



FRIENDS OF EWELL GROVE | Registered Charity No. 1064755
BUILDING COMMUNITY, ENRICHING EDUCATION, & RAISING FUNDS

EWELL GROVE PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL
29 West Street, Ewell, Surrey KT17 1UZ
020 8393 4393

foeg.ewellgrove@lumenlearningtrust.co.uk www.ewell-grove.surrey.sch.uk

Chair: Jo Dickson <i>(Heron/Otter)</i>	Vice Chair: Lerryn Reynoldson <i>(Kestrel/Squirrel)</i>	Secretary: Liza Monaghan <i>(Eagle)</i>	Treasurer: Kellea York <i>(Kestrel)</i>
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FRIENDS OF EWELL GROVE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

2:30PM TUESDAY 8TH JULY 2025

The Studio / GoogleMeet

Key: Action point

Present

In person: Jo Dickson, Lerryn Reynoldson, Paul Hilton, Lara Slater, Farah Shah, Lisa Powell, Mrs Gardiner, Ms Christie, and Mrs Theobalds.

Online: Corinna Whittle.

Apologies

Kellea York, Liza Monaghan, Gina Danaswamy, Anita Smith, and Miss Rising.

Approval of previous minutes (9th July 2024)

The minutes of the 2024 AGM were proposed for approval by Jo Dickson, seconded by Paul Hilton, and passed *nem con*.

Report from the Chair

Having completed my third and final year as Chair of Friends of Ewell Grove, I am proud to reflect on our collective achievements this year. We have raised approximately £23,000 for the school since September, which would not have been possible without the combined efforts of a fantastic team of volunteers and the tremendous support of our whole school community, so my heartfelt thanks go to each and every one of you who contributed to our success.

The Autumn term kicked off with “Parents’ First Day of School Survival Packs” for all the new Nursery and Reception intake and the Welcome Picnic where those new families joining our school community could all come together for the first time. The Quiz Night in October was our most successful yet, raising an incredible total of over £2000 in one fun-filled evening, as well as an extra £1000 in matched funding – thank you to Paul and Ed for writing the questions and running the evening, along with all our other volunteers on the night who helped to set up, clear up, and run the bar. As Christmas approached, a team of elves worked their magic once again in bringing replies to each and every one of the children’s letters to Santa (thank you to Kirsty and Paul for liaising with the North Pole’s postal service to ensure that all 240 were successfully delivered!), and our first wreath-making class and take-home kits were a festive fundraising hit with all who took part. The children had been singing Christmas songs since September when they first set to work in class on the drawings that would be turned into personalised Christmas cards and gifts by the end of term, which were purchased with pride by their families to raise over £1100 for the school. Always a highlight, the annual Christmas Fair was a triumph in bringing the community together: over 100 parents and staff volunteered their time to help on stalls or set-up of the event, as well as more than half of the Year 6 pupils doing a shift on the Glitter Tattoos or running one of our games; Santa’s Grotto was another sell-out success; highly coveted prizes, including a shiny new go-kart, a giant elf,



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and a whole host of generously donated gifts and vouchers from local businesses, went home with the winners of our Christmas Raffle; and Mr Aldridge once again ensured that all the children could delight in some (highly localised!) seasonal snow flurries on the playground. A thoroughly enjoyable and positive event in every way, a fabulous total of nearly £3,900 was raised by the fair, raffle, and grotto combined! Thank you and well done to everyone who helped and supported.

The Spring term may be smaller for fundraising, but certainly not for fun! A second quiz night raised £1200, and the children positively buzzed with excitement for their School Discos, which raised £840! The free book swap on World Book Day is one of our favourite days of the year, loved by staff, pupils, and parents alike, as it is always such a delight to be able to send every single child in the school home with their choice of free book to read. Parents donated cakes and pitched up to run playground treat sales, as well as our first foray into taking advantage of highly discounted charity pricing to sell Krispy Kreme donuts. We also benefitted from a healthy payout of £155 from our supporters of Asda's Cashpot for Schools promotion in conjunction with Parentkind.

