

# The Friends of LRGS

## Minutes of AGM & Committee Meeting held Wednesday 07 November 2019, 7.30 pm



**Present:** Radmila Balastikova, Jenny Cornell, Sara Denver Joanne Giles, Catrina Holden, Noreen Jones, Katri Kuusniemi, Wendy Preston, Chris Pyle (Chair), Safira Sabir, Lesley Sharples, Peter Sorton, Irina Tsepelin, Anne Marie Waddingham, Jeannine Weston, Michelle Whitton (Secretary).

**Apologies:** Helen Edge, Gill Bishop, Meisoon Jumah, Sally Pyle, Naomi Quinn, Angela Rowe, Cara Watson, Poone Yazdanpanah.

### 1. Matters for the AGM:

2. Chris opened the meeting, particularly welcoming new members and invited nominations for the role of secretary and treasurer to the Friends of LRGS.

### (i) Nominations and voting for the position of Secretary to the Friends of LRGS:

Michelle Whitton was elected as Secretary; proposed by Jenny Cornell; and seconded by Anne Marie Waddingham. Chris congratulated Michelle and thanked her for her continued input as Secretary. Michelle suggested that she will be an upper 6<sup>th</sup> parent in the next academic year any expressions of interest in the Secretary's position would be welcome in the future.

### (ii) Nominations and voting for the position of Treasurer to the Friends of LRGS:

Anne-Marie Waddingham was elected as Treasurer; proposed by Michelle Whitton, seconded by Safira Sabir. Chris congratulated Anne-Marie and thanked her for her continued input as Treasurer.

### (iii) Appointment of Trustees of the Friends of LRGS.

#### Current Trustees

The following Trustees were appointed in November 2018:

1. Chris Pyle
2. Jenny Cornell
3. Richard Gittins
4. Wendy Preston
5. Helen Edge
6. Gill Bishop
7. Radmila Balastikova
8. Wendy Jones
9. David Rowe – since retired from the Friends
10. Michelle Whitton

11. Andrew Whitton
12. Poone Yazdanpanah
13. Anne Marie Waddingham
14. Meisoon Jumah
15. Joanne Giles

It was agreed that further trustees will be needed as David is retiring from the Friends, while Gill and Helen are currently Upper 6th parents. Any expressions of interest should be sent to Michelle.

(iv) The Secretary's Annual Report of the Friends Committee, 2017/2018 was submitted by Michelle.

(v) The Treasurer's Annual Report of the Friends Committee, 2017/2018 was submitted by Wendy with a copy of the audited accounts for this period.

Chris expressed appreciation on behalf of the school for the involvement of the Friends of LRGS and warmly thanked all who are involved with the Friends ongoing activities.

#### **Matters for the Friends' Committee Meeting:**

3. Minutes of the last meeting dated 11 September 2019 were agreed to be an accurate record of the discussions.

4. Matters arising:

- **Panoramic Viewfinder** – Chris advised that work remains in progress on this project.
- **LRGS Fun Run & Supper:** This event was a huge success and was well attended. There was a large turn out with runners of all ages, and much enthusiasm on the night. Chartwells generously provided the chip suppers. Support and volunteers from across the school as well as from the Friends ensured a safe and successful evening was enjoyed by all.
- **Year 7 Welcome Evenings-** The new format of the Year 7 Welcome Evenings had been well received however the Friends felt there was a limited opportunity to chat with new parents after the event, because they tended to leave after completing the tour of the new 6<sup>th</sup> Form and Old School House site.
- **Sebastian Gallardo Barton Concert** - despite slow ticket sales there was a good tune out for Sebastian who provided an enthusiastic performance inspiring many young LRGS musicians. Sebastian was well received by the guests and the evening was enjoyed by all.
- **Robbie Williams Tribute** – unfortunately this event was not viable due to low uptake of tickets. Unfortunately on the date clashed with the Lancaster Music Festival, which reduced the opportunity to sell tickets as many families were already committed to local events. As well as this, the timing

of the event did not allow for sufficient ticket sales after the start of the school term in September. It was concluded that early to mid-October was therefore not an ideal time to hold additional fundraising events in the future, particularly as a curry night at a similar time in 2018 was also cancelled for low uptake of tickets.

- **Groundforce Day** –a small enthusiastic volunteer group turned out to plant bulbs on the environs of the upper courts. The outcome is awaited in the spring!
- 5. **Communication received from the Friends** –Michelle passed on thanks from Jonny Viney for the equipment for Storey House leisure area.
- 6. **Treasurer's Report.** Ann -Marie provided an overview of the current accounts. There was balance of £12,127.11 to spend. An update on the pledge for the outdoor gym equipment was felt to be helpful and Chris is to follow this up.
- 7. **School Shop** – Radmila and Joanne gave a resume on sales. The shop has been seasonally quieter after the September rush! LRGS golf umbrellas, pens and torches are on order. There is an ongoing demand for sports kit. The school shop rota was circulated for volunteers.

