**Friends of Clavering - Annual General Meeting**

**Monday 21st September 2015**

**Present:** Amanda Crabb (Chair), Rachel Betts (Chair), Jilly McNaughton (Secretary), Ros Allsop (Head Teacher), Emma Copeland (Treasurer), Felicity Cowler, Jacqui Berglund, Vivienne Prentice, Lucy Hill and Tracy Pemberton.

**Apologies:** Alison Course, Mary Loram, Sonia Phipps, Sophie Chalk.

**1. Review of the Year:**

The Chair presented her report for the 2014/15 academic year, thanking the Friends for their help and saying FOC had raised £9,000 for the school in the last year. FOC’s fundraising efforts had followed the same formula as previous years, but a few new events had been introduced, including the Clavering Ramble which raised £500 for us and PreSchool and the Barn Dance which raised £1,300. The Chair thanked the Forster family for the loan of the barn and noted that smaller committees working on each event seemed to work well. The Christmas and summer fairs raised about £1000 each. The slide at the summer fair was a good idea, though having the fair outside was a lot more work. The quiz raised £1400, with a bar and fish and chip supper and with Grant as quiz master. Another key earner was the sponsored fun run which made £1300 plus gift aid. The smaller events (discos and film night etc) seemed to be popular with the young ones. It was agreed that having the whole school in the hall for the film night was quite noisy, so the school was split up for the last film night, with two separate films showing which was a success. Discos remain popular and Chris Rickson is still kindly loaning his disco equipment. Three ‘Bag to School’ events raised £554 last year.

The funds raised by FOC last year were put towards a number of things including: £4,500 spent on computer equipment, £100 to each classroom to spend as they wished, £500 on new books for the library and £200 on bark for the play area.

**2. Election of Officers:**

Emma Copeland will stand down as Treasurer after 3 years at this meeting but remain on as a helper to Friends. The Friends thanked her for her time and efforts. Fliss Cowler was proposed as Treasurer by the Chairs and was unanimously seconded. Tracy Pemberton was welcomed as a new member of the committee. It was noted that Dee Collett, Emma Clark, and Maeve Polkinhorn are standing down as committee members but will remain on the helpers list.

**3. Fundraising Activities for the Autumn Term 2016**

* Christmas cards have arrived for the children to decorate and sell - Rachel Betts to pass to Ros Allsop.
* The Halloween disco is on the last day before half term. Volunteers are needed to go to Bookers cash and carry to buy sweets etc.
* Bag to School is the week beginning the 17th November..
* The Christmas Fair is on 4th December. We need a new Father Christmas. Ron Docking? Vivienne Prentice to approach him and ask. Need volunteers for stalls. Calamity Clown was suggested for the staff’s Christmas lunch again this year. Second hand uniform sale at the fair.
* Easy Fundraising - The Top Ten schools who have raised the most via this have raised tens of thousands of pounds for their schools. It was suggested the class forum reps give it a push at the ‘Meet the Parents’ evening or Committee members.

**4. New Ideas for 2015/16**

* Burns Night at the end of January with mini Scotland themed quiz and dance. Wicken Bonhunt Church Hall is a nice venue. University Ceilidh band? Haggis supper.
* Quiz night in Spring Term with Grant as quiz master. Amanda Honour would like to stand down from writing the quiz this year – TBC.
* Cricket day at Wendens Ambo vs another local school – Chrishall preschool are keen, dads to organise, bbq and cakes.
* Wine and Cheese night, Wicken Bonhunt Church, classical music recital? Approach a local music teacher with children at the school to see of they might get a small band of classical musicians together to volunteer to provide entertainment for the evening.
* Planning meeting to be scheduled after half term.
* AC to send out info to helpers list early so they can volunteer for events.

**5. Funds This Year**

Ros Allsop explained how the funds raised in the current academic year will be spent, including developing an outdoor reading circle, exercise bikes, and money for each class to spend again, which went down well last time. There are also plans for revamping the allotment area and the pond area, which have already been cleared.

Emma Copeland said a friend’s mother passed away and, as she had links to the school, she would kindly like to donate a bench/ seating area.

Jacqui Bergland asked what the money from the Clavering to Clavering cycle ride would go towards. Ros Allsop said it would go towards an all weather sports surface. She and Sonja are currently getting in quotes and looking at grants and looking at the best type of surface for quality and longevity.

The Clavering Ball committee might be asking local charities connected to the village to ‘bid’ for funds raised from the ball. Amanda suggested the FOC could ask them to contribute towards funds required for the multi-surface sports pitch. Jilly McNaughton to ask Jo Harris when the deadline for making an approach for these funds is.