Smarties Challenge packs were sent home over the Spring holiday, jump-starting our Summer Term fundraising with over £800 of donations earned by the children's good deeds. Keepsakes were on offer with year group tea towels across the whole school and Y6 'buddy bears' for the leavers. Our first Paint & Sip evening was a smash hit, where we all had great fun bringing out our inner artists and taking home proud creations. The Y5&6 Junior Quiz was fantastic fun and had the unprecedented result of a four-way tie for first place! Last but not least, the Summer Fair: Lerryn & Kat secured an incredible £1300 in sponsorship for the event from various local businesses; our raffle moved online for the first time; the stalls volunteer WhatsApp group alone had 96 people in it; and we were joined this year by the Rotary Club of Ewell generously running a stall and giving us 100% of the profits. All in all, it was a fantastic, beautiful, fun and sunny day for our whole community, where all the hard work thoroughly paid off with a combined fundraising total of over £6000. Wow!

Other than the 'headline acts', there are also smaller fundraisers that keep ticking over throughout the year, which are fantastic examples of how much little things can add up! Since September, we have raised: over £1140 (so far!) in playground sales of cakes, doughnuts, ice lollies, and other treats; £600 from Your School Lottery ticket sales and donated winnings; £330 from EasyFundraising; £350 from sales of Nearly New Uniform; and nearly £60 in commission from name labels companies Stikins and Stampstastic. I also have to thank Irene for bringing us £490 this year from our now-termly The Little Recyclers charity clothing collections, and Connie for generously creating beautiful craft videos and templates for the children's cultural celebrations of Diwali, Lunar New Year, and Ramadan Eid again this year, as well as for designing and freely providing the craft stall at our last two Christmas Fairs. Now that her child is moving on to secondary school, Connie's generous creative contributions will be sorely missed. Similarly to be missed as her youngest child outgrows the school this year will be Sarah Scarbrough, who we thank for being our sustainability star in championing the Nearly New Uniform, as well as having been a previous committee member, for many years.



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This year we have funded the following for the school: a Chromebook and 22 iPads (£8700), belt barriers for use in the playground (£634), additions to the new portable speaker system used at outdoor events like the termly playground singing (£387), the school Christmas tree (£320), Y6 leavers' gifts (£164), spring bingo and chocolate Easter eggs for every child (£137), and two replacement crepe machines for use by parent volunteers on pancake day (£44). We exceeded this term's target to raise at least £8000 for new EYFS role-play resources and equipment, which will bring our total donations to the school by the end of this academic year to over £18,000. We are also still holding up to £28,000 of last year's fundraising that has been promised to the Orchard ramp access and patio refurbishment project, work on which we are hopeful will be starting very soon.

It has been an honour and a privilege to lead Friends of Ewell Grove over the past three years, but I certainly could not have done it without an excellent team. I am so grateful to have you all not just as colleagues, All of the committee deserve our thanks for their very hard work, not least Kellea, Liza, and Farah, who are leaving the school this summer after years of service to us all. You will all be greatly missed! I do, however, have to single out Lerryn: she has been the most tremendous support to me throughout, always putting the effort in, always cheerleading, always covering the gaps I might have otherwise missed! We will be in very safe and well-prepared hands as she succeeds me as Chair, and all the incoming committee are sure to do a marvellous job. Thank you also to all the school staff for their unwavering support, and of course to our own children and families who suffer through our busiest times and cheerfully back and encourage us all throughout.

It is my rough calculation that I have overseen something in the region of £73,000 of fundraising for the school since I took on Chair, and I could not be prouder – nor more grateful for having had the opportunity to do so. Thank you to you all!

