teams for the three big annual events separate from the main committee this may spread the load a little without people feeling that they are stepping into too much commitment.

After School sports clubs;

Concern was raised that there seems to have been a reduction in the amount of affordable team sports available as after school clubs recently. Miss Tatham explained that a sports coordinator role for the Blandford schools group had lost funding and that this may have had an impact. Miss Tatham will find out what the current situation is and what future plans are from Mrs Waller. Touch rugby, cricket and rounder's well all mentioned.

PTA night out;

This has been cancelled.

AOB;

Emma L would like to reduce demands that the PTA has on her either through passing on the role of prize rep and/or taking a lower profile in some of the larger events. This can be supported by the subcommittee suggestion and if required asking if anyone can step in as prize rep/coordinator.

Keltie has volunteered to be village hall rep to try to create a single point of contact.

It was suggested that at the next meeting and going forward it would be advantageous to create an annual event and meeting calendar to allow more organised longer term planning.

Date of next meeting; February 26th

Meeting close at 9:44