

William Gilbert Endowed School PTA

www.williamgilbertpta.co.uk

**Minutes of the PTA meeting held on 19th September 2006
Chairman Susanne Leeder**

1. Opening Welcome

Susanne welcomed everyone to the meeting. She expressed her appreciation for such a good attendance at the first PTA meeting of the new academic year. She also welcomed those people who were new parents to the school.

2. Present

Suzanne Leeder (C), Mary Johnson-Evans Sue Whyld(C), Jayne Stevenson(C), Kate Naylor(C), Rachel Abbott, Nicola Allison, Jane Arnold(C), Judith Carroll(C), Bridget Charlton(C), Debbie Cook, Joanne Hare(C), Andrea Hewing(C), Judy Hooker(C), Karen Lawley(C), Gail Mann(C), Kate Naylor(C), Karen Nicholson(C), Karen Rowland, Bronwen Skinner(C), Ruth Slade-Walker, Andy Whitehurst.

(C) = Committee member eligible to vote

Meeting in quorum - 15 present (total committee size 21)

Apologies

Adele Carmichael Smith.

3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Minutes of the last formal meeting on 6th June 2006 were proposed by Judy Hooker and seconded by Kate Naylor.

4. Presidents report

Sue Whyld welcomed everyone to the meeting. At the beginning of the new academic year she wanted to reaffirm the aims of the school. This was to achieve the vision of an outstanding school. Belonging to the PTA enabled us to feel involved in the school and in fundraising efforts. She stressed how important the money the PTA raises is in providing for the school. Although fundraising is a high priority the PTA also wanted to arrange events that were fun and sociable.

Reflecting on the end of the previous school year, she expressed her pleasure in the send off given to Year 6. The feedback so far is that they have made a good transition to their next schools. Thanks to Suzanne for the presentation of the autograph books. The carnival was more successful this year, although there were still some concerns about the waiting time to get into the arena.

Sue expressed her thanks to parents for their support in cancelling the sports day at Ecclesbourne. The rearranged events were felt to be more successful and it is likely that the format will be repeated this year.

Thanks were extended to all parents who had helped in the various events at the end of term.

5. Chairman's report

Suzanne expressed thanks to all those involved in the Carnival. Specific thanks to Steve Marriott and all the other float makers for creating the fantastic float. Also thanks to all the children who took part and made such an effort with their fish.

Suzanne echoed Sue Whyld's comments on the success of Sports Day.

Thanks were also expressed to all the Year 5 parents (and Mary!) for their help at the Leaver's Concert.

Suzanne also wanted to thank Anna for helping to organise the Sports Spectacular and to all the helpers on the day.

Suzanne then asked for volunteers for class reps. Their role included selling tickets to PTA events and recruiting helpers when necessary.

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| Nursery | Debbie Cook/Karen Lawley mornings Tracy Bachelor afternoons |
| Reception | Andrea Hewing |
| Year 1 | Jane Arnold |
| Year 2 | Rachel Abbott |
| Year 3 | Gail Mann |
| Year 4 | Nikki Allison |
| Year 5 | Ruth Slade-Walker |
| Year 6 | Kate Naylor/Judy Hooker |

6. Treasurers report

There is currently just over £18,000 in the account with no outstanding amounts owing. The tea towel sale last term raised £49. The leavers concert made a loss but this was due to an over purchase of wine. This should be used at the forthcoming events.

7. Past events

As above. No additional comments

8. Forthcoming events

The Ball

This has now been booked for Saturday 24th February. Jo Hare explained the progress so far. She expressed her thanks to Richard Beavers for negotiating a reduced deposit. Other venues had been looked at but none were suitable for our requirements. Jo stated that she was happy to help but was not able to take overall control of organising it as Nikki had done previously. She and Nikki had drawn up a list of the various jobs that needed doing. These were

- Raffle/Auction Prizes
- Ladies Table Gifts
- Entertainment
- Ticket money collection
- Programme design/advertising
- Photographer
- Purchase of welcome drinks

A discussion took place about the ball. It was felt that this was an important social event for the parents but that we must recognise the amount of work required to organise it. The main area of concern for people involved in organising this year's Ball was the expectation of raising the amount of money that it had previously. It was the general consensus that the Ball should be an enjoyable social event and it should not place undue strain on those involved in organising it. We would continue to look at ways

of fundraising at the Ball but only those that were manageable by the number of helpers involved. The Ball would remain within the umbrella of the PTA to avoid making those involved feel isolated or unduly pressurised. The PTA would send a flyer to all parents asking for volunteers and arrange a subcommittee to take things forward.

Later in the meeting Karen Nicholson suggested offering specific items the school needed to buy. This could be done by individuals or tables clubbing together.

The Quiz Night

This takes place on Friday 6th October. An alcohol licence will be applied for. Class Reps will be given tickets to sell.

Ladies Shopping Night

This takes place on Tuesday 14th November. This year we will apply for an alcohol licence. Bronwen will ask "Art on Canvas" if they would like to attend. They can reproduce children's pictures/paintings onto a professional looking large canvas.

Xmas Fayre

This year's fayre is on Friday 24th November. Further discussions will take place at the next meeting.

School calendar

With regret the dishy dad's calendar was scrapped in favour of a children's one! Judith presented two companies who can produce this for us. It was decided to proceed with this idea. It was felt the best option was to have a photo each month of all the children in the school whose birthday fell in that month. It was also suggested that they could wear accessories that matched the time of year. A photographer still needed to be found. Suzanne and Mary will make further enquiries. The aim is to have it ready to sell at the Ladies Shopping night and Xmas Fayre.

10. AOB

Suzanne showed the meeting a booklet that had been presented to Year 6 pupils at Meadows school when they left. The meeting agreed to look at producing these for the next Year 6. It was also the view of the meeting that the PTA would be happy to pay for these although no formal vote was taken.

Janet Brambilla, who is currently running a Beavers pack, has been asked to organise a Beavers float for next year's carnival. She was concerned this may produce a conflict of interest for some parents and children. The meeting felt that having another float would enhance the carnival and are happy for her to continue.

11. Spending requests

Sue Whyld requested the following monies from the PTA.

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| £3,300 | to re-furnish all four junior classrooms with desks and chairs |
| £4,000 | for curriculum support to be used though the current academic year |
| £200 | for numeracy strategy to purchase Maths Games |
| £300 | to finish off the nursery garden, including purchasing a playhouse. |
| £100 | for magnetic letters for use in reception |
| £500 | to purchase a DVD video recorder |
| £1020 | to purchase 17 PC cameras for each of the computers in the ICT suite |
| £419.50 | for training of midday supervisors and toys for the infant playground |

The committee voted and unanimously approved the above spends.

Sue Whyld informed us that their next priority was to look at providing benches for the ICT suite. She also reminded us that the PTA had offered to make some contribution towards a memorial to Will Shepherd. She has asked the contractors who built the nursery garden to provide a quote for an amphitheatre-like structure in the corner of the junior playground area.

A general discussion then took place and several parents raised the issue of providing more shade in the infant playground. It was suggested that if we had a list of spending priorities for the coming year this could be a good motivator for fundraising events especially the ball.

12. Next meetings

PTA meeting Monday 9th October 7.30pm Year 6 classroom