

Friends Association of Great Chart Primary School Committee Meeting
Tuesday 6th February 2024- 7pm - Great Chart School

1. Present

Amanda Oliver, Kate Brown, Wendy Pang, Sarah-Marie Collins, Natalie Phillips, Claire Tatton, Vicki Prigmore, Michelle Noakes, Shelly King, Jennifer Keen

2. Apologies

Khadija Hamid

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Accepted as a true account of the meeting.

4. President's Report

Welcome to our February meeting and to our new officers and trustees. Congratulations to our new Chair and Vice Chairs: Amanda, Katie and Khadija. I'm sure they are very excited to lead the Friends Association during 2024 and I know they are very committed to do as much to raise money as possible. I'm sure they will have plenty of support behind them.

It seems strange mentioning Christmas but once again Elfridges was a great success and enjoyed by all. We had some great donations from our families and hopefully you made some people feel very special with their lovely gift at Christmas. We have had a substantial donation of Christmas wrapping paper from Tesco's so we will have plenty of gift wrap for the next couple of years! Thank you to Mr & Mrs Parish for organising this through their daughter, who works at Tesco's. The discos were also a great success and once again very well supported.

To finish the Christmas term the children were entertained by The Hobgoblin Theatre Company. The Three Musketeers Panto was enjoyed by all: staff and children. Thank you for all your hard work to enable this to happen.

Now looking forward to the year ahead with new officers, we are all excited to hear plans for forthcoming events and how you are going to continue to support the school.

Looking at the meeting dates, I've also added a date to May as there didn't seem to be one scheduled: 21st May.

My advice would be to keep things as simple as possible: events come around very quickly and with generally only a core group of helpers, the simpler the better is the best option. Support and help for the events is also crucial, so to forward plan and to secure this first will help ease any worries leading up to each event. Perhaps if all the events could be agreed as early as possible after the AGM, then dates etc can be advertised and help secured.

To finish, once again thank you so much for supporting the school. Your help is absolutely crucial to be able to enhance our curriculum offer to the children. Good luck for the coming year.

Thank you

5. Chairperson's Report

Hello and welcome to our first friends meeting of 2024 after the AGM.

Myself, Khadija and Kate would like to thank everyone for their support in voting for us. We hope that we can continue the success of the past years. I think we have a good strong association and really look forward to seeing what we can achieve in 2024!

We have some dates in the diary already that takes us nicely to the end of the year.

Our first event will be a coffee afternoon on Friday 23rd February, followed by the World Book Day Scavenger hunt (2-3 rd March), the popular "Someone Special" day and then the Easter Raffle.

Also, if anyone has any ideas etc then please do let us know.

If you can't make the meetings, we will post the events / dates etc on the whatsapp group so there is no way of escape!

Thank you

6. Treasurer's Report

Income since last report

None.

Outgoings since last report

Date	Event	Item	Outgoing
17/01/2024	School donation	2024 annual donation	£11,000.00
		Total	£11,000.00

Annual Donation

Friends Association to discuss feasibility of increasing our donation this year.

Current Balance

£13,146.05 in bank, plus petty cash in treasurer's possession.

At the AGM, it was suggested that we increase our donation to the school from £11000 to £15000.

The committee agreed to increase the donation to £13000 with an extra £2000 donation if future fundraising is successful

7. Coffee Afternoon

Previous Coffee Mornings have not been well attended and so we will try a Coffee Afternoon ahead of pick up to see if this encourages more parents to attend.

This will be held on Friday 23rd February at 2:15pm in the Community Room.

There will be sheets for parents to sign up to help at events.

8. World Book Day Hunt

To be held on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March.

Preparations have been going well and we received donations of books from Pegasus Elliot Publishers and Curly Tale books.

We have also been promised books from Austin Macauley Publishing, Blossom Publishing

and Usborne Books.

Amanda has spoken to Great Chart & Singleton Parish Council and Ashford Borough Council who are happy for the event to take place.

Friday 1st March – Amanda and Sarah-Marie will walk the route and put up book characters.

Monday 4th March – Amanda and Sarah-Marie will go round and collect the book characters back in again.

World Book Day maps will be sold from Monday 26th February - Friday 1st March

Volunteers to sell maps:

Monday – Amanda, Kate and Vicki

Tuesday – Amanda and Sarah-Marie

Wednesday – Amanda and Sarah-Marie

Thursday – Amanda, Sarah-Marie and Khadija

Friday – Natalie and Vicki

Laura Rowlands from Usborne Books also offered to run an online book fair. Sales of books would then allow the school to buy books from Laura's shop.

This was agreed to.

9. **Something Special Gift Shop**

To be held on Friday 8th March.

1st March - Non School Uniform Day in exchange for donations.

Volunteers to collect donations: Kate, Vicki, Sarah-Marie, Jennifer and Claire

Natalie and Amanda to help move the donations to the small hall.

4th March 9:15am – Donations to be sorted through

Volunteers for the event: Amanda, Sarah-Marie, Natalie, Claire, Jennifer, Khadija.

10. **Easter Raffle**

To be drawn on Monday 25th March

Donations are beginning to be collected. Marks and Spencer have donated a Chocolate Dog.

Sarah-Marie has contacted the community champions at Tesco and ASDA.

Shelley is going to speak to Lindt.

Natalie suggested we ask Keel Toys for a donation of an Easter themed cuddly toy.

Tickets to be sold Monday 18th – Friday 22nd March.

Volunteers:

Monday – Amanda and Vicki

Tuesday – Amanda and Sarah-Marie

Wednesday – Michelle, Amanda and Sarah-Marie

Thursday – Amanda, Sarah-Marie and Kate

Friday – Jennifer and Vicki

11. **AOB**

Vicki asked if anyone else could store the Popcorn Machine.

She has agreed to store it until the Summer Fete

12. **Dates of Next Meetings**

Tuesday 12th March

Tuesday 23rd April

Tuesday 21st May

Tuesday 18th June

Tuesday 9th July

13. **Future Events**

Friday 23rd February - Coffee Afternoon 2:15pm in the Community Room

Monday 26th February - Friday 1st March- Selling Scavenger Hunt Maps

Friday 1st March- Non Uniform Day for Something Special Gift Shop Donations

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March- World Book Day Scavenger Hunt

Monday 4th March- Friends sorting donations in the small hall

Friday 8th March- Someone Special Sale

Monday 18th- Friday 22nd March- Selling Easter Raffle Tickets

Monday 25th March- Easter Raffle Draw

Friday 17th May - Discos

Saturday 22nd June - Summer Fete

Saturday 13th July - Leavers' Party

Friday 18th October - Movie Night

Sunday 3rd November- Firework Event