

KIDMORE END PRE-SCHOOL

Parish Room, Wood Lane, Kidmore End Reading, RG4 9BB

www.KidmoreEndPreschool.co.uk

Registered Charity Number 1046030

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, THURSDAY 19th
SEPTEMBER 2013.**

Present:

Elizabeth Chandler
Caroline Aldridge
Nicky Liddon-Horncastle
Natasha Grant
Donna Clarke
Sarah Watts
Charlotte Blyton
Diana Hvass
Sue Gair
Emma Hawker
Felicity Haines
Sonia Matthews
Ruth Green
Lisa and Alex Baillie
Kim Maher
Annabel Winders
Laura Davies

Apologies:

Annie Stott

Introduction	Action
<p>The chair Elizabeth Chandler welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
<p>Minutes of Last Meeting</p>	
<p>The Minutes of the last AGM on the 16th October 2012 were agreed and signed off. Diana Hvass proposed that the minutes were signed off and this was seconded by Emma Hawker.</p> <p>The following committee members are stepping down from the committee:</p> <p>Elizabeth Chandler – Chair Sian Allen – Treasurer Rachael Schmidt – Marketing Officer Tara Gibbon – Marketing Officer; and Sue Peck – Party Planner</p> <p>Elizabeth Chandler thanked them for all their hard work.</p> <p>Elizabeth Chandler proposed that the remaining committee members below should continue on the committee:</p> <p>Diana Hvass – Secretary and Vice Chair Sarah Watts – Fundraising Annie Stott – Staff Liaison Felicity Haines – Health and Safety Officer Sonia Matthews – Parent Help Rota</p> <p>This was seconded by Donna Clarke and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>Elizabeth Chandler proposed that the following should be voted on to the committee:</p> <p>Charlotte Blyton – Treasurer Donna Clarke – Fundraising Officer Emma Hawker – Party Planner</p> <p>This motion was seconded by Diana Hvass and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>It was voted unanimously by all to readopt the 2012 PLA constitution. This was proposed by Elizabeth Chandler and seconded by Charlotte Blyton.</p> <p>Felicity Haines proposed that the new Chair Natasha Grant should stand and this was seconded by Charlotte Blyton. Natasha Grant (NG) was unanimously voted in as new chair subject to her “suitability interviews” with the outgoing chair Elizabeth Chandler (EC).</p> <p>NG proposed that we readopt the policies and this was seconded by Sarah Watts. In line with the new EYFS our current policies will be updated throughout the 2013-2014 academic year.</p>	<p>NG and EC</p> <p>All</p>

Chair's Report

Kidmore End Pre-School had another successful year in 2012/2013. After a quiet start in September, by January there were 28 children on the register, with almost every session up to the maximum of 14.

Staff

Our well-qualified and hard-working team of staff continues to be led by Nicky Liddon-Horncastle (Pre-School Manager). Sadly, we had to say goodbye to her deputy Belinda Gross, who moved on to pastures new in May. However we have been extremely fortunate in being able to recruit Susan Gair to the post of Assistant Manager. I hope everyone joins me in welcoming Sue to the preschool and I hope that she will have long, happy and fulfilling time here.

The remaining members of staff (Tanya Marshall, Claire Ashley and Sarah Cleall) continue to be brilliant- making the preschool the successful and happy setting that it is.

Links with Kidmore End School and community

The pre-school has continued to have excellent links with the school, for which we thank the headteacher Mrs Maul and the Foundation Stage teachers Mrs Szmaglik and her successor Mrs Maan. The visits to school in the summer term continue to provide a valuable stepping stone in the transition to starting Big School. We are also grateful to the school for inviting the preschool children to watch the Foundation stage Christmas play and for supporting pre-school's fundraising with a stall at the Christmas Fair and for publicity for events such as the Easter Egg Hunt. We hope that these valuable connections with Kidmore End Preschool will continue under the new head Mrs Hull.

Pre-school also fosters connections with the local community. This year preschool visited Chalkhouse Green Farm at the invitation of its owner Sarah Hall; attended Little Lambs at Kidmore End church once a month; performed its nativity play in the church (complete with church organ accompaniment) and held celebrations at the New Inn. We have had our name in the Henley Standard several times and even had 2 letters of congratulations and encouragement from the local MP John Howell.

Fundraising

Our major fundraising event of the year was the Easter Egg Hunt. For the first time ever this had to be postponed from 24 March because of snow and freezing temperatures. It eventually took place on the 14 April. We are grateful to the Kidmore End Cricket Club for allowing us to use the cricket pavilion after the start of their season and to all the committee members, staff and parents who gave up their time during the school holidays to help raise a fantastic £2,400.

Other fundraising activities have included a stall at the school fair, and sales from Fat Chilli Christmas cards, Yellow Moon and Book People.

As well as raising money for itself, preschool has supported other charities such as Macmillan Cancer Care, Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal and Soundabout.

Celebrations

2013 was a special year for pre-school as on 2 March it was exactly 30 years since it opened. This anniversary was celebrated with a barbeque at the New Inn in which current preschool families and staff mingled with many old friends of pre-school from the past. Everyone had a good time; with the highlight of the day being a hair-raising and very muddy tractor ride through the woods, thanks to "The Tractor Boys of Kidmore End" who gave their services in a kind act of community spirit.

A fun and successful year came to a close in July with the annual summer party. At the party we said goodbye to 18 children, presenting them with a book to commemorate the occasion and thanked staff and outgoing committee members for their invaluable contributions to the life of Kidmore End Pre-school.

Treasurer's Report

The calendar year 2012 was an average year for the pre-school, with steady fee levels and successful fundraising, giving rise to a small surplus. The reduction in Government funding and spaces in the Winter term impacted on the Pre-School's income when compared to 2011 which was an exceptional year. A small surplus is more usual, as our breakeven number of children is very close to the capacity of the preschool and this means that there is always a fine line between profit and loss. 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 four calendar years and should also be achieved in 2013.

<p>So far in 2013, the Pre-School's net income is up on this time last year. The staff and committee have worked hard towards filling the Pre-School to capacity where possible and all credit to the team for the successful running of the Pre-School with high numbers on the register for the first four terms. For Autumn 2013 there are 13 new starters but still some capacity, with the start of the new school year always having an impact. Session numbers from January 2014 look very strong, but we will continue to be prudent to maintain a strong position in the face of reduced funding and the inevitable fluctuations of the register.</p>	
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