



FOWHIS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 15 January 2023

19:00 - 20:00 @ Stoneham Pub

AGENDA

- FOWHIS Introduction
- Committee intros and apology from Fran Shelton who can't attend and FOWHIS overview
- Last AGM minutes (anything of note)
- Chair Report (overview of last year and thanks to committee, helpers, class reps and school staff)
- Treasurer Report
- 2023
- Election of Committee Members (re-electing current members and Secretary)

FOWHIS

All parents and carers of children attending West Hove Infants School, School Road site are welcomed and encouraged to get involved with the FoWHIS committee. Our aim is to enhance every child's school experience through social events, activities and raising funds for additional experiences and resources for both children and adults alike. We...

- Arrange fundraising opportunities (readathons, non-uniform days, bake sales!)
- Fund classroom and playground equipment
- Plan summer fairs, discos and parties
- Provide all pupils with home learning resources
- Fund additional experience days
- Communicate with the school and parents
- Organise packs and social events for new parents
- Fund leavers gifts and certificates

The current FOWHIS team are: **Ayman Farag, Lauren Burlinson, Vikki Faires, Fran Shelton, Alice Mayhall, Jeremy Horne**. We desperately need new members to join and help run events from July so please do shout if you're a reception parent reading these minutes and have a couple of hours every week or so to give and want to muck in. As most of us are Year 2 parents, come July it'll be just Vikki left on FOWHIS without you jumping up and saying you'll help. Please reach out to fowhis@gmail.com or DM your class rep with your details and what you'd like to help with.

NOV 2021 AGM ([LINK HERE](#))



Biggest earners were the summer and Christmas auctions, which raised £2k+ between them, then class calendars and photographs which together raised £1.3k. Claimed back-dated Gift Aid which brought in £600+. Free events were deemed valuable - Play in the Park, Halloween Bake Sale and Spooky Spy Hunt around the neighbourhood.

FOWHIS funds went towards home-learning packs during COVID including 8 Chromebooks for families without devices, Saplings outdoor classroom (which was delivered to site Feb 2020 and first fit completed Easter 2020) and class experience days (1k per year group) which included Zoolab, The Beat Goes On and Pirate Day.

Fresh Start was really successful and helped connect the school and FOWHIS with the local community, alongside the non-uniform day for a tree planting charity.

CHAIR REPORT 2023

We've provided a really rich variety of events for the pupils since November 2021. It's been a nice mix of big money earners and wholesome, free events. We were finally able to run not one but THREE discos thanks to Alice, the first since COVID. The discos were a huge hit and ensured all the kids experienced their first school disco - the first the Year 2 pupils have ever been to and hopefully the first of many for the children in Reception.

Several events including the Fresh Start donations and Second Hand stalls were organized by FOWHIS helpers. These events not only ensured a focus on supporting families with food and clothing donations, but also initiated events run by FOWHIS helpers, allowing the committee members to focus on the individual priorities mentioned at the beginning of the meeting.

Winnie the Witch was our first event with Storyteller in Residence, Fran Shelton, and saw us join up with Holland Road PTA. Their staff and pupils were incredibly supportive of the event, and the School Road pupils were equally delighted with our witchy visitor. This is the first year FOWHIS has supported an artist-in-residence position at the school, to bolster creative, imaginative and engaging learning throughout the 3 year groups.

This is also our first full year with SAPLINGS, the outdoor classroom. Ayman and Kat ran an open day to showcase the space in October and were awarded local funding from the West Hove Neighbourhood Fund,



which alongside funds from FOWHIS, will pay for an outdoor cover for the space, allowing children to play in the Saplings garden area no matter the weather.

The Summer Fete was a huge undertaking but absolutely amazing and thousands attended. We made more money than our previous summer fetes, involved the local community and ensured it was an affordable event for everyone to attend. We'll be looking at the most popular stalls and rounding up a new list of volunteers in the next few weeks as we start to plan the Summer Fete for 2023.

TREASURER REPORT 2023

Aims and challenges

The main aim of FOWHIS is to enhance every child's school experience through social events, activities and raising funds for additional experiences and resources for both children and adults alike.

In addition, our other aims for the past academic year were:

- To recruit the core committee members (5 people recruited)
- To effectively communicate our fundraising goals
- To continue to strive to be as inclusive as possible
- To continue to improve relationships with school staff (specifically re: spending)

The biggest challenge of the past academic year has been the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic, and this had an impact on the events that the school were happy to / we were able to run. Specifically:

- The Autumn term was fairly quiet as the school continued to observe social distancing measures – culminating in a low level Christmas concert due to fears over Omicron
- Large scale indoor events such as Discos could not be committed to enough in advance due to uncertainty and this meant they did not happen throughout the academic year

That said, this boosted the excitement and anticipation ahead of the summer fair, which was the first big event the school had seen in almost three years – making it one of the most successful in terms of funds raised for the school.

