

Jersey College for Girls Parents' Association
Minutes of a Committee Meeting held on Monday 4th February 2013

Members Present:

Penny Carter ("PC") - Chairperson
Katherine Bolton ("KB") - Secretary
Ian Meeks ("IM") - Treasurer
Carl Howarth ("CH") – School Principal
Janet Hodges ("JH") – Prep Rep
Sandra Costard ("SC")
Lyndsey Vidler ("LV") – Parent
Becky Spears ("BS") – Parent
Claire Bourne ("CB")
Alex Fearn ("AF")
Fiona Atkinson ("FA")
Laetitia Rebindaine ("LR")
David Carter ("DC")
Alison Brown ("ABn")

Apologies for absence:

Kathryn Slater ("KS") – Vice Principal
Stephen Whale ("SW") – Hon. Auditor
Ruth Siodlak ("RS")
Alison Cooper ("AC")
Karen Hayden ("KH") – Parent
Alexa Blampied ("AB")
Cathy Keir ("CK") – Parent
Allison Savery ("AS")

Welcome

PC welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished all present a Happy New Year. Following an initiative to extend an invitation to all parents, the meeting welcomed parent David Carter as a guest member.

Approval of Minutes from meeting held on 8th and 23rd October 2012

The Minutes of the two Meetings combined were approved and the chairman authorised to sign.

Matters Arising from previous Minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

Treasurer's Report

IM confirmed the Christmas raffle raised £352.00. All cheques for the 200 club have been distributed. The invoice for Leadership Prizes in the sum of £520.00 has been paid and the registration fee for the Association of Jersey Charities in the sum of £15.00 has been settled. Total funds in account amounts to £2,322.56.

Association of Jersey Charities

AF advised he is in receipt of the official pack received from Jersey Charities. The next annual return in the sum of £15.00 is due and, as this is a shared venture with JCG Prep, it was suggested that they could pay this sum as the senior school had paid the initial £15.00.

The pack also includes details on benefits available for the committee, relevant diary dates, the charity number to be included on all official documentation plus access details to the Jersey Charities website. It also includes instructions on how to reclaim GST. IM will review previous invoices and those carrying a notable sum of GST will be submitted for a

reclaim. It should be noted that some invoices were made payable to the school direct in which case, these would not be eligible for a GST refund.

AF reiterated that after the initial six month period the committee is eligible to apply for a grant to the maximum sum of £30,000 to fund specific college needs.

Funding Applications

AF advised that the first application to pursue would be the Co-Op Helping Hands initiative. AF has already liaised with Cormac Timothy and submitted an application for I pads to help elderly residents.

The second funding application would be to the Lions Club Annual Swimmarathon Committee. The Lions propose to donate to 50 charities this coming year in support of their 50th Anniversary. AF advised he his happy to make some enquiries for funding suggestions which fits with the Lions Criterium and will draft an application accordingly. The possibility of asking them for funds to host the next Charity Fair at Fort Regent could be one suggestion. This event will be hosted over two days' and 40 charities will be invited to host display stands with invitations extended to all schools to bring interested students to look at charity and voluntary work available.

IM was asked to resubmit the current Template for Funding Suggestions currently held by the school to KB and AF. This would be amended now that funding is available from the Parents' Association, The Jersey Group of Charities and the Foundation.

Foundation

The Foundation website has now launched with Jacksons acting as the main sponsor. The site is regularly monitored by the 6th Form girls working with Leanda. The Loyalty card has been launched to the 'Old Girls' and will shortly be launched to the Parents' of the current girls.

AF attended the Foundation meeting and reported that the Loyalty Scheme will cost £10.00 per month with discounts in named establishments given on presentation of the card. Currently a number of Corporate Sponsors are on board and Leanda is working on a way to manage them, particularly those offering the same service. The website also acts as a forum and committee members are welcome to feedback to her via the website. A number of responses have already been received from the Alumni.

