

Minutes of the GPPSA AGM – 14th October 2020 at 7.30pm

Due to the restrictions resulting from the Covid pandemic this meeting was held via video conferencing (Zoom) rather than in person. It was recorded for the GPPSA records, which all participants were told in advance via message and on the night at the beginning of the call. We asked everyone to mute themselves to avoid background noise and raise their virtual hand if they wished to speak/had a question.

Attendees: 43 people dialled into the zoom call – apologies if your name is not listed below, we only managed to record those that spoke or put their virtual hand up!

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| Nicola Cable (GPPSA) | Tanja Muenchrath |
| Sarah Revell (GPPSA) | Tracy Murray |
| Fiona Holden (GPPSA) | Elena Pishiris |
| Cheryl Eaves (GPPSA) | Ziba Akarcay |
| Leah Hawkes-Petrou (GPPSA) | Lan Tu |
| Alison Simon (GPPSA) | Yulia Davidenko |
| Fan Savva (GPPSA) | Nikki Tadd |
| Maggie Evangelou (GPPSA) | Yasmin Christofi |
| Zoe Minkin (GPPSA) | Angela Rawstorne |
| Ana Moraru (GPPSA) | Natasha Mensah |
| Tijen Hassan (Head Teacher) | Sophie Hall |
| Chris Christofi | Layla Hall |
| Sam Afhim | Jonathan Hon |
| Miguel Oliveria | Vanessa Anthony |

Apologies:

Alexia Edwards

1. Introductions and Roles & Responsibilities

Nic did a quick introduction of the existing committee, what they do and approx. how long on the committee

Also talked about who the GPPSA are, what we do etc. Not only are we the fundraising arm of the school we also look to bring our school community together through our events. Over the past five years we have raised over £115,000 which has supported 90 new iPad/ google chrome books, 16 new LCD screens, fire pit, canvasses for the school, contributions towards the website, library, new reception playground and new nursery, plus helping GPPS to become more of a forestry school.

Talked through how the committee at the moment is split (2019/20 org chart) and also that we meet once a month, either the second Tues, Wed or Thurs in the hope the majority can join. Use to be F2F in The Winchmore, at present it's via Zoom. Everyone is welcome

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16.10.2019 and any matters arising

Last year we followed a similar agenda to this evening and we covered the events that were held in 2018/19 which included the 2 fayres, smarties for silver, cake sales, discos, etc.

We advised that we funded the T-shirts for the Young Voices choir, canvasses for the school, books, games for Christmas, contributed towards the landscaping project, 60 iPads, visiting author and the Year 6 leavers party refreshments,

We also voted for the Officers for the Committee. Fiona Holden stood down as Co-Chair and Nicola Cable was elected as Co-Chair alongside Sarah Revell who was happy to remain in post. Nicola Cable was re-elected as Secretary and Alison Simon as Treasurer.

We highlighted that we needed more committee members for the 2019/20 school year to help raise more funds.

Tijen Hassan discussed what the school's needs were for 2019/20 and this will be covered later this evening.

We also looked at new events for the year ahead,

3. Chairs Report for 2019/20

- GPPSA rebrand – dropped Granger and created a new look and feel tying the GPPSA more in with the school rebrand as we try to move towards becoming a PTA. New more modern and fresh look and showed some of the communications to date
- Events Calendar – Looked at the new events calendar that we started sending out Sept 2019. Due to Covid new parents that started Sept 2020 didn't receive one. Feedback from parents in the past was that they weren't always aware when our events were on.
- New WhatsApp Reps and helpers' group – all agreed much easier way to communicate quickly. 69 people on it at present and there is a voice for every class. Leah manages this

- Facebook page – new for 2019/20. We now have 191 followers but definitely can improve on this and use all our social platforms more to spread our messages, updates and news about our events

Talked through 2019/events:

Business as Usual:

- Christmas Fayre – One of the most profitable in recent years. Felt very busy and Christmassy, plus we didn't spend money to make money. The preloved toys, games and books made a great profit
- Halloween Disco for KS2 (Y3 – Y6) – all had a great time
- Halloween Cake Sale – we rely on parent donations. Autumn sales are never as successful as the ones held outside
- Amazon Smile – new for 2019/20. To date we have 62 supporters. Keen to improve on this as an easy way to make money with little effort
- Easy fundraising – dwindled in recent years – need to continue promotion
- Valentines Disco for KS1 (reception – Y2) – all had a great time

New for 2019/20:

- School Lottery - 34 people play to date. Again another easy money maker. Need to continue with promotion
- Parents Quiz Night – Great night arranged by Zoe
- Xmas4Schools Christmas Cards – learnt from last year as did it late and asked children to do their artwork at home. This year it's been done at school and all order forms need to be returned by Fri 16th Oct latest
- Bag2school collections – again easy money as everyone has clothes, shoes, toys and homewares to donate. Need to look at how we can do this Covid safe for 2021.
- DONATE fundraising pages – when we cancelled all events from March – July we set up this page as an alternative to the summer festival and tried to encourage parents that could to give money.
- Tropic FB Virtual Fundraiser – didn't do very well. Needed better promotion or maybe parents just not interested? Are there others we could do?
- Junior International Bake off – was run on the same day as what would have been the festival. Children were encouraged to bake their favourite goodies and sell to family and friends. All profits were uploaded to the donate page

Cancelled Events due to Covid 19:

- Easter Cake sale
- Smarties for Silver
- VE Day picnic and disco
- Car boot sales x 3 – starting May 2020
- Summer Quiz
- Summer Festival

The above events were profitable for the GPPSA and we had hoped to continue with these and more in 2020/21 – need to look at how we can deliver them from other platforms/make Covid safe.

