**PTA Meeting**

**Monday 25th March 2019**

**Present:**

Kate Abbey, Annie Meharg, Kant Mann, Clare Cutting, Amy Lodge, Sarah Mitchard, Vicki Mowat, Leslie Leming, Rebekah Read, Emily Hughes, Lisa Govier, Jo Masani, Tracey Kehoe, Tara Gretton, Caroline Roofe

**Apologies:**

Katina Becket, Morag Lyall, Stacey Gardham

**Minutes of last Meeting:**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. They will be available on the Beechen Cliff School Website.

**Gavin Lewis: ‘Coffee Curators’ Fundraising Proposal**

Gavin is a parent at BCS with a son in Year 9. He has been a member of the PTA in previous years and is now a Parent Governor. He has recently set up a coffee business through which customers pay a regular subscription to receive their choice from a variety of different coffees delivered to their home. Gavin came along to the meeting to discuss the possibility of raising money for the PTA through the online sales of his coffee. He suggested that if customers set up a subscription online, a fund raising code could be used, which would allow a percentage of the payment to go to the Beechen Cliff PTA.

The possibility of a food and coffee morning was discussed with a potential date of Saturday 15th June. Riverford Food would be present alongside Coffee Curators. Parents would be able to sample the coffee and Riverford products (cake made from Riverford ingredients!). It is hoped that this would encourage people to sign up for both the coffee subscription and the Fruit and Vegetable boxes – both of which would provide extra funding for the PTA.

Other potential times to promote the coffee sales were suggested:

The Sixth Form Open Morning

Coinciding with and being present at other school events such as sports fixtures

**Chairs’ Report**

Kate addressed the group, thanking everyone for their contributions to the various fund raising events and schemes. She announced that she and Annie would be standing down as Co-chairs of the PTA at the end of the Academic Year. She stated that there were many good systems for communication with the School in place including PTA Year Reps, the regularly updated PTA page on the website, and the PTA twitter account, plus a number of ongoing schemes and activities such as 2nd hand Uniform sales run by a team of reps, Riverford events, 50:50 Club, and Give As You Live.

Kate advised that there would be handover notes for anyone wishing to take on the role.

Both Annie and Kate said that they had enjoyed their time and were very grateful for the huge amount of support and help they had from the PTA group in their role as Chairs

(It was agreed by the group that both Annie and Kate had worked incredibly hard and had been a very positive influence on the PTA. They will be missed.)

**Treasurer’s Report**

Annie provided the Treasurer’s report in the absence of Emma Ford. She reported that the Auction of Promises had made in the region of £15,100, a great achievement. The funds in the PTA account totaled around £22,700. Much of this is promised to the building of the new Clubhouse and to the Sports Department.

**50:50 Update**

Sarah Mitchard gave an update on the 50:50 Club. The 1st prize for the months of January and February is £112.50, 2nd prize is £75 and 3rd prize is £37.50. There is currently £1200 of funds in the 50:50 bank account and after paying out the prize money, Sarah is transferring £750 to the PTA account.

The PTA drew the winning numbers for January and February

January 1st prize: Sian Burton

January 2nd prize: Jo Masani

January 3rd prize: Clare james

February 1st prize: Alison Bradley

February 2nd prize: Jane Shearn

February 3rd prize: Kate Robuck

Sarah was thanked for all her hard work with the 50;50 Club.

**School Report**

Kant Mann thanked the PTA on behalf of the School Staff for their work and fund raising. He commented on the success of the Auction of Promises and reported that Mr. Davies has spoken to the builder concerning the purchase and construction of the Clubhouse.

He said that the music concert recently held by the School was well attended and mentioned a number of forthcoming School events:

The Quiz night to be run by the sixth form students in aid of project work with ‘People Against Poverty’ in Romania on 26th April is raising valuable funds for their upcoming trip to Romania (October half term).

The School Musical, Grease will take place 10th – 12th April.

Kant wanted to reassure Year 9 parents that he is trying hard to ensure that all the current year 9 boys wishing to go on the Austrian Ski Trip next Year will get a place. Currently there have been 35 places allocated and 8 boys remain on a waiting list.

Kant shared some performance data with the group, which indicates positive projected results. He explained however that such results also highlight an attainment gap between the ‘disadvantaged’ and ‘non-disadvantaged’ students.

Kant reported that a Pastoral Review was carried out by the Trust, which went well. Feedback from interviews with the boys was positive.

Alongside the current agencies represented in School (CAMS and Off The Record) Beechen is taking part in a national Pilot, Boys In Mind.

**Event and Activities - Review**

**Auction of Promises**

Kate and Annie reported on the Auction of Promises which made a profit of £15,100 to fund a new Club House and outdoor seating for the school. Huge thanks were given to the generous donors and bidders, Dan for his amazing work as chef on the night, Phil O’Hare the fabulous auctioneer, the incredible Auction of Promises team of Lisa, Tracey, Lesley, Katina and Morag, supported on the night by Emma, Jess, Stacey, Jane and Debbie and a host of very helpful sixth formers, to Sarah for organizing the essential card reader, to Emily for all her marketing on twitter and to Kant and Sarah and staff at the school for all their support. The night was lots of fun with a great atmosphere and it was wonderful to see so many people getting behind the school.

**Parent / Teacher Refreshments**

The Year reps who kindly organized teams of helpers were thanked and all those who helped on the evenings. Staff ( with a particular thank you from Mr Davies) and Parents were very grateful for the provision of refreshments and feedback has been very positive.

**Give as You Live**

Annie reported that Give as You Live has raised over £300 to date. Another call out through the newsletter will go out to encourage more people to sign up to the scheme.

**Second Hand Uniform**

The Second Hand Uniform team said that they might review pricing. They are in need of good quality items. It would be useful for them to know all the dates for upcoming events in advance to help with organizing stock and help. Annie and Kate thanked Amy, Lesley and Jo for all their great work and the excellent service they are providing, which is also bringing in valuable income to the PTA.

**Riverford**

Riverford continues to donate to the School through the sales of their Fruit and Vegetable boxes and a successful Year 8 event has already been held. The next payment will be made during the Easter Break. Vicki was thanked for all her work and enthusiasm.

**Funding Requests**

The Sports department has requested £4,000 for fixture expenditures which has been agreed, with £1,000 already transferred to them.

The £15,100 raised through the Auction of Promises will be spent on the Club House and Outdoor seating development.

£8,000 has been pledged by the PTA towards the cost of Design and Technology equipment to be paid over forthcoming years. The intention will be pay off a proportion of this at the end of this school year.

**Upcoming Events**

30th April Riverford Cookery Workshop open to all year groups.

7th May Riverford Cookery Workshop open to Year 7 only.

Dance Night – relaxed night at Bonghy-Bo to celebrate the end of the year. This is most likely to cost £10 per head. Date to be arranged.(now confirmed as Friday 5th July)

**Next meeting**

**7pm Monday 13th May, 2019, Staff Room**