Jo Dickson
FOEG Chair

Report from the Treasurer - for the period of 01 June 2024 to 31 May 2025

Balances	01.06.2024	31.05.2025
Current Account	£2,700.78	£1,852.18
Deposit Account	£25,249.95	£32,550.08
Cash Held	£1,282.35	£1,627.45
TOTAL	£29,233.08	£36,029.71

- Gross income raised in reporting period: **£33,003.41**
- Donations made to school in reporting period: **£13,368.85**
- Expenses incurred in reporting period: **£12,837.93**
- Net income raised in reporting period: **£6,796.03**



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Below are the key fundraising activities in the reporting period with a net income over £500. Please note these do not necessarily represent the event totals as income and expenses can occur outside the reporting period.

Activities	Income	Expenses	Net Income
Summer Fair 2024	£4,379.21	£1,043.82	£3,335.39
Quiz Nights	£4,310.86	£1,043.42	£3,267.44
Christmas Fair 2024	£4,215.34	£1,101.79	£3,113.55
Match Funding / Corporate Donations	£1,375.99	£0.00	£1,375.99
Christmas Cards	£1,168.34	£7.39	£1,160.95
Junior Disco	£1,167.38	£325.00	£842.38
Smarties Challenge	£1,000.55	£182.87	£817.68
Tea Towels	£2,644.01	£1,946.16	£697.85
Your School Lottery	£692.53	£0.00	£692.53
Christmas Raffle 2024	£771.60	£151.73	£619.87
Cake Sales	£534.38	£8.79	£525.59
Paint & Sip	£1,199.19	£676.33	£522.86
Grand Draw 2024	£583.00	£64.38	£518.62

Below are the donations made to Ewell Grove School in the reporting period.

Purpose	Total
Year 6 Leavers' Gifts 2024 + 2025	£238.34
Christmas Tree	£320.00
Music System	£386.94
Friendship Bench	£447.00
Belt Barriers	£634.04
Gazebos and Weights	£1,376.47
Golden Time Games	£1,253.30
IPads and Chromebook	£8,712.76
TOTAL	£13,368.85

The accounts will be examined by Efkristo Ltd and following approval of the accounts by the committee at this meeting, their report will be issued.

Kellea York
FOEG Treasurer

Jo thanked Kellea for her work in providing this report on the 2024-2025 annual accounts, and proposed that the accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Paul Hilton, and passed *nem con*.



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Constitution Amendments

The Lumen Learning Trust and the school have requested that amendments be made so that school staff members are not required to be personally registered as Trustees with the Charity Commission, which necessitates that we remove any constitutional requirements to include staff as elected members of the Friends of Ewell Grove Committee. The Committee reviewed the latest version of our Constitution (4th Amendment, dated 11th July 2023) and identified that items 5, 10, and 13 would need to be changed in order to remove requirements for staff members to hold organisational roles on the Committee, and that items 9 and 11 would benefit from accompanying changes, including an explicit statement of who our charity trustees are, and allowing for any member (not just “parent”, as this would appear to exclude those of our members who are carers or friends of the school) to be elected onto the committee. Comparisons were also made with the Parentkind model constitution, which we have not chosen to adopt in place of our existing constitution but have used as a reference in formulating some of the proposed amendments. All of the proposed changes are classed as administrative changes by the Charity Commission, which means they are not regulated changes so the CC can simply be notified after they have been voted and agreed upon (no prior application for approval was required). Voting in constitutional changes requires a minimum two-thirds majority of all members present at a quorate Annual General Meeting.

The proposed changes are:

- 5. *“The post of President shall be the Head Teacher and shall be entitled to attend any Committee or Sub-Committee meeting.”* be changed to *“The post of President shall be held honorarily (ex officio) by the Head Teacher.”*
- 9. *“The posts of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be held by a parent for a maximum of three years. If nobody stands for the vacant position after three years have elapsed, the current holder may continue temporarily in the role for one further year until a replacement can be found, with agreement of all other committee members at the AGM or a Special General Meeting called for this purpose.”* be changed to *“The posts of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be held by a member for a maximum of three years.”*
- 10. *“At least one member of teaching staff, other than the Head Teacher, shall serve on the Committee.”* be replaced with *“The Committee shall not undertake any activity in the school premises without the consent of the Head Teacher.”*
- 11. *“Any Officer, after two consecutive years’ service, shall resign and will be eligible for re-election.”* be replaced with *“All elected members of the Committee are trustees of the charity (charity trustees) and have control of the Association, its property and funds.”*
- 13. *“Five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, to include one teacher.”* be changed to *“Four members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.”*

The changes were proposed by Jo, seconded by Lisa Powell, and passed *nem con*.



