



COOKHAM DEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA MINUTES

of the meeting held on Thursday 30th April 2026

ATTENDEES:

Pippa Jeans [PJ] 3
Marie Hepworth [MH] 1/5
Maddi Parkinson [MaP] 1
Isadora Bennett [IB] R/5
Mrs Reekie [FR]
Michelle Patiar [MiP] 1/3
Tanya Srikanthan [TS] R

Clare Parks [CP] R/3
Claire Greenwood [CG] 6
Holly Jenkins [HJ] R/3
Ozge Bayraktar [OB] 1
Vanisha Kneafsey [VK] 1
Tori Dixon [TD] 5
Jo Steele [JS] 5
Michelle DeVoy [MD] 2

1. WELCOME, THANKS & FINANCE UPDATE

MaP opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. She gave thanks to the outgoing Chair [PJ] for her hard work and gave a gift of flowers/vouchers on behalf of the PTA.

Apologies have been received from Vicky Holloway, Jana Harris, Gemma (Year 4 rep), Jess Harris, and Sylvia Rai.

MaP handed over to MiP to give the financial update:

- Storytelling night event which raised £232.60
- The final figures for the sale of refreshments at the Yr 5 performance are to be confirmed as the event only happened last night but approximate value is £230.
- No other events have taken place since the last meeting.
- This leaves us with £35,200 currently in the PTA bank account with the following already earmarked:
 - £10,000 for outdoor classroom previously agreed
 - £170 for Neuro Diversity books previously agreed
 - £150 for fiction books previously agreed
- All other agreed funds have been transferred to the school account
- This leaves ~£25,000 available

MiP gave thanks to Year 2 for managing the Storytelling night and Yr 5 for the bar at the Yr 5 performance. Unfortunately, the payment account wasn't working on the night so we could only take cash and IOU. Thanks to TD for chasing up and organizing the payments. **ACTION: MiP to look into the card payments. UPDATE: This has now been resolved.**

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / VOTE

Cookham Dean village fete silent auction. The village team have asked if we would be willing to organise their silent auction for a portion of the profits. It was agreed that this could be worthwhile but we would need someone to manage and agree the amount upfront with the village team.

ACTION: CP to pick up with village team.

Summer Fete update

MiP and CP gave a quick update on the status of the Summer Fete.

- Most big actions have been done
- A reminder it is World Cup Football themed
- Centre activity will be a climbing wall
- Mitch will be doing football challenges
- Confirmed that fire engine will be in attendance
- There will be a water run
- The children will be making colour flags to display – this ties in with modern language day
- Bouncy castles are being slightly scaled back this year in lieu of the climbing wall
- There will be hair braiding and face painting
- We have secured £580 sponsorship
- We will be putting up estate agent boards outside volunteer houses for extra funds
- There will be no Presto pizza this year but we will be doing tuck shop lunch boxes instead as part of the café. The BBQ will run as normal
- Performances by choir and Lights Up
- Eco warriors will be making signs for the bins and will be on duty on the day to manage these. They will also be running a plant stall.

There was a discussion as to whether there would be a football match on that day and if so, it would be good to rig up a screen for people to view.

There was a discussion about whether we should sell tokens / vouchers for the BBQ/Bar up front? We do need to be aware there is a charge to use jotform to collect money.

MiP mentioned that unfortunately it looks like the raffle will need to be physical tickets rather than the digital format we introduced last year. We have a lot of people who buy on the day and the current digital system can't manage this. It was agreed maybe we can look into a hybrid model.

FR mentioned that the school changed their Wi-Fi provider last September so coverage may be better this year. PJ mentioned we also have our own PTA Wi-Fi but this is restricted to only those taking payments on the day.

MiP mentioned the possibility of doing a slime tray activity – this was met with mixed reviews!

There was a discussion on finding eco prizes. Unfortunately, this is difficult to do for 50p stalls as eco prizes are expensive and then we wouldn't make any money.

MiP reminded everyone that she has a contact at Lidl so any food purchases should be managed through her.

Boundary walk volunteer

MaP mentioned that we are looking for a volunteer to organise the annual Boundary Walk that takes place in October. The organiser needs to start registering participants over the summer holiday. JS agreed to take this on.

Chutney volunteer

MaP confirmed that this will be managed by a group of people rather than one person going forward.

PTA Shed

It was mentioned that the PTA shed is growing mould again. Unfortunately, although the shed has been reinforced, the existing mould still continues to grow. **ACTION: MiP and CP plan to have a clear out to assess.**

VCF Signatory

MiP is in the process of updating the signatories on the VCF Santander account – she will be adding TS and Barbara Croft. She asked for approval from the PTA members attending which was agreed by all.

FR mentioned that there is a Governor taskforce looking at rebranding the request for VCF donations.

PJ reminded MaP that we would need to update the new started pack for the new Reception class parents.

PTA fridge

IB mentioned that though we have always used the school fridge to temporarily keep drinks in for PTA events, the new caterers would not allow this for the Yr 5 performance. She therefore wanted to look at purchasing a dedicated fridge.

FR was concerned where this would go as we are already limited on space but IB mentioned we could use the space where the current freezer is but get a taller fridge/freezer. FR said she would speak to the caterer about future events but was happy for the PTA to use the freezer space as long as we didn't use anymore space. £500 was agreed for a new fridge freezer.

Wishlist

FR requested the following items:

- Additional £4,500 for the outdoor classroom – so total £14,500
- New reading scheme books £4,560
- Renovation of the pond £2,561
- Laptop trolley £550
- Ipad trolley £189
- Multi foreign language books for the library £100
- The emotional wellbeing ambassadors would like some outdoor cushions £100
- Total ~£12,500

The above was agreed by all.

FR gave some further information regarding the new reading scheme investment. They are working with a consultant to develop the scheme. It is felt that the current scheme (Bug Club) does not challenge all children. This scheme is for Years 2-6, the Little Wandle Phonics scheme remains in place for lower years. FR has spoken to education professionals and looked at various schemes prior to choosing this one. This is a long term investment for the school and will provide 1 book for every 2 children across 8 books.

3. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Child choice day on 1st May. This will be cash only.
- Legoland Tickets for Inset day 19th June. We have secured 150 tickets, these will go on sale before half term, £24 per ticket.
- Non school uniform day for raffle – 5th June
- Sports Day will take place on Monday 8th June. FR mentioned they have moved Sports day to Monday as she feels the children are very tired by Friday.
- Summer Disco – 18th June
- New reception parents evening – 24th June
- Summer Fete– 27th June
- Musical soiree– 1st July
- Yr 6 production– TBC FR will confirm
- Leavers vs Remainers Cricket – 14th July

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS / NEXT MEETING / CLOSE

There was a discussion about having a second hand uniform sale at the Summer Fete but it was felt it would be better to do this as a separate event.

It was agreed the NEXT PTA MEETING would be held on Friday 17th July at 2.15pm at school.

There was no other business and the meeting was closed.