

**Minutes of the Lacon Childe PTA meeting
Monday 27th September 2021**

Attending: Sharon Wakeman, Tracey Clinton, Sarah Price, Zoe Baggot, Tracy Pearce, Darren Reynolds (for second half of meeting).

1. Apologies:

None

2. Matters Arising:

On agenda

3. Treasurer's Report:

£8,749.73 in bank account. Some small expenses still to come out of Bike Show (Katerfresh and Air Ambulance), but £3,605.80 profit made on the day. 10% will go to Air Ambulance.

4. Feedback on Classic Bike Show

All agreed that the show had been a great success, with a real 'buzz' on the day. Feedback had been very positive and there had been great support from staff and students volunteering on the day.

ACTION: Darren to send out Headteacher awards to students who volunteered.

- **Entrance and parking**

This had generally worked well and the idea of getting all bikes to pay to park was the right approach so that we generate as much funds as we can, even if people only want to meet their biker friends on site. This works at other shows such as Wistanstow. Some people (about 7 bikers) refused to pay the entrance fee and either hung around outside, or left.

There wasn't enough space to park all bikes 'behind' the entrance where people paid so some were still 'outside' in the staff car park area which was inconsistent. Next year, bike parking could be expanded to where the trade stalls were and also all vans and table tennis tables could be removed to make more space and park them in a single place.

Another solution would be to have the entrance in the car park, a few metres from the road (to prevent traffic backing up on Highway) so that all bikers have to go past the paying entrance, even if then parked in 2 different places.

Ideally there would be a one-way system so that people arriving and leaving can be segregated for safety.

Some people complained that the entry fee was cash only, which was also an issue with the catering. Tracey and Darren suggested we could look into having a card machine which could be used in school and for PTA events as both bank with Lloyds.

ACTION: Tracey will ask the Finance Team to contact Lloyds about a card machine.

If a card machine can't be obtained, we need to promote that event is cash only next year.

Walkie talkies to aid communication at next year's event would be good (Rache is getting her kids some for Christmas so we can borrow these).

It was suspected that re-entry tickets were being handed to people's mates to get them free entry, so we need to revisit wristbands again, although these are hard to put on when people are still on their bikes with leathers on.

There had been a comment about lack of signage meaning school could not be found, but this was only a single complaint.

Interestingly, despite the fact that the Hall felt busy until late, all bikers not exhibiting had left site by between 2.30 and 3pm, probably due to the forecast of rain. It may be worth bringing the end time forward in future if weather forecast bad.

- **Catering**

Tina from the catering team at Lacon had been fantastic again. She also said she really enjoyed doing the show. The new kitchen set up is fantastic and the ovens cooked food efficiently.

Volunteer help in the kitchen was fantastic, from parents, staff and students.

Cups and saucers weren't popular so Darren had got the mugs from the staff room. A second urn for hot water would be helpful.

We would benefit from starting cooking earlier, perhaps 9:30am rather than 10am so that exhibitors can get hot drinks and breakfasts earlier, which will reduce risk of queues. A team to prepare the kitchen on Saturday night would help.

The quality of food from suppliers was excellent, so will use again.

Items sold:

Breakfasts	54
Sausage baps	39
Bacon baps.	59
S + b baps	17
Beans/egg on toast	3
Cold filled rolls approx	70
Total items approx.	242

The response of cakes from Year 7 was fantastic. Cutting up the whole cakes took a long time, so it was suggested we could bring cake stands to display them more attractively and cut them up when requested.

- **Exhibitors**

There were 63 exhibitors, which was a big last minute increase. In some previous years there had been 120, but Covid uncertainty had made people nervous of committing. Tracey advised that the demographic of exhibitors like the personal touch of being phoned and suggested splitting up the contacts list between PTA members to ring people from June onwards.

There had been some feedback that the PA system wasn't loud enough.

- **Stalls**

There had been several auto jumble stalls this year, but only 1 reported doing well on the day, whereas others had only covered their costs. It was thought that maybe bikers aren't able to carry their purchases home on a bike, although stalls are a feature of other shows.

- **Promotion**

100 leaflets and a number of posters had been produced and distributed to bike shops, cafes etc. Bike Mart are informed of the next year's show date in the previous October. Express and Star were contacted but didn't respond.

Rosemary Thompson does the official photos on the day.

Jim and Steve lead on the awards.

- **Recruitment for next year's event**

It was agreed that we need to focus our efforts on recruiting current year 7 parents for next year.

5. Forthcoming events

- **Quiz**

It was agreed that we will do this in late November and take advantage of pre-Christmas social events.

- **Bags2School**

Collection date is Wednesday 10th November as the new company prefers to pick up in our area on a Wednesday. Several people are unable to help on a Wednesday so Tracy will see if the date can be changed to a Friday.

6. School Lottery

90 tickets have been sold so far. £743.20 has been raised since the launch in April. Some people have donated their winnings which has generated a further £129.30. A lot of supporters (29) who have signed up have still not brought tickets.

ACTION: Rachel to email those who have registered but not yet bought tickets.

ACTION: Sarah to draft a ParentMail message to promote Bags2School, Easy Fundraising and Your School Lottery.

7. School Hall Project

Darren reported that some funding from other school property projects can be used to help fund improvements to the Hall such as air conditioning, lighting and sound system. The banked seating would be a good standalone project to fundraise for, however, Darren felt that as the PTA had already donated £6,000 towards the Hall improvements, that for this year, it would be good to focus PTA fundraising on wish lists from the school's different departments.

8. PTA Recruitment

We are in desperate need for new members as after next year, only 3 parents will remain on the PTA.

ACTION: Sarah to draft a ParentMail message to promote the AGM to new parents, including the chance to hear from departments about their wish lists.

9. AOB

Darren announced that after 8 years at the School, he will be retiring as Headteacher at Christmas. He complimented the PTA members on their efforts with supporting the school so well over the years and the positive effect this has on their own children. Everyone thanked Darren for his support, which had been fantastic for the PTA.

10. Date of Next Meeting

It was suggested that we meet in person for the AGM on **Monday 18th October at 7pm** and then teachers and staff can dial in virtually to the meeting to present their wish lists for funding.