

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
KIDMORE END PRESCHOOL
TUESDAY, 1st NOVEMBER 2011**

Present: Gemma Malaperiman, Sian Allen, Belinda Gross, Caroline Aldridge, Rachel Schmidt, Gemma Bateman, Hamish Bateman, Chris Priestley, Caroline Priestley, Diana Hvass, Vicky Pye, Joanna Martin, Leesa Rivers, Sharon Telling, Joanne Martin, Louise Everett

Apologies: Nicky Liddon-Horncastle, Louise Lee, Ann Day, Suzi Primrose

Introduction	Action
<p>GM welcomed everyone to the meeting along with welcoming all the new committee members.</p> <p>Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes of the last AGM were agreed and signed off. SA proposed the minutes and they were seconded by DH.</p> <p>GM then proposed all new committee members, they were seconded by SA and a unanimous vote took place for:</p> <p>Gemma Malaperiman - Chairperson Louise Wood - Registrar Diana Hvass - Secretary Karl Lee - Health & Safety Louise Lee - Staff Liaison Joanna Martin - Party Planning Ann Day - Early Days Funding Suzi Primrose/Sharon Telling & Angela Richards - Fundraising Team Nicky Liddon- Pre School Manager Caroline Aldridge - Business Manager</p> <p>It was voted unanimously by all to re-adopt the new constitution. This was proposed by GM and seconded by SA.</p>	

Financial Report

The calendar year 2010 was an excellent year for the pre school, with increased fee levels and successful fundraising, giving rise to the largest surplus since 2003 (and in that year the large surplus was due to a significant grant in the year). As with previous years, the funds on deposit originate from the original lottery grant made to the pre-school. As a general rule, the Treasurer seeks to maintain sufficient funds on deposit to cover two terms worth of fees and this has been achieved for the last two calendar years and should also be achieved in 2011.

So far in 2011, the Pre-School's net income is up on this time last year. When we delivered this speech last year we were mindful of the impact that reduced grants would have, and as a consequence NLH and the staff have worked extremely hard with the increased children per session that we have pushed for. The result of this has been to help secure the financial position of the pre-school, although with further cuts to funding on the horizon we will need to continue the trend of maximising our session numbers.

One of the main highlights of the year was the charity day organised by Sue Ramos-Galvez, where 2 days of free help and equipment resulted in a transformation to the preschool garden. The Easter Egg hunt continues to be the biggest fund raising event, with net fund raising only slightly down on the year to date figure of £2,300.

Overall it's been a good year so far, which is particularly helpful given the impact of the wrap around care being abandoned. Session numbers appear to be bouncing back to where they need to be so the negative impact should be minimised.

Chairman's Report

Kidmore End Pre School had an incredibly busy year with almost every session full with our maximum of 14 children, this meant that we opened for 9 or 10 sessions a week for the majority of the year.

Staff

Our dedicated team of staff lead is led by Nicky Liddon-Horncastle who was promoted to the role of pre school manager at the start of the year. Belinda Gross as her deputy also led several sessions each week and the whole team coped brilliantly with the full sessions and the extra demands put on them as a result.

The pre school's commitment to supporting continued training for all the team continued with the SENCO training undertaken by Tanya Marshall, first aid training for the entire staff team and impressively the efforts of Sarah Cleall and Claire Ashley in gaining their Level 3 QCF within their first year of working at pre school. The whole team are now qualified to level 3 or higher, this is the gold standard for settings such as ours and the committee and parents appreciate the high level of professionalism within the team.

Financial Position

As a charity it is accepted that KEPS should not be making big profits however our treasurer Sian Allen has worked hard to ensure that the pre school has acted with prudence whilst it was so busy, putting us in a strong position to cope with falling income levels as government funding is increasingly under pressure along with any fluctuations in the number of children on the register.

Links with Kidmore End School

The excellent links with Kidmore End Primary School continue for which we are very grateful to the head teacher Mrs Maul and the Early years teacher Mrs Szmaglik. Their support of the summer term visits for the children due to attend BIG school have been appreciated. These visits are an invaluable way to help the children settle into their new environment quickly come September.

It was with regret that we heard late in the summer term that we could no longer offer 'wraparound' care for the younger children starting in the Reception class at school, as the school had decided to offer a full time place to every child from September onwards.

Wraparound has been a valuable service; both to help children transit from Pre School to school and financially to pre school, helping to fill the afternoon sessions in September which would otherwise be lower on numbers. The numbers of children on the register at pre school have been slightly lower this September as a result and we have had to ask staff to be flexible in the number of sessions they work each week; we are grateful to the staff for accommodating this and as numbers continue to pick up we are optimistic that this was just a short term measure.

Fundraising

Our major annual fundraiser - the Easter Egg Hunt - was staged just before Easter, this year using the School as a venue as the Cricket Pavilion was being rebuilt. We had a good turnout and great support from the family members and staff which resulted in an amount raised of £2,300. This was incredible for a small preschool such as ourselves and can only reflect the enthusiasm, good will, hard work and sense of fun that the preschool receives from all involved.

In addition, as SA mentioned we were lucky to receive the generous gift of money and time from employees of Shire Pharmaceuticals in the spring, renovating the garden area and installing the vegetable tables so the children have enjoyed planting and eating vegetables ever since.

The pre school also supported the School events of the Christmas and Spring Fairs, a good way of fostering the community spirit which is right for our village pre school.

The annual, paid-for day out, this year Odds Farm Park, was another great success. Everyone had fun and it is a good opportunity to thank all the children and their adult helpers for their support over the year.

I would particularly like to thank Adele Hawkes who worked incredibly hard to organise all our fundraising for the last 3 years, moving forward we have been lucky to have Suzi Primrose and Sharon Telling volunteer to take on this role, along with help from Angela Richards, a dream team!

The date for next year's Easter Egg Hunt has been set as Sunday 25th March from 2 to 4pm, hopefully back at our original venue of the Cricket Pavilion at Gallowstree Common.

Ofsted Report - May 2011

In May we received our much overdue unannounced visit from an Ofsted Inspector. The staff and granny helper (Ann) rose to the occasion brilliantly and the inspector was very very impressed. She judged Kidmore End Pre School to be Outstanding and gave us the highest possible score in every single area. We are very proud of this recognition and thank the staff for all their hard work in running pre school so well and giving our children such a positive experience. A copy of the report is on our website and on the board in the Parish Rooms if anyone wants to have a look.

Committee

At the end of the Summer term we had a lovely end of term party for all the children and all those leaving were presented with a book to remember their time at pre school.

We also said goodbye to several committee members;

Vicky Pye, Adele Hawkes, Diane Dippenaar and Sue Ramos-Galvez

New Committee members have luckily come forward including Diana Hvass, Vicky Mollinson, Sharon Telling and Angela Richards.

We do still need a parent to help the pre school with their marketing, it's essential for continuing to maintain a healthy register and spread the word about the happy place we are.

AOB

Gemma Bateson kindly offered help in the Marketing area after her baby has arrived. GM to liaise in the new year.

Secretary: D.Hvass
1st November 2011