



Bennerley Fields