



## AGM minutes: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Matter
<h3>Attendance</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From school: Mr Perrin, Mrs Frost</li> <li>- FWSA Committee: Jo Tomlinson and Sarah Jones (Chairs), Sasha Pigeon (out-going Treasurer), Anne Broadbent (incoming Treasurer), Helen Wilson (Secretary)</li> <li>- FWSA volunteers: Ten parents</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Apologies from Jo Sambrook (Media and Communications)</li> </ul>
<h3>Chairs Report (Jo Tomlinson and Sarah Jones)</h3> <p>“Welcome everyone, thanks for attending our AGM. It has been a whirlwind 16 months since myself and Sarah took over the Chair position of FWSA from Jane Stern. We have been kept busy with the return of a jam-packed fundraising events calendar. Getting to grips with the finer details of popular events such as our Fireworks Extravaganza, Worm Charming and of course the Grotto &amp; Elfridges has kept us busy. This couldn’t have been done without the help of the out going committee members, for which we would like to extend our gratitude.</p> <p>We have had an extremely successful 16 months. We were thrown in at the deep end with the organisation of our hugely popular Fireworks Extravaganza, but with the amazing help of school staff and FWSA volunteers had a fantastic evening, with the newly added hot dogs being a complete sell out! We built on the things we learnt from 2021 and in 2022 dipped our toes into the world of online tickets. These, on the whole were a hit, and we have understood a few of the teething issues to make this year even slicker on the gate! We had some really positive comments on the night about how much quicker it was to gain entry, and how amazed they were that we could scan tickets!</p> <p>We also seem to have gained a wider community following with families returning for a second year from outside of the immediate locality. Fireworks was followed by Santa’s grotto and Elfridges, which due to the success using the outside hut the previous year was agreed to continue with this. These events are always really popular with the children and families and as always were really well supported. We followed a similar format again in 2022, but experimented with an online order system, which didn’t go quite as well as expected, but we have ideas of how to improve and always welcome to new suggestions.</p> <p>The Willaston Worm Charming Championships was the other big event we were involved in for 2022. Unfortunately, we did have to slightly scale back the number of stalls we had due to volunteer numbers. But, despite the weather throwing everything at us we had a fantastic day, and enquiries are already coming into our inbox about this year’s event!</p> <p>Other events we also ran included a Valentine’s playground sale, Easter Egg trail, Sunflower Competition, Jubilee afternoon tea at the school pop up art gallery, raffles at Christmas and Summer, Pop up Christmas shops, and selling refreshments at Christmas shows.</p>

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Thanks to the fantastic support from parents, families and the wider community we have been able to fund, commission and complete the new bike shelter including bike and scooter racks, with an additional scooter rack by the early years entrance gate. Both of these are already well used and I'm sure this will increase with the coming of better weather. We have funded an IT upgrade to enable current iPads to be upgraded and integrated with current learning apps. Other funding, we have provided has purchased Jubilee commemorative coins, sports day ice lollies and subsidised Y6 hoodies.

Our next funding project is for the Place of Space. This is an outdoor area to provide an alternative at break times for more quiet, chilled activities. This has been the brainchild of the Forest Leaders and Mrs Patrick who have produced an amazing design and given us ideas of items they would like purchasing. As part of the design, they have included suggestions from every class to make it a truly inclusive project. We met last week with the leaders and Mrs Patrick to firm up ideas and make an action plan to prioritise how to fundraise, and our first mission is groundworks for the area, so we will be putting a call out for volunteers to get hands on clearing the outside space and getting the area prepared for siting seating and work benches. If anyone has experience of garden landscaping type work we would love to tap into your knowledge and experience with this project.

We have also been given a shopping list of new IT equipment to be used in classrooms and have agreed with the Forest team that we should also aim to provide these alongside the Place of Space project.

We always welcome input and ideas from members new and old who are also willing to help implement them, and in so doing, support our school. If you do have any suggestions, these can be made at FWSA meetings, by email or by finding us on the playground.

The AGM is the FWSA's only formal meeting of the year, covering committee elections, and the treasurers annual financial report. Before we commence these formalities, I would like to take a few moments to extend some thank yous.

- Firstly, thank you to the members of the committee who somehow manage to pull together and organise amazing events, despite full time jobs, families and various other commitments.
  - Further to the committee, we would like to of course thank Mr Perrin and his staff, we are extremely grateful for their ongoing support and assistance.
  - Parents and families of the school who support our events so generously
  - Landmarc Timber who built our fantastic new bike shelter working during the Christmas break to minimise disruption during term time
  - We have also received many generous donations from local businesses, who have all been individually thanked.
- It goes without saying, that without all the FWSA volunteers, who generously bake, man stalls, lend equipment, sponsor, donate and contribute there would be no FWSA events.