CH suggested the Parents' Association should support the Loyalty Card launch and it was agreed a letter be sent to parents launching the 200 club, advising of the outcome of this meeting and supporting the Loyalty Card. It should also request again parents' ideas for fund raising

PC remained concerned as to where the PA fits within the Foundation. So far, no resolution has been achieved and this area needs exploring. The PA constitutions remains as one to support the views of the parents and should not be considered as a fund raising vehicle but appreciates limited funds are necessary. These can continue to be raised holding a raffle once per year and running the 200 club.

Additional information from the Foundation is the news that the Library Panels will be returning from the old building and the Music Programme has been extended for 3 years and raised to a figure of £30k per year as Mr and Mrs Tuckwell are so thrilled with Gerard Le Feuvre's work.

Gerard Le Feuvre is running a workshop for strings culminating with a String Jamboree on Friday 22nd February at 7.30. Anyone from the committee is welcome to attend.

Suggestion for Fund Raising

IM would wish to explore the possibility of hosting a Burns Night in 2014. The committee were in favour of the suggestion and will leave it to IM to draft some proposals for consideration.

Jersey Water 130th Anniversary Fund Appeal

Following an application for funding under an initiative launched by Jersey Water, our application was not successful.

200 Club

It was agreed a revised date should be set for the launch of the 200 Club.

Tertiary Education Update

PC advised that following initial consultations with the Education Department everything had gone quiet despite news that the Education Committee have put forward proposals to assess university students based on a household income rather than parental. The last committee meeting suggested that all schools be contacted and a discussion forum started by parents, however, there have been difficulties in accessing other Parents' Associations. David Carter indicated he would be happy to make some further enquiries to obtain contact details as it is felt there is still a lot of work to be done in this area.

Other committee suggestions were to link with the Parenting Pages in the JEP, as parenting doesn't just stop with infants and toddlers. PC to investigate further and enquire about hiring the facilities at the Town Hall to host a meeting. It was also felt that a States Member should be approached to assist. PC will also make contact with Peter Funk.

It was noted, however, that the cause name **MUST NOT** make reference to the JCG Parents' Association. It was agreed that PC, AF and LR will liaise and formulate an alternative reference name which can be used.

JCG Website

It was agreed that a description of what the PA is about should be inserted in the website. KB and AF will liaise.

Terrace Project

With the Spring Term looming it was agreed KB and SC will have a further attempt to finalise this project and bring it to a close.

Uniform

CH dispelled the myth that the uniform will be changing. There had been suggestions and presentations to the girls' and many liked the idea of introducing a Pinafore style dress, however, the suitability of this type of garment for the larger girls' is just not feasible. The current uniform will remain as is.

PTA Trustees

This remains an ongoing Agenda item.

Any Other Business

Snow Closure

Comment was made that the Education Department left the closing of schools very late on the morning of the snow fall. CH advised that the decision to be made will never be right as there are so many departments involved and weather forecasting is not predictable. On this occasion, however, the school learned about the closure at the same time as all parents and due to the conditions worsening the right decision was taken. Exams went ahead as planned with only one absentee.

Year 7 and 8 Reshuffle

CH advised parents of students in Years 7 and 8 have been notified of a reshuffle within the teaching groups. In future, students in the lower school will be reshuffled on an annual basis in order to create the opportunity to make/renew friendships.

Flags

Clarification on the flags purchased by the Parents' Association created further discussion as to which flag should be flown from the main school flag pole outside the main door. It was suggested that the school flag may need some attention following weather damage and the possibility of having House Flags which could be raised when houses win events in similar way to the Victoria College House Pennants. CH confirmed the current flag flying is the Eco Friendly Flag but on special anniversaries the Union Jack is hoisted.

Jersey Enterprise Awards

JCG has been nominated for two awards: one for the JCG Serves initiative and the second for Young Enterprise.

Tombolla

Mrs Le Feuvre has been in touch to advise Colin Rowe has created a beautifully crafted tombolla for raffle ticket draws. The wood is all recycled from old desks and the item is a work of art. The tombolla is available to both the JCG Parents' Association and the Prep PTA and maybe found on the wide low window sill in the Finance Office.

Date for the Next Meeting

Date of next meeting: Monday 18th March at 6.30. CH offered his apologies.