



Colchester High School

Colchester High School Association

Wellesley Road,

Colchester,

CO3 3HD

COLCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION AGM

Friday 6th November 2020 9:15 –10:30am

Chair: Murdo McLellan

Co-Chairs: Nicola Bennett (NB), Chrissy Drake (CD), Caroline Nicholls (CN), Faye Sephton (FS)

Treasurer: Helen Clarke

Attendees: Evelyn Burns, Nikki Fisher, Vanessa McMahon, Harriet Croydon, Evelyn Burns, Carole Goodwin, Reena Patel, Karen Gracie-Langrick

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Highlights from the past year

The Chair referred attendees to the AGM Report and thanked Caroline Nicholls for producing the document.

The 2019/20 academic year was, for obvious reasons, a year of two halves for the CHSA, with a successful first half of the year, followed by cancellation of all fundraising events from March, including the Summer Fete and Summer Party. Despite this, we achieved the following:

- £7347 income raised from events and uniform sales
- £3963 profit from events and uniform sales
- £3940 distributed to the school

We are also carrying gift stock for our Christmas, Mother's Day and Father's Day gift stalls and we continue to hold over funds from previous years' profits. We therefore have, after committed expenditure in the region of £7735 available for distribution to the school.

Our events not only raise valuable funds used by the entire school, but are also really fun for the pupils, particularly in the Lower School.

We would like to thank all those parents, grandparents, sponsors, staff and pupils who have continued to show their support, whether it be through donations or helping organise or attending events. Without your help, none of this would be possible.

3. Financial Report

The Treasurer referred attendees to the financial report and that there is £11,324 in the bank (excluding Mother's Day takings). Some events and bids from the year have not taken place due to Covid, so have been postponed. Once those have been accounted, the available balance is £7347, but it was advised that this should not all be spent as there will be limited fund raising this year.

4. Election of Trustees

Caroline reminded everyone that 5 current CHSA Exec members had planned to step down at the end of 2019/20, so we are asking that members do think about themselves or others who may wish to step forward to run the CHSA next year. Mrs GL also highlighted that she actively encourages parents to support the CHSA where possible as is very keen to see the charity continue.

It was proposed that the existing 6 members of the CHSA Executive remain for an additional year. The Chair invited challenge to this proposal and/or new members to step forward. The outcome was no change as follows: Chair, Murdo McLellan, Co-Chairs, Nicola Bennett, Chrissy Drake, Caroline Nicolls, Faye Sephton. Treasurer, Helen Clarke. All remain as Trustees of the CHSA.

The Chair encouraged attendees to engage with the CHSA, in particular with volunteering to help at events. The CHSA Committee WhatsApp and Facebook groups.

5. Funding requests

Reception Playground equipment: Bid requested by Early Years (£500). **AGREED but recommended £250** as few children get the benefit

Xmas lunch: Bid submitted by Laura Hyams Catering (£100) **AGREED**

Wraparound and playground equipment: Bid submitted by Elaine White ASC (£270) - **AGREED**

Xmas tree outside the school: Bid submitted by Stacey Lane (£250) **AGREED**

Breakfast and After School club board games: Bid requested by Jackie Briggs (£100). Suggestion to ask children to bring in any games from home on Christmas Jumper Day (for a local charity). **AGREED but only for £50**

Tree artwork for Reception area: Bid requested by Emma Traynor (various costs depending on size) Request to ask Art department if the installation cost could be reviewed as unclear why larger unit is more expensive. **Subject to clarifying the costs, AGREED to larger one at £325+vat**

Wellness and mindfulness boxes: Bid requested by Cara Allen (£355) - **AGREED**

Virtual Maths workshop: Bid requested by Michelle Hewes (£800 +vat). Comments on whether this was close to the curriculum, rather an enhancement. Recommend postpone to next year, especially as it is expensive. **POSTPONE** to later in the year

Forest School equipment: Bid requested by Mr Raynor (£300). Comments on whether this should be match funded by Cognita – Mrs GL to review. CHSA Don't want to keep funding on an ongoing basis. Mr Raynor is being trained so they will have the skills inhouse. These are set up costs to be used for the whole school. **AGREED as a one off.**

CHSA give-back chocolate pack for Xmas or as part of a Film afternoon (instead of Panto): Bid requested by CHSA committee. **AGREED.**

6. Upcoming events

In light of the current situation, the events in the short term are limited.

FS provided the following update:

- Sadly, we have chosen not to do the Christmas Cards this year, as having reviewed several suppliers their costs have increased during Covid so are not cost effective.
- Additionally, we have decided not to run a Christmas Raffle and will hopefully be able to organise one for later in the year.

However, on the positive side, we have agreed the following:

- Break the Uniform Rules day is planned for the 17th November
- The other opportunities were also offered to the school:
 - CHSA to decorate the school with Christmas Decs. The school will review if/how they can let us into the school etc. CD also suggested that each class could also make paper chain decorations for their classrooms.
 - As the Lower School children are not going to the Panto, we suggested that if the school are able to stream a film then the CSHA would fund a goody bag.
 - We would also fund CHSA treat for the Senior school children such as a Selection Box. If the film does not go ahead for the Lower School, then they would also receive similar.

7. Meeting close

The meeting concluded at 10:30am as agreed.

The next meeting is planned for Friday 29th January 2021.