



Arthur Mellows Association AGM

Date Monday 9th October 2017

Location AMVC

Minutes

Present: Rachel Hutchins, Gill Bennett, Claire Cobourne, Mark Betambeau, Nula May, Mary Kiernan, Carol Ramm, Maurice Cook, Sally Cook, Claudia S.Tarazi, Steve Wilson, Ragan McGill, Hayley McGill, Meb Bharwani

Apologies: Kay Thompson, Justine Rivetts, Julie Taylor

1. Welcome and Introduction

Rachel welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone at the table introduced themselves, then Rachel handed over to Mike Sandeman.

2. Address by the Head

Mike expressed thanks to the committee for their fundraising efforts He also thanked the outgoing committee for their support over their years at the school. Previously the AMA had been approached to assist with raising funds to support the continuation of the late school bus on a Tuesday evening. This facility had been affected by cuts in local funding. Mike informed us that budget changes and Government funding had allowed the bus to run for another year. Governors should be able to find future funding for this. He felt it wasn't for the AMA to find funding for the basics needed at the school but to provide funds for any extra resources.. Mary Kiernan who was present as the Governor Link would report back to the Governors the benefit of the AMA and assist with raising its profile .

Mike mentioned that we are part of the Four C's Multi-Academy Trust with Fulbridge Academy and will be overseeing the development of two new local schools.

The Year 6 into 7 open evening was successful with over 1,000 visitors on site. He was very proud of the interest in the school.

The school are looking at introducing uniform changes to the lower school. Mike had received feedback that the green sweatshirts weren't very popular as the students didn't like wearing them. A new green jumper and cardigan will be introduced after Easter. All new students in Year 7 will be asked to purchase the new green cardigans and jumpers. He was in talks with the student council regarding this changeover and the school were looking to change suppliers after Easter. Mike was concerned that this might affect our second hand uniform sales. It was also mentioned that the school skirts needed to be available in additional longer lengths as they are too short for some of the taller students.

Mike asked parents on the committee for feedback on the new Year 7 and 8 playground as to whether more needed to be added to the development i.e. a stage.

Mike was asked whether it was possible to add a facility to the school website to allow students to access their homework plan. This is being looked at and should be available soon.

A question was asked as to why the school doesn't sell the uniform itself? Mike stated that it is not something they wish to be involved in at the moment but will pass on to the Governors to look at.

Mike was quizzed as to why the school facilities weren't opened more to the local community? The astro turf pitches are used and do bring in good revenue but other facilities such as the swimming pool incur extra costs to run such as heating, lifeguard security etc and have proved not to be cost effective.



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It was mentioned that the school website booking facilities need to be clearer and more user friendly. Mike said he did try to recognise the needs of the community but the school can't offer these facilities unless it is at least cost neutral.

Mike was informed by parents at the meeting, who live in Glington, that there was to be a meeting at Glington Village Hall on Friday 13th October regarding the planning of a new housing development, to include a sports centre and football pitches, on the outskirts of Glington. Mike said he would try to make himself available to attend as a representative from the school.

Mike was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

3. **AMA successes and initiatives**

Rachel gave a brief summary of AMA activities. In the last year we gave funding to provide table tennis and other equipment for The Youth Centre used by Year 10 and 11 at lunchtimes. Art and textiles wanted visualisers to enable them to demonstrate close up skills to a whole group. PE wanted a portable projector with speakers to link to an ipod. The English department wanted funding for a theatre company for GCSE for Year 10. We provided refreshments and a raffle at the school Christmas and Summer Concerts. We held several second hand uniform sales and raised funds through a non uniform day for the students.

4. **Approval of the 2016 AGM minutes**

These were checked and approved as a true record.

5. **Financial summary**

In Julie's (Treasurer) absence Mark read out her financial report for the year ending 31st March 2017.

We started the year with	£6012.80
Receipts	£1707.68
Payments	£3116.85
Balance	£4603.63

6. **Election of the new committee**

Gill Bennett-Chair
Claire Cobourne-Vice Chair
Sally Cook- Secretary
Maurice Cook-Treasurer

7. **Meeting dates and planned events**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 6th November at 7.15pm at the school meeting room.

Forthcoming events are planned around the school calendar. We plan to sell uniform at the Year 8 parents evening on Fri Dec 8th. The date of the Christmas concert needs to be confirmed but we will plan to sell refreshments and hold a raffle at this event.

8. **Any other business**

Claire has offered to take on the washing and sorting of the second hand uniform.

It was discussed about the possibility of changing the AMA name to be more recognisable to parents who are familiar with the PTA in Primary School. This was to be discussed at the next meeting along with possible amendments to the AMA constitution.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

