

THE FRIENDS OF BELHAM

Committee meeting

The committee of the FOB met on 18th January 2016 at the White Horse public house, Peckham Rye.

Members present:

Sophie Ardern
Georgia Brown
Alessia Capponi
Roger Ede
Anna Herzberg
Ginnie Kelly
Chris Newman
Michael Sharman

They were joined by Mark Raben from Dulwich Hamlets Junior School friends' association.

The committee agreed that the meeting on 12 November 2015 be designated an AGM for the purposes of the constitution and they agreed the proposals put forward by the sub-committee of officers which had met previously (see minutes for 24 November 2015).

Sophie Ardern reported that she was making progress in opening a community bank account.

Roger Ede reported that he was yet to seek to register the FOB as a charity.

It was agreed that the FOB required a small fund at this opening stage, to pay for the expense of events before FOB had raised its own funds. This would avoid committee members having to fund FOB themselves. Chris Newman would speak to Sonia Case about this.

There was much discussion about the desirability of the direct debit scheme and whether a minimum contribution should be recommended. Committee members did not want anyone to feel pressurised into giving a contribution that they could not afford. It was agreed that it should be presented as just one of a number of ways in which a member could contribute to FOB. No agreement was reached about recommending a level of contribution.

The committee was told that Heidi Rowe had left the school and that there was a vacancy for a Poplin class representative.

It was agreed that Chris Newman would send a questionnaire to every school parent and staff member to discover what they considered FOB should do and how they could contribute. A letter would be sent with this, introducing the class representatives. A board would be put up at school with pictures of all the committee members. A letter would also be sent to local businesses inviting them to become members of FOB.

It was proposed that communication by the committee to FOB members would be through a section on the school's website at first and later through a FOB website. There could also be a FOB email group. It was reported that there were already year 1 and reception Facebook groups.

Mark Raben said that the Dulwich Hamlets Junior School friends' association had equipment which FOB could borrow and it could help FOB with transportation.

Chris Newman presented the spreadsheet on which committee members had specified events that FOB could organise. There were events primarily to fundraise and events primarily for members to socialise. He explained that this was a live document that could be added to at any time.

Committee members agreed to be responsible for the following events:

Georgia: cake sale (end of term when half-day finish); pub quiz

Sophie: kid's disco

Ginnie: kid's disco; teachers' fancy dress; film the nativity play

Anna: raffle

Roger: raffle; international food (combine with Summer picnic)

Katherine: clothes sale/baby sale

Alessia: clothes sale/baby sale; wear your own clothes to school; estate agents' boards

Michael: Christmas trees at Christmas fair; wine tasting

Chris: social in coffee shop; local history talk

To get the ball rolling, the following events would be organised for the immediate future: cake sale; wear your own clothes to school; socialising in coffee shop.

Collectively, committee members would organise 2 or 3 stalls at the Dulwich Hamlets Junior School Summer fair. Work on this would need to begin in March.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 22 February 2016 at the White Horse.