

Court Fields School

Achieve | Belong | Participate

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Headteacher: Mrs P Matthews

CEO: Mrs L Heath

Meeting Minutes 23.10.2024

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

The meeting began with a warm welcome from the Chair of the Parent and Community Forum, Mr Andrew Govier, to new attendees, followed by introductions of all members.

Purpose of the Group

- Mr Govier provided a brief overview of the group's purpose, emphasizing its focus on supporting the school in turn supporting the community.

The approval and review of the last meetings minutes were pushed to item 3 of the meeting to allow Mrs Matthews to share the next agenda item with the group,

2. Historical Overview

- Mrs Matthews presented a summary of the group's activities and journey over the past five years of improvement to help new members understand the journey and progression of the group and focus so far that led us to where we are now.

Cradle to Career program, supported by The Reach Foundation

- The "Cradle to Career" program, supported by The Reach Foundation, is a holistic community initiative designed to support children and young people from early childhood through to employment. The program aims to provide consistent and comprehensive support across key developmental stages, with the ultimate goal of improving educational, social, and economic outcomes for young people within the community.
- **Key Features of the Program:**
- **Early Childhood Development:** Focuses on laying a strong foundation for young children, ensuring they are ready for school with essential skills and support.
- **School and Educational Support:** Provides resources, mentoring, and academic support during school years to help students achieve their potential.
- **Youth Employment and Career Development:** Offers employability skills, career counselling, and connections with local businesses to support pathways into meaningful employment.
- **Community and Family Engagement:** Actively involves families and the broader community to create a supportive network, recognizing that children thrive when surrounded by strong support systems.
- The program is committed to bridging gaps in resources and opportunities, especially in areas where support has diminished due to funding cuts. By fostering a continuous, cradle-to-career support model, the program aims to empower young people to achieve success and lead fulfilling lives.

Mrs Matthews explains how Mrs Westwood and herself attended a school in Feltham that have made significant strides from where they were to now with around 92% of its students reaching their predicted outcome, to give perspective, primary schools in our area are achieving around 60% with Court Fields at the end of year 11 having 70-80% of students reaching predicted targets.

Mrs Westwood added that she had some reservations about what to expect on their visit, but being there and seeing the impact of the programme has sold the idea and can significantly benefit the children and community of Wellington.

Mr Govier follows with thanks and expands into the need for change in our community, this comes from the cuts made to our community taking funds from support in our networks. We have need to invest in our young people and ensure employability and strive to have big dreams with the right to steer their own future.

Mr House takes the opportunity to thank the local council mentioning Mr Dave Farrow for the continued support and want of drive for the towns development and community.

Mrs Westwood adds that consistency will get us to our goal, if we work from the start to the end there is no reason why we can't have a great outcome following in the footsteps of the Cradle to Career's proven history.

Mrs Matthews closes this introduction to Cradle to Career with, Early years development and support can have the biggest impact on outcome. We look forward to working with the community to better our young people's futures.

3. 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 are on to our next show The Wizard Of Oz.
- We have received approval for the dining hall and kitchen development. The school has met with architects to discuss plans for optimal use of the available funding. Options include building a new canteen with a larger footprint or updating the existing hall with a new floor, removing the stage, and creating covered seating areas. This would leave additional funding for further development, such as transforming the gym into a new school hall for performances, with potential additional areas for dance and drama. The final plans are still under review, but they may include a hall with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the 3G pitch. Once this phase is complete, the next project will focus on adding three new classrooms.
- The 3G pitch construction has been completed and now in use by the school and community.
- The Forest School continues to get support and has further plans needing all available hands which can be discussed at the next meeting.
- The old bike shed has been covered into a Bush Craft area and can be labelled a massive success.
- The flower beds at the front of the school with the over growing and dangerous bamboo has been removed
- We revived a £200 donation from Tilhill Forestry (BSW Group) to support the DofE.
- Lots of continued support from all of you, this is greatly appreciated

Other Business

- There is a Community breakfast on the 11th November 2024 for all employers and community, please do attend.
- As we have come to the end of a season our school allotment needs tidying up for winter ready for holidays, please can we have support tidying up this area.
- We will cover the topics and areas of support needed in the next meeting for the rest of the year, this will include funding to kit out the new development starting in February.

No other business

Date for the next meeting – 21st January 2025 – 17:00

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

Thank you!