4. Treasurers Report for the year ending 2019/20

- Allie talked through the figures – see PPT for spreadsheet
- 2019/20 we funded 16 x LCD screens and brackets, 30 chrome books, playground markings, hedging/ plants for playground, netball kits and Christmas presents for each class. We gave £27,883 to the school!
- In the past the GPPSA had raised/kept large amounts of money to pay for bigger projects like astro turf. This was agreed no longer needed so we started to fund smaller projects, helping to bridge the gap in the schools budgets
- A breakdown of the last 4 financial years was provided and currently the GPPSA holds £9,492 on account. The accounts were verified by an independent examiner.
- Last year was looking like our most profitable in a while which we believe was due to increased GPPSA support and new events being launched

5. Election of Officers

Changes to the committee:

Nicola Cable and Sarah Revell are stepping down as Co-chairs

Alison Simon stepping down as Treasurer

General committee members who left July 2020 – Osmah Hanif, Michela Bruno, Ayten Bozdog and Jenny Jenkins.

All other general committee members would like to stay on in their roles

Asked people to put their hand up if interested in a GPPSA role

Existing committee to take vote off line and let successful elected candidates know by 16th October

- Chair/Co-Chairs – Chris Christofi and Alexia Edwards (absent)
- Vice Chair – Sam Afhim
- Secretary – Nicola Cable
- Treasurers – Miguel Oliveria and Tanja Muenchrath
- General Committee members – Elena Pishiris (Social Events), Ziba Akarcay, Lan Tu and Yulia Davidenko (Main events) Yasmin Christofi, Angela Rawstorne, Natasha Mensah and Sophie Hall (Communication and sponsorship incl. FB/Instagram) Layla Hall and Vanessa Anthony (new fundraiser ideas) and Tracy Murray (School link)

6. Special Business

- Launched the 2020/21 calendar of events which to date covers Oct – Dec
- Includes Xmas4schools Christmas cards, Halloween non uniform day 23/10, Halloween pumpkin carving competition 26-31st/ 10, Christmas jumper day 11/12, new 2020/21 DONATE Page and continue with school lottery, amazon smile, easy fundraising etc.
- Maggie talked through the Lottery, how it works and monies raised to date – we need to promote further
- Brief discussion on our usual events moving online – 12 days of Christmas raffle, discos etc. to be picked up at next GPPSA meeting
- New calendar of events and £8,000 target letter to be sent out 15/10 – need to promote on the reps/helpers' WhatsApp group

7. Heads Wish List

Tijen started by thanking the GPPSA committee to date.

‘ I really value the work of the GPPSA as it not only plays a significant role in raising money for the school but it also provides so many opportunities to bring the school community together. Our school has gone from strength to strength and I am so keen to ensure that the GPPSA has the capacity to continue as without it the children would really miss out on so many things. I would like to officially say thank you to Nicola and Sarah in your roles as co-chairs- I know it hasn’t been an easy decision for you to step down but I just want to say that I really do value all the hard work you have put into the GPPSA and you have made a significant contribution as a result. I’m pleased that you will still continue with being part of the committee. Thank you to everyone who has put their name forward to fill the chair and treasurer role and also to those who have put their name down as the general committee members- wow what a strong committee. I would like to stress, without you would mean no GPPSA which would be such a shame for our children. So thank you and I do really value your support. Thank you for showing an interest- amazing! I’m excited of the prospect of the different events that are planned to be organised, which I know will be so well received by the children. I know things are not quite the same but it’s great that we have been able to come up with alternative ways to fundraise. As you are aware, budgets in schools are becoming increasingly tighter. In order for our children to achieve the best possible outcomes, an effective strategy would be to use the money raised by the GPPSA to fund projects in the school, which is aligned to our school priorities and can therefore have a greater impact.’

The school have made a request for the following: £8,000 to pay for new books, PE equipment, sound system and forest school (including pond) – see further detail below.

Was asked for as a priority list and all needs doing so no priority,

Forest school: In line with one of our curriculum drivers- environment, we really want to become a forest school. A forest school supports play, exploration and supported risk taking and in turn develops confidence and self-esteem with children through hands-on experiences in a natural setting. In order to do this we need to continue to develop our grounds for example by building a wildlife pond, having an area with wild flowers and training members of staff.

Sound system for the hall: We would like to purchase a new sound system for the main hall- which can be used during assemblies, concerts and even discos. We are also looking at purchasing another sound system which is portable and can be used outside for sports day and summer fayres

Books & PE equipment: We would like to purchase additional books for our reading hub and additional equipment for PE.

Christmas presents for the classes again

8. Any Other Business