

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
KIDMORE END PRESCHOOL  
WEDNESDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2010**

Present: Adele Hawkes, Vicky Pye, Gemma Malaperiman, Louise Lee, Karl Lee, Susan Ramos-Galves, Suzi Primrose, Jane Topham, Sian Allen, Sarah Davies, Estella Perrott, Diane Huass, Belinda Gross, Nicky Liddon-Horncastle, Caroline Aldridge

Apologies: Elaine Ely, Diane Dippenaar, Katie Burt

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>Action</b>
<p>GM welcomed everyone to the meeting along with welcoming all the new committee members.</p> <p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b> The minutes of the last AGM were agreed and signed off. AH proposed the minutes and they were seconded by SA.</p> <p>VP proposed Gemma Malaperiman as the new Chair and this was seconded by AH and was voted unanimously.</p> <p>SA then proposed all new committee members, they were seconded by AH and a unanimous vote took place for:</p> <p>Louise Wood - Registrar Karl Lee - Health &amp; Safety Diane Dippenaar - Staff Liaison Suzi Primrose - Special Projects</p> <p>It was voted unanimously by all to re-adopt the new constitution. This was proposed by GM and seconded by SA.</p> <p>It was proposed by GM and seconded by VP to readopt the Policies and voted by all to adopt all the changes to the Preschool Policy. CA had amended and issued this earlier in the year.</p>	

### **Financial Report**

SA reported that the Calendar year 2009 was an excellent year for fund-raising, however issues with the timing of collection of fees meant that the pre school made a loss for the year. The funds on deposit originate from the original lottery grant made to the pre-school. As with last year 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 looks as though it will be achieved in 2010.

So far in 2010, the Pre-School's net income is up on this time last year however, we should be mindful that this is partly due to a £3,000 grant received over the summer from Oxfordshire County Council which was for the introduction of extended sessions. The highlights for the year to date are;

1. The £3,000 grant received from Oxfordshire County Council mentioned before. This has been spent largely on the improvements to the Pre-School made over the summer, including the water heaters in the toilets.
2. Grants of £2,290 were received from Oxfordshire County Council to cover staff training costs.
3. Fund raising has been strong for the year to date with net fundraising of £2,593

SA emphasised that Fund-raising remains essential to the financial viability of the pre-school. In addition the voluntary contribution provides vital income to help pay for the support of Caroline Aldridge who does an invaluable job dealing with the mountain of paperwork the pre school has to deal with. During the year the number of people paying the voluntary charge has fallen and it is vital that we encourage everyone possible to contribute in order to avoid having to increase the level of the contribution. We are also focussing on filling all sessions, and providing more sessions to improve the viability of the preschool and enable us to generate more surplus to reinvest in pre-school equipment.

### **Chairman's Report**

Kidmore End Pre school, KEPS, has had another successful year with many sessions full-to-bursting particularly in the summer term when we were open for the every day and for every session. We started a trial of the 'Tiddlywinks' session for the younger unfunded children on a Friday afternoon and GM thanked Belinda for all her hard work and enthusiasm in running this.

KEPS said goodbye in the Summer to Caroline Churnside and Alison Stevenson who are both sadly missed after being with the preschool for over 10 years each, we have however, been very fortunate in the hiring of Sarah Cleall and Claire Ashley who have fitted in seamlessly with the team. GM thanked Claire Harris who helped out enormously with the recruitment process.

The staff team is now lead by Nicky Liddon-Horncastle, who has been promoted to the role of pre school manager and also by Belinda Gross who is now a supervisor running several sessions a week on her own. GM reported that we are lucky to have such dedicated and enthusiastic members of staff and they have all worked tirelessly over the summer renovating and improving the organisation and look of the Parish rooms. GM thanked all staff for their efforts.

As a charity it is accepted that KEPS should not be making big profits so it is encouraging and correct that we are on the right target. KEPS are fortunate to have the fantastic help of its family members in supporting the pre-school generally but also the invaluable role of Caroline Aldridge by contributing towards her costs by paying the voluntary contribution. Without this support KEPS would not be the smooth-running, successful preschool that it is.

The waitlist of children is also very healthy. Louise Wood the registrar is pleased to report that KEPS can consider itself pretty much full with names already being taken for the 2013 intake. This is very encouraging as we can move forward knowing that we are fairly secure in the long term. KEPS should, however, not take this security for granted as we must continue to deliver a financially sound preschool whilst providing the fun, learning, caring environment that we expect for our children.

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.

KEPS are pleased to note Mrs Maul's decision to continue with the mornings only strategy for the younger children in their first term at BIG school. This benefits the preschool because we can continue offering our wraparound service to those children. Wraparound is offered Tue/Wed/Thu afternoon in the autumn term whereby the preschool staff collect the children who are only attending BIG school in the morning and bring them back to preschool for the afternoon session. This not only helps to fill the sessions in this quieter term but is also a financial benefit for the preschool. It's also lovely to have the older ones back for a bit longer.

KEPS events have continued with a strong tradition of success this year. The Xmas shopping Fair held at the New Inn was great fun and raised a record amount. There were other significant events such as the support of the BIG schools events such as their Xmas and Spring fairs. These events are good ways of fostering the community spirit which is right for our village preschool.

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.

Our major fundraiser - the Easter Egg Hunt - staged just before Easter. We had an excellent turnout and fantastic support from the family members and staff which resulted in an amount raised of £2,780. 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.

GM particularly thanked Adele Hawkes who worked selflessly to make the day a success. Moving forward KEPS does need help with fundraising and it is a role that really could do with more than one person. If anyone is interested please see GM.

The summer term was extremely busy with full sessions, days out and visits which ended in a lovely end of term party and send off for the children. GM took the opportunity to thank all the 09/10 committee for their commitment and time.

Those who have moved on -

Sammi Broadway  
Claire Harris  
George Zaris  
Claire Ashley

Appreciation and thanks goes to the new committee members:

Sian Allen  
Diane Dippenaar  
Louise Wood  
Suzi Primrose  
Karl Lee

GM reported that KEPS has had a hugely successful year. GM feels confident of the preschool's continued success with good numbers of children now and in the future and positive and enthusiastic support from all involved in the pre-school.

**AOB**

Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled to take place on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April and GM is confident of a replacement venue while the Cricket Pavilion is being refurbished. Further discussions to take place before next committee meeting.

Secretary: V.Pye  
13<sup>th</sup> October 2010