

Court Fields School

Achieve | Belong | Participate

Mantle Street
WELLINGTON
Somerset
TA21 8SW



Tel: 01823 664201
schooloffice@courtfields.bep.ac
www.courtfields.net
<https://twitter.com/CourtFieldsSch>

Headteacher: Mrs P Matthews

CEO: Mrs L Heath

Meeting Minutes 14.05.2024

Pledged to help from our first meeting

Name	Pledge
E Smith	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helping with gardening• Help with most things i.e. drama, chairs/raffle etc.
C Slocombe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor learning, specifically gardening.• Happy to help with practical tasks.• Can provide resources – plants/seeds etc.• Expertise in horticulture
J Whiteman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor learning• Exmoor challenge• DofE• Royal Marine has time to contribute.
P Gibson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor construction/gardening• Exmoor challenge• Through Living Light Church, has access to people who can help with P.A & lighting.
H Bennett	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outdoor learning support• Link with Grand Western Greenway
B House	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community One Team promotion• Flyer in Edge
N Miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performing Arts• Time• Stephen to support• Help with quiz night and other event set up and clean downs
K Cookson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General fundraising support
P Joint	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Time/Contacts/Developers bid section 106.
Z Vinall	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Time pledged

Chair – Andrew Govier

Treasure – Charles Biscoe

Secretary – Andrew Howell

Agenda

1. Welcome and minutes from the last meeting

- Welcome and introductions.
- Minute Review:
 - The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe show went amazingly. Many thanks for all the support we received to make this a success.
 - We have received approval for the dining hall and kitchen. More details to come. This will impact the current areas we are focusing on in these community meetings.
 - The 3G pitch construction has started. The contractors are working hard and breaking ground; they are a great team.
 - The Forest School and the new build hut mean we now have an onsite running Forest School with a designated Forest School lead.
 - We established the PTA with a secretary (Andrew Howell), treasurer (Charles Biscoe), and chair (Andrew Govier).
- Kate Clough and her role were introduced to the group as a new member of the SLT team at Court Fields School. Kate shared that her main areas of focus are staff development, working with university representatives for placements, and reading and literature review across the school.

2. Introduce each person and their guest, as well as 3 ideas/people to support moving forward

- Each meeting delegate brought ideas to share. These have been added to the Group Discussions area below in section 4.1 and 4.2.

3. Update from the Exmoor Challenge

- Adam updated the group with the new numbers for the next challenge. We have 16 year 10 students participating by October 2024 and 28 year 9 applicants so far.
- Charity Hunt, our careers lead, wrote a piece on the Exmoor Challenge for local papers and social media. The link is here for an update that was also given by Adam at the meeting: [Court Fields students set Exmoor Challenge record - Around Wellington](#)
- Thanks were given to the staff and families involved for making this a huge success.

4. Break into 2 groups and commit to an action plan for the rest of this year

4.1 Forest School

- Once we broke into two groups, the points mentioned in the last meeting were reviewed, and more ideas were brought into planning. The development of the hub area now has designated areas making it more private. We have received great feedback. We now need to work on the outside space. Pete and Andrew Paxton previously worked on this area. We can bring everyone together all offering support with volunteering from students.
 - Levit Surveying produced a plan free of charge for the Forest School development.
 - Click-through website to be discussed with IT support.
 - Bring in C. Slocombe, who has pledged time, seeds, and experience into the Forest School. TBC.
 - Contact Mr. Whiteman – CEO Royal Marines for outdoor events. TBC.
 - Parent plant donations – suggested to reach out to Chelston Nursery, as they have been known to donate plants.
 - Survey – plan in place with Mr. House, followed by a focus group with children.
 - Tree Protection – Donated apple trees from the town council are being homed in our Forest School and will have these protections in place.
 - Gardening Club time offered in pledges; a plan is needed to implement this group.
 - Gardening day – Living Light Church has offered time. It has also been suggested that our year 9 & 10 DofE students volunteer as part of their required hours.
 - The old bike sheds were suggested to be converted to bushcraft. Alex offered funding support for this as part of community support funding by his company.
 - Gaining resources from the community, i.e., sleepers (costly items) TBC.
 - SEN garden update – Fundraising and support for the development of this area. Living Light Church has offered to stay involved.
 - Funding support offered from Peter Joint through a small pot of money via Connect Somerset. This would have financial controls within Somerset Council for specific projects but is worth investigating. This may be the investment needed for the SEN garden. The community one team also has support offered.