#### 8. Funding requests.

**Six funding requests were received as follows:**

- a) **French Department: £50.00** was requested to purchase French board games (Monopoly and Cluedo): Jenny advised that this sum would be available through the Annual Fund.
- b) **Food Technology:** Cath Mossop requested £150 for prizes and equipment to support the LRGS Year 9 Masterchef Completion.  
**Action:** £150.00 agreed.
- c) **Geography:** Dr Katie Farrell requested £416.00 to purchase a raspberry shake for measuring seismic activity.  
**Action:** £416.00 agreed (clarified by e mail after the meeting).
- d) **Sixth Form Team:** Sarah Haigh and Chris Bagnold requested £500.00 to purchase picture frames of the 6<sup>th</sup> Form artwork competitors to display their work in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre.  
**Action:** £500.00 agreed.
- e) **PE and Games:** Stuart Clarke requested £1241.99 to purchase a mobile cricket batting cage. **Action** Agreed in principal but more information was needed; to be revisited at the next meeting.
- f) **LRGS Rowing:** David Yates requested £4,000.00 to purchase a rowing trailer to take LRGS boats to regattas and rowing events.  
**Action:** unanimous agreement for £4000.00 to purchase a trailer in conjunction with ROCAP parents.

## 9. Forthcoming Events:

- a. **A Night with Eddie the Eagle Friday 8 November 2018**; tickets were selling well for this event.
- b. **Speech Day Saturday, Saturday 17 November 2019**; Due to venue hire, licensing and catering changes at the Town Hall, from the Friends were not needed this year.
- c. **Mince Pie Baking Friday 13 December 2019**; Cath Mossop will host mince pie baking in Food Tech for the carol services.
- d. **Festival of Carols, Saturday 14 December 2019 (Year 7 pupils and families) and Monday 16 December 2019 ( Lower 6<sup>th</sup> pupils and families Old Lancastrians and LRGS guests)**. Due to the growing school numbers, attendance at the carol services will be offered to specific year group audiences and guests. Volunteers from the Friends are needed for both events when mulled wine, juice and mince pies will be served.

### Action points:

- Catrina will liaise with the priory and organise the refreshments plus sustenance for the choir.
  - Michelle will call for volunteer and liaise with Catrina.
  - All guest and hoppers will need to pre-book tickets to attend via Tripay.
  - Invitations to book tickets will be sent out from school.
- e. **Burns Night Saturday 18 January 2020** – working party & arrangements are in place.
  - f. **Spring Festival, Saturday 14 March 2020**- to be discussed at the next meeting in conjunction with Boarders parent morning.
  - g. **Events offered by Peter Sorton**: Peter kindly offered to host two school fundraising events with the Friends: A Sourdough baking workshop and A Musical Evening (please see attached appendix for details). Dates will need to be secured for these at the next meeting.
  - h. A date for a **Friends' Summer Wine Tasting Event** is needed.

**10. AOB:** There was no further business. The meeting closed at 21.20 hours

**11. Date of next meeting:** Committee Meeting: Thursday 10 January 2020 at 7:30pm, Grab and Go



## Appendix:

### Notes from Peter Sorton on future fundraising events:

- **A Musical Evening with Richard Durrant:**

This will be a concert with Richard playing guitars and ukulele. He has said that he would be interested in working with some of the boys on music during the day leading up to the concert.

Autumn may be good. Richard and Amy came to Hunter Hall School in Penrith around the time of the November remembrance and finished the concert with Amy singing a number of traditional first and Second World War songs. Ended with Bob Dylan's "blowing in the wind" sung to a simple guitar bass note and with the closing sequence from "Oh what a lovely War" projected on to a screen. I hired a confetti blower of the type used at the Royal Albert Hall and dropped 20000 poppy petals on the audience as the music ended. Some serious cleaning up but not a dry eye in the house. One of the grandparents said it was the first time he had cried since he was young! Just a thought.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1q4rQGr4geE>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zI4RCTlxYzw>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Olzoxr83tRA>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nj2SG7IJRGs>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHboqEY\\_etA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHboqEY_etA)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JD-JAVIbXZY>

I proud to say the last piece was written for me!

I really hope the concert can happen and again I confirm that I shall underwrite the costs. From what I can see there is nothing on **Friday 16th October 2020** \*either at school or in Lancaster which would be an issue. Richard could make that date.

*\*Note from MW: please check the date for Lancaster Musical Festival.*

- **Sourdough Course**

Should it be an evening during the week or at the weekend?

It will be a long session because sourdough tends to be slow. I will provide all the ingredients and will bring sourdough starter for people to take home, together with dough at varying stages of proving. That will mean there will be bread to bake and take away at end of the session. I suspect we will have plenty of time to do some other baking such as croissant and baguettes if we make a day of it!

I suggest 12 participants. Not sure what to charge. I want all the proceeds to go to school. Commercial bakery courses are expensive at anything up to £150 for a full day. I had in mind £25 which would mean £300 in to the friends pot!

If the course was on a Saturday then I have very few dates to avoid. Please let me know what you think.