

Minutes for Cavendish PTA meeting 16.01.13

Present: Simon Manning, Carlyne Allmark, Jen Barnes, Tracy Clare, Rob King, Clare McCarron, Rachel Myers (RM1), Janet Marland, Russell Kennedy, Rachel Marsden (RM2)

Apologies: Jean Wareing, Paul Tempest, Carole Spiller

1. Treasurer's Report

Xmas Fair made £1.5k profit (took over £2k in cash) so more profitable than previous years, which have been held on Saturdays. Feedback was very positive (particularly about Santa!) and it was extremely busy right up until closing time although in parts it was probably too busy, especially in the downstairs hall.

JM suggested moving the chocolate tombola up the upstairs hall to draw more people up to the games up there rather than everyone crowding the downstairs hall.

Mulled wine wasn't a great success. It was sold in the staffroom so a bit out of the way really but had to be in there as obviously not safe to have people walking around with hot drinks. Parent feedback was that they were too busy to stop for a hot drink at all as kids too excited to stop, too much to carry!

Staff feedback around people having private stalls was also negative as it was felt that they were not in the 'spirit' of the Xmas fair. Agreed not to have private stalls in future (apart from Claire Howarth's as a 'Friend of Cavendish PTA') and to keep the cake stall as a PTA-run item that parents and teachers can contribute cakes to for selling.

Queue for Santa was quite long for most of the time really so a suggestion made to allow Nursery children who finish at 3pm to go in to see him earlier before the doors open for the rest of the school at 3.30pm to ease the backlog.

Agreed to keep the Xmas fair on a Friday afternoon instead of a Saturday afternoon going forward. Should review this after each year.

Donation from Blaggs from their Xmas tree raffle of nearly £300! TC to put a thank you to Blaggs for this on the PTA noticeboard as they do so much for the school. **TC**

2. Cavendish Club

SM updated. This has stalled as the bank has yet to send out the correct online banking documentation. Once received we should have this up and

running by the end of Jan for a January draw.

RK to promote amongst teaching staff.

RK

JM to add to the newsletter.

JM

22 people registered so far but this is likely to be a 'slow burner' that will catch on more once people start winning and words spread. Make sure details of monthly winners go into the newsletter.

3. Valentine's Disco

Holding this on 14th Feb 5-7pm. (5-5.30pm for Foundation kids only, excluding older siblings).

CM has booked DJ (cost £80 for two hours).

CM and CA to do tuck and 'flashing tat' run. (Hearts for girls and spinning wheels for boys)

CM &
CA

Agreed balloons too much hassle than they're worth all round.

Charging £1.20 per child (adults free) and releasing all tickets on ParentPay on 21st Jan with an option to buy via the office if money left in a marked envelope. These will be transferred to ParentPay via the office.

Diane will tick everyone off on the night to monitor capacity.

Add to newsletter.

JM

4. PTA Noticeboard

Add a note of thanks to everyone for the money raised from the Xmas Fair.

TC

TC to add info on amount raised via the Cavendish Quiz Night.

TC

SM to send Bonfire Night pics for TC to add to noticeboard.

SM &

TC

Add note of thanks to Blaggs for the Xmas tree raffle.

TC

5. Cavendish Quiz Night

Feedback was really positive and this was a successful event generating £600 in funds for the PTA.

Agreed we will run another one this term on Thurs 21st March at 8pm.

Agreed not to supply hot food next time but rather the usual salty snacks and wine.

Wine to be bought from Costco/Tesco/Asda this time to keep costs down.

Selling tickets for £5 each again, which will include a drink on arrival as per last time.

TC to ask Michelle to be the Quizmaster again.

TC

CM to approach CocoCabana on Burton Rd and Greens again for prize donations. SM to approach Rhubarb.

CM &

SM

Agreed everyone to approach any local businesses they know personally for

All

prize donations (perhaps avoiding the ones we also ask for school, fairs etc).

5. Upcoming Events

Spring Car Boot Sale:

To be raised again for discussion at next meeting. Preliminary thoughts are that we need an external banner on the school railings to promote beforehand – something generic that we can use each time to keep costs down saying “Car Boot Sale Here This Saturday” for example.

Need to take out an ad in the South Manchester Reporter and promote on Twitter and Facebook as usual.

Summer Fair:

No date agreed yet but decided we need a contingency plan in case the weather isn't as favourable this year.

Would be great to use the new BBQ if possible.

Didsbury Festival:

Sat 8th March.

JB has agreed to run the sub-committee for this and is available to be part of the team manning our stall on the day.

JB

Agreed to take two stalls and use one for the bouncy castle and the other to sell tuck, plastic tat, tattoos, etc.

Once we find out the theme, notices will go to parents re the procession, dressing kids in the same colour/theme and walking as a school group.

We won't have a Samba dance teacher available to lead the Cavendish Group but could have the drummers leading instead. Suggestion made to select six yr 6 girls to form a simple dance routine and have those girls leading the group with the drummers and everyone else following behind.

Suggestions of people who could do some face painting as another money-spinner – RM, Karen Kennedy, Megan Gregan. CA to ask Megan and Karen.

CA

7. CavFest 2013

There have been three meetings so far and the next sub-committee meeting is being held next Tuesday at 8pm.

Early bird tickets are going on sale at the end of next week at a 25% discount so £15 for adults.

Suggestions made to improve the food provision and stalls, and increase the size of the bar. CM has discussed with the school caterer, Glynnis, about doing all the catering instead.

Police won't officially grant the licence until we have confirmed who is playing but there shouldn't be a problem with it.

Agreed we need to be clearer upfront with people about what we are raising money for – e.g. a quarter will go towards sports equipment, a quarter towards music, a quarter towards 'environmental projects' (i.e. Gardening Club) and a quarter towards another key area.

Hoping to increase our profit from the last CavFest to £15k this time.

8. Gardening Club

The school are currently funding Leonie until the end of March and the new cash grant applied for by Caroline Blackburn of £2k will keep her until the end of August at least. A big thank you to Caroline for her doing this.

Need to explore more bid options. Suggestion made to advertise the need for someone to spend some time doing this (perhaps a parent) in a future newsletter. **JM**

Currently looking at all the options for reducing the cost of this including asking for parent contributions towards lesson time with Leoni and perhaps reducing her hours to fortnightly.

CA to chase her gardening contact about her interest in volunteering with the school. **CA**

We would like to fund Leonie for another year beyond this one so agreed to put this on the agenda again and make a final decision on way forward at the next meeting.

9. Teachers' requests for funding

a) RM1 has requested four new digital cameras to replace all the stolen ones from the Nursery.

These cameras are essential for capturing daily images of the children for their 'learning journals'.

All agreed to provide £300 for buying these new cameras and that they should be bought through school to avoid paying the VAT.

RM1 confirmed that they now have a secure method of storing the cameras so they won't be able to be stolen again.

b) RK has asked for £400 plus VAT for four 'speed bouncers' and a long jump mat to support the new provision of athletics throughout the school down to Key Stage 1.

All agreed to full £400 plus VAT, as it's a great investment for the whole school.

AOB:

SM owes the Office a total of £700 for teachers' requests and the £2k grant **SM**

cheque.

SM and TC to check if the PTA has paid the outstanding amount for the fireworks or not yet. **SM & TC**

RM2 suggested we lower the price for the Cavendish printed bags to £2 in order to sell more. Still gives a reasonable profit on them. All agreed.

RM2 to send details for a flyer to go in bookbags to TC. **RM2 & TC**

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 13th March 2013