I hope this year the FWSA will continue to gain more support and build upon what we have previously achieved."

## Treasurers Report – Sasha Pigeon

"Thank you for coming today for our AGM, which will be my last AGM in an official position. I had a quick look back over the years of fundraising and spending I have been involved with and felt very proud of us as a group of

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parents and what we have achieved. We have fundraised and successfully funded huge projects like the library, the trim trail area, computer and Lego equipment, sensory room, reception area outdoor flooring, and our lovely bike shed. We have bought Numicon math equipment for the children, contributed towards year 6 hoodies over the years, replaced various class rugs, bought reception school bags, jubilee coins and even paid for Christmas panto one year. These are all great things big and small that the children have all benefited from over the years of the FWSA fundraising, and the children will continue to benefit from our efforts.

Since Covid there has been a shift in our fundraising, our main events always being Worm Charming, Fireworks and Christmas. Previously we have also included a lot of smaller fundraising events such as cake sales, lolly sales, silent auctions, Halloween sweets, lucky numbers, clothing recycling, cauliflower cards and recently sunflower competition, art exhibition and easter map trail. The shift in our fundraising has found that with the lack of volunteers these smaller fundraising events are much harder to do, and not only do they remove the smaller fundraising efforts but they are fun events that the children can enjoy.

Our last financial year has been a good one, with us finally spending some of that money we have raised. For the September 2021 to August 2022, we have fundraised a massive achievement of £12,195.69 with our main events (Worm Charming, Fireworks and Christmas) raising 87% of those funds. Our spending for that year was low with us only contributing towards year 6 leavers hoodies and jubilee coins. That was definitely not because we did not have the funds, but because our main goal of the bike shed replacement took longer to find available builders and materials – which is all now sorted.

As we move into our current financial year, we have removed the spending brake and have successfully completed the bike shed fundraising which we seem to have been raising funds for over 2 years. The project cost us £7,287 which included not only the shed but the bike and scooter racks, and it has been great seeing the kids race in to park their bikes/ scooters. We have also funded IT upgrade for the iPads, and the usual year 6 leavers hoodies. We have more items on our list to spend money on, which will also mean new fundraising goals to set and meet, some of which Jo has just mentioned.”

**Please see Addendum below for Treasurers fundraising and spending figures for this financial year.**

## Nominations

- It was noted that the FWSA Committee has evolved since our last AGM in Sept 2021, having said goodbye to Hayley Roberts and Lisa Vost as secretaries.
- Helen Wilson joined as acting Secretary.
- Sasha Pidgeon is stepping down from her role as Treasurer and received grateful thanks for the tireless work she has put into the role and her invaluable mentorship of new committee members.
- Nominations were made and seconded for Treasurer and Secretary and formally approved onto Committee:
- New Committee structure:
  - o Chair's – Jo Tomlinson and Sarah Jones
  - o Treasurer – Anne Broadbent
  - o Secretary – Helen Wilson
  - o Media and Communications – Jo Sambrook

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## Head Teacher's vote of thanks

Mr Perrin expressed his gratitude to Sasha as outgoing Treasurer, to the FWSA Committee members and volunteers and all Willaston Primary parents, noting that in times of decreasing school budgets, the fundraising through the FWSA has paid for things that the school would not normally be able to provide for the children.

## Addendum

### Treasurers Report on Fundraising/Spending Sep 2021 – Aug 2022

FWSA Categories	Sum of Amount
Worm Charming 2022	£5,232.38
Fireworks 2021	£3,129.64
Christmas Fair 2021	£2,227.21
Extra Fundraising 2022	£1,015.56
EasyFundraising 2022	£236.29
Extra Fundraising 2021	£120.34
Donation 2021	£95.00
Valentines 2022	£83.50
EasyFundraising 2021	£55.77
Spending 2022	-£1,038.50
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>£11,157.19</b>

Spending 2022 breakdown:	
ParentKind Membership	£ 116.00
Year 6 Leavers Hoodies	£ 165.00
Jubilee Coin token	£ 757.50
	<b>£ 1,038.50</b>

Extra Fundraising breakdown 2021/2022:	
Amazon Smile	£ 110.39
Clothing collection	£ 99.00
Jubilee Art Exhibition	£ 197.76
Easter Egg trail	£ 38.00
Co-Op donation	£ 450.00
Sports Day	£ 190.25
Sunflower Competition	£ 35.50
Year 6 Production	£ 15.00
	<b>£ 1,135.90</b>

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