

OAKWOOD PARK GRAMMAR SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
18th OCTOBER 2016 19.00

Centenary Building, OPGS, Tonbridge Rd Maidstone

Present: Barbara Saul (Chair)
Rachel Bain (Treasurer)
Julie Murton
Jane Fraser
Gill Wlodarski
Liz Donohoe
David Bissell
Kevin Moody
Dawn Jull
Sarah Davis (Secretary)

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Barbara welcomed all and gave an annual report,

"The first thing I want to do is say "thank you". To the team who work incredibly hard, to Juliet as our invaluable school liaison, to John and the school grounds team, to the teachers, staff who gladly help us with evens and in-school admin, to the prefects and other students who lend willing hands when we need them, to the parents for supporting us and baking cakes. Thank you. You are all brilliant.

So, our second year and we're definitely getting there. This past year we have:

- *Held a couple of very successful cake sales, thanks to so many parents joining in*
- *Supported school events with refreshments*
- *Provided a programme for the school play*
- *Raised further funds through the Quiz night, Golf day, raffles and non-uniform days.*

Perhaps most importantly we have built a strong foundation for the Parents Association to grow and support parents.

Then as this school year started we held a successful welcome event for parents of the new year 7 students – this is exactly what we wanted to achieve and what the school wanted from us. And having also raised sufficient funds to now help "Furnish the future" of the school, we are in the process of not only providing seating for the area between this new building and the main block, we are in a position to support planting of the garden areas AND bring together parents to help with the actual planting.

For the year ahead, we will enjoy more events – the annual Quiz Night on 4th November, the new Oakwood's Got Talent later the same month, cake sale and non-uniform day just before Christmas, then into 2017 and a Race Night in February, an Easter Chocolate Hamper raffle as well as another cake sale and non-uniform day before Easter and an ambitious but exciting Summer Fayre on the field that will need its own team to make it happen but it could be brilliant.

We want more parents on the committee and/or available to help at events. The more we have the more we can do. We also want to ensure continuity – do what we can now to enable the PA to thrive. To help with this it is time for a vice-chair and Pauline has offered to take up this role. I'd also like to have a team specifically working on prizes – a challenge but a worthy one that could reap significant rewards and make the raffles simpler. These are some of my own ambitions for the PA this year and the others on the committee will have plenty of their own to add. Before we know it we will have to register for charity status.

It is a privilege to chair the PA and this brilliant team. Thank you again."

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Rachel gave a financial report and circulated the annual statement. We have raised approx. £4000

Kevin thanked all the PA for their support and fund raising.

Kevin and Barbara have discussed possible ways to use the funds raised

- Furniture for the small playground outside the Centenary building: 4 – 5 fixed picnic benches. Keen for them to be durable and Kevin is actively researching possibilities
- Long term they would like canopies but very expensive
- A caterers pod / hut
- Planting – Barbara advised several parents have volunteered to help with the planting on a Sat morning. Discussion re native / non- native plants. Need to be "child –proof" colourful and low maintenance. Parents to sponsor plants /tree. Donations, soil improver will also be needed. Potters Nurseries to be approached. Do we have a parent who is also a nurseryman? Barbara to request if this could be asked in the forthcoming HT newsletter.

Committee Members

Dawn Jull would like to join committee and gave details to RB

No new names proposed for positions

Chair – Barbara Saul to continue – nominated by Sarah Davis, seconded by Jane Fraser

Treasurer – Rachel Bain to continue – nominated by Julie Murton, seconded by Barbara Saul

Secretary – Sarah Davis to continue – nominated by Rachel Bain, seconded by Barbara Saul

Vice Chair – Barbara proposed we have a vice chair to ensure cover and progression. Pauline Burton volunteered – nominated by Sarah Davis, seconded by Rachel Bain.

Julie Murton wishes to come off the committee and to become an associate member. This was agreed and Julie will continue to be our link between the PA and the Board of Governors. Julie to continue to receive communications re the PA and will need to be emailed individually as does not receive them direct from school as not on parents email list as her sons are no longer at Oakwood.

AGM concluded.

