

**Minutes of the BWSPA meeting held on  
Tuesday 16th January 2024 in the Sixth Form Study Room, BWS**

**Present:** Tom James (chair), Bea Longthorp (secretary), Sarah Robertson (treasurer) Kenecki Nduka-Richard (Assistant Secretary), Zainab Syeda (assistant treasurer), Nicolette Beardsmore , Dr Stuart Smallwood, Onur Gunce, Katharine James, Kate Doyle, Rob Jones.

**Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies received from Charles Tavener, Emma Jones, Kirsten Webster, Caroline Popham.

**School Update and Funding Requests (SDS)**

- 1 Year 12 recruitment (for September 2024) – almost all visits to other schools by Sally Armstrong (Careers Lead) and HM are done now. Closing date for BWS applications is 4/2/2024. Currently over 500 potential applicants registered on the online portal, over 260 applications completed with a lot more to come from BWS Year 11 boys (late as usual!).
- 2 Year 9 Pencelli – 60 boys from Year 9 currently in South Wales freezer!
- 3 Year 13 – all in prelim exams at present. Lots of high quality university offers coming in, including 9 from Oxford. Cambridge yet to come.
- 4 New Head from 1/9/2024 – Matthew Morgan, currently Head at Sir Thomas Rich’s School, Gloucester, another high performing grammar.
- 5 Bishopgate – no further news; we are waiting for a site visit from the planning officer

No new funding requests.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November & Matters Arising**

Minutes available at BWSPA Constitution, Committee Membership and Minutes

No amendments, agreed and proposed TJ, seconded NB

**Forthcoming Events/Activities**

- Family Quiz Feb/March. Following the success of the quiz night held in October Nicolette and her husband are happy to hold another one. A little concern is that as the Girls Netball Team are holding a quiz on 27/1/24 to fundraise for their Dubai trip there may be too many quizzes held too close together, but it was agreed to hold another one later on in March. Nicolette and Phil are happy to arrange the questions and set up but not arrange the catering. Bea Longthorp will liaise with Terri from the catering team to arrange. Date to hold quiz is 22/3/24. Rob will show Tom how to arrange a TENS license.
- Rain or Shine June/July. Great success in previous years. This year is ‘The Importance of Being Ernest’, provisionally booked for 28/6/24 but this needs to be confirmed with

Nikki Miles as it can be a busy time of year. Once a contract is signed BWSPA get 30% of the ticket sales. Also offer tea/coffee. Parents/families bring a picnic/alcohol. It is open to all including non-BWS families/walk ins. Suggestion to email the invitation to the new parents starting at BWS as a push for sales and a nice way to introduce them to the school grounds and BWSPA.

- Second Hand Uniform Sales. An excellent form of revenue. Organised by Emma Jones with planned sales for 27/1/24, 2/3/24 and 27/4/24. A suggestion was made for clearer signage to be made as it can be difficult to locate especially for new parents. Emma's son is currently collecting all the uniform as part of his volunteering for his bronze D of E. A push made for more donations of uniform also made within the committee-to send out within the class WhatsApp groups the committee are members of.
- Dubai Tour Update. 6<sup>th</sup> form girls are playing both netball and rugby in Dubai in Feb half term. Initially given £500 sponsorship and then opportunity to match fund up to £1000 which has been met, mainly from selling coffee and cakes match side at BWS sporting events on Britford Lane. Their kit will have the BWSPA logo on them.
- Grammar Christmas Fair update and review. Another huge success with increased footfall and stall holders. It has it's own separate planning committee which start meeting around March as it supports both grammar schools. There were toilet issues this year but luckily the sixth form block had been booked so those toilets could be utilized. Total amount raised was £6102.32 to be split between the two schools.

### **1000 Club Update**

Whilst this is a good revenue there is an issue with an increase of unclaimed winnings. At present there are £1555 in backdated unclaimed winnings. SDS has stated (as head of the 1000 club) that anything unclaimed beyond 2years from the initial draw can be returned back to BWSPA. Nikki Miles has been trying to contact all those winners who haven't claimed their prizes. The committee have considered other ways of letting the winners know their winnings but it is difficult without contact details. Tom James and Sarah Robertson have volunteered to be the new signatories and Tom is to replace Charles as the prize-draw invigilator which is held monthly on Microsoft Teams.

### **Finance Update**

Currently there is a total of £22,591.32 in all accounts.

Payment of £500 has been made towards a sofa for 6th Form Common Room which has now been purchased.

£1000 was given to the girls Dubai trip in match funding.

A decision was made to put £15000 in the savings account where it will draw interest whilst we carry on fundraising towards a new school minibus which will be in the region of £30000.

## **AOB**

- Justgiving Charity Login – matter postponed until next month.
- The idea of a regular BWSPA newsletter was discussed. This would keep parents abreast of upcoming events, 1000 club winners, post events communications and amounts raised as well as giving a rolling advertisement for members and volunteers for the BWSPA events. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Next meetings 20<sup>th</sup> March 7pm, 8<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> June.