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The changes to our constitution mean that Miss Rising, Ms Christie, Mrs Hooper, Mrs Theobalds, and Mrs Hamblin no longer hold formal roles on the **elected** Committee and therefore cease to act as Charity Trustees as of this meeting. Miss Rising's role as President has changed to be ex-officio, and her permission will be required for any activities FOEG wishes to carry out on the school premises – for this purpose we will routinely invite her (or staff members acting as her chosen representatives) to meet with the Committee, and it is very much the Committee's intention to ensure that a close and positive working relationship between the school and the Friends of Ewell Grove will be maintained in the spirit of the original foundation of our Association. It is worth noting that staff members are included as members of FOEG by default (just as school parents/carers are), so the newly amended constitution does not exclude them from being eligible to stand for election to any positions on the Committee, should any staff member ever make a personal choice to do so.

Jo Dickson will send in a resolution document to the Charity Commission to notify them of the approved amendments to our governing document.

Election of Committee Members

All members of the 2024-2025 Committee were officially stood down from their roles and thanked for their service this year. In the following elections, all candidates who were not present at the meeting had given prior confirmation that they were willing to stand *in absentia*.

Jo Dickson has held the position of Chair for the maximum term of three years and is ineligible for re-election. Lerryn Reynoldson was nominated for the position of Chair (proposed by Jo Dickson, seconded by Lisa Powell), and there were no other candidates. The vote was unanimous and Lerryn was duly elected as Chair.

Lerryn Reynoldson is not standing for re-election as Vice-Chair by virtue of having been elected Chair. Lisa Powell was nominated for the position of Vice-Chair (proposed by Lerryn Reynoldson, seconded by Jo Dickson), and there were no other candidates. The vote was unanimous and Lisa was duly elected as Vice-Chair.

Liza Monaghan is not standing for re-election as Secretary as her youngest child leaves Ewell Grove to start secondary school. Gina Danaswamy was nominated for the position of Secretary (proposed by Lerryn Reynoldson, seconded by Jo Dickson), and there were no other candidates. The vote was unanimous and Gina was duly elected as Secretary.

Kellea York has held the position of Treasurer for the maximum term of three years and is ineligible for re-election. Paul Hilton was nominated for the position of Treasurer (proposed by Jo Dickson, seconded by Kellea York), and there were no other candidates. The vote was unanimous and Paul was duly elected as Treasurer.

A minimum of three additional members are required to complete the Committee (there is no maximum). Farah Shah is not standing for re-election as her youngest child leaves Ewell Grove to start secondary school. The following nominations were received for general Committee members:



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- Lara Slater (proposed by Corinna Whittle, seconded by Lerryn Reynoldson)
- Corinna Whittle (proposed by Lara Slater, seconded by Farah Shah)
- Jo Dickson (proposed by Lerryn Reynoldson, seconded by Corinna Whittle)
- Anita Smith (proposed by Jo Dickson, seconded by Lara Slater)

The vote was unanimous and all four candidates were duly elected to the Committee.

AOB

Jo Dickson will arrange for the Charity Commission register to be updated with the new committee members as charity trustees, and remove the details of those no longer on committee.

Mrs Gardiner expressed gratitude for FOEG's hard work on behalf of Miss Rising and all the school, and congratulated the volunteers on their fundraising successes. All of the committee, with particular mention of those leaving the school this year and of Jo stepping down at the end of her tenure as Chair, were thanked for their efforts and for their service to the school community.

Date of next meeting: Friday 3rd October 9am



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