4.2 Performing Arts

- We were joined by Miss Charlotte Robbins to represent the Performing Arts department. Mr. Reed sent the below topic headers for this meeting and apologized for not being able to attend.

Current:

- We delivered The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe school show supported by our previous meetings.
- We will be going to the Wellington Street Fair to fundraise for the department.

- We will be attending the TYCA festival again this year.
- We have received funding for a new canteen, which opens the opportunity to look at the hall as a space for development. Nothing agreed yet, but planning can start.

Next Steps:

- We are looking to paint the stage black.
- Purchasing feedback monitors will be a great asset for future performances.
- Continue to develop a budget for the next school show.
- Develop the current stage and look at what we want the space to become.
- Grants and bid writing.

Discussions in the group activity:

- Fundraising – We have a quiz night booked for June 14th, 2024. The location is to be confirmed. Bob offered volunteers for this event.
- We have a non-uniform day for students and staff to raise funds for the Performing Arts department.
- We can continue to fundraise for the department so if and when a plan is formulated to develop the current dining hall into a modernized performing arts stage, there will be no delay in getting started.
- Feedback monitors were discussed. We can borrow them as we have previously, but the aim is to become self-sufficient and not have restrictions on performances. Fundraising will be needed to purchase these.
- Dave F suggested that if we update the space to be practical and usable for the community to book, we may be able to get funding support from the town council or have support for finding suitable grants.

5. SLT to be available for any other questions

- A massive thank you to Levit Surveying for producing blueprint plans free of charge for the Forest School development area.
- Development of the hub area now has designated areas making it more private. We have received great feedback. We now need to work on the outside space. Pete and Andrew Paxton previously worked on this area. We can bring together all offering support with volunteering from students.
- Andrew Govier asked about the ownership of the flower beds/garden at the front of the school (the bed where the bamboo is on the main road). The question concerns the health and safety of these beds due to creating blind spots and sharp new growth. It is believed this area is part of Selworthy. It will be looked into for development to be dug out and become flower beds as a safer space.
- There is a Youth Club in Hemyock run by Adam and a few others. Please come along to see what and how this is done, on Monday evenings between 6 pm and 8 pm. This is a great example of what can be achieved for the youth of the community and what is currently being looked into for Wellington.

- As part of youth support in Wellington, we have a leavers' invite for October, November & February to ex-students for a tea and coffee evening. This is part of a new project to help ease students out of school life and maintain the support and connections made during their time here.

Plan

- Development of the current dining hall stage into the potential new drama hall. All actions and ideas listed in section 4.2.
- Further development of the Forest School, ideas and planning in section 4.1
- Revisit the needs of the SEN Garden to make this a usable space, idea and planning in section 4.1
- New PTA formed. For any review of positions, grants, and next steps, there will be elections in September 2024.
- Quiz Night for Performing Arts fundraising on June 14th, 2024. TBC.

“Give As You Earn”

- Pledging time – (Wellington Rotary support – Miles).
- Andrew Govier - Grants applications.
- Arts Council.
- Local Town Council.
- Grants – Helen will speak to Keith.
- Potential funding from Alex

List of “Wants & Needs”

- Forest School needs as listed in section 4.1.
- SEN Garden update as listed in section 4.1
- Performing Arts needs as listed in section 4.2.
- Social media content – Ken Bird and Introtweet the school's social media company.
- Supply of material needs

Date for the next meeting – 23rd October 2024

- Please bring 1 person with you who can add to our fundraising/support.
- Before then, please make 3 contacts that could support either of our areas of focus and provide feedback on this at the next meeting.

Thank you!