Fundraising successes

Event	Amount raised
Christmas concerts 2021	£460
2022 calendars	£801.41



Valentine's bake sale	£250
Non-uniform day (February)	£288.89
Headteacher for the day	£687.71
Easter bake sale	£227.44
Non-uniform day (July)*	£45
Pizza night	£160
Summer fete	£5,292.72
TOTAL	£8,213

In addition to this, we ran other non-fundraising initiatives, including:

- Play in the Park (September) for new reception parents and children to get to know each other
- Christmas cheer (December) to help Fresh start deliver bags of food and gifts to local families in need, helping them through the festive season
- Gathering ideas and pictures from the children for our reading retreat through one of our non-uniform days
- Seeing off our wonderful year two leavers with a balloon arch, time capsule and party in the playground

Spending

Event	Amount raised
Speaker for playground	£375
Reception pirate adventure	£375
Y1 Zoolab	£651
Y1 Woodsmill	£700
Y2 Drusillas	£700
Maths packs	£832.60
Mud kitchen / funnel and willow arch for saplings	£192.41
Saplings engraved sign	£115
TOTAL	£3,941

Overall financial situation

Thanks to our generous parents and carers, we raised significantly more than we spend in the 2021/2 academic year; thus increasing our available funds to support the school by over £4,000 in the process.

Spending plans for this academic year



- Each year group has been given £1,000 to go towards classroom experiences which will fund school trips, e.g. Drusillas for Y2 and Woodsmill for Y1
- Immersive storytelling experiences for Y1 classes – delivered by FOWHIS' very own Fran - £650
- Winnie the witch Halloween day - £394.95
- There are plans to improve Saplings with a tarpaulin cover and posts for rainier days – which will cost around £1,250 - £1,500 – of which we already have a grant of £500 from the Healthy Neighbourhood fund and over £200 from a bake sale – the rest will come out of FOWHIS raised funds
- We are working on building a reading retreat in the sheltered area in the front corner of the back playground (just past the bike sheds) – the designers are working pro-bono, but some spend will be required for making the children's wish list of aesthetics possible!
- Work is also taking place on the adventure trail at the back of the back playground – the sports fund will hopefully cover some of this, but some FOWHIS funding may also be needed

Aside from spending, our biggest challenge for the 2022-23 academic year will be recruitment. Most of our current committee members will be moving into juniors next year and without adequate replacements, this will put FOWHIS under a tremendous amount of pressure after the summer of 2023.

MINUTES

- Attending committee members: Lauren Burlinson (Chair), Jeremy Horne (Treasurer), Alice Mayhall, Vikki Johnston, Ayman Farag. Apologies from Fran Shelton
- Parent attendees: Kate Tranter, Claire Sparrowhawk, Amy Myers

FOWHIS ROLES

- Lauren: chair
- Vikki: co secretary
- Alice: co-secretary
- Jeremy: treasurer
- Ayman: saplings lead

Intro by Lauren, individual introductions plus what our focus has been this school year. Lauren discussed difficulties involved in engaging with teachers and how to best develop this. Lucy, a teacher, suggested attending inset day. Lauren and Vikki are happy to support this, Lauren to discuss with Ben Massey.

Ayman discussed Saplings and the group discussed this as a possible after school club.



There was discussion regarding trying to get a teacher representative, again to be discussed with Ben or at the inset day.

Finance

- Big money earners of 21/22 were auctions and we were able to get an additional £600 from gift aid. Jeremy to look into this for this year
- Jeremy highlighted what we had raised over 2021/2022: **£8000** and what we had bought 21/22 (speakers, pirate funday, supported class trips, learning packs, Sapling equipment) totalling **£3941**.
- The bank balance is very healthy at approx **£15000**.
- Planned spending/ spend so far 22/23:
 - £1000** per year group towards experiences
 - £650** Artist in Residence
 - £650** Winnie the witch
 - £TBC** Saplings
 - £1500** Sensory Room
 - £TBC** Reading Retreat
 - £TBC** Adventure Trail
- We now have the hardship numbers from each year group and will ensure these children are supported within our budget in regards to school trips.

Upcoming events

- **Quiz and cocktails.** Lead: Alice
 - **New members need to the focus of all events**
 - **Donation shed for uniform, clothing, food.** Lead: FOWHIS helpers
 - **Reading Retreat.** Lead: Lauren
 - **Year Two Leavers Party.** Lead: FOWHIS helpers
 - **Summer Fete.** Lead: entire team
 - **Sapling Development and Events.** Lead: Ayman
 - **Bake Sales.** Lead: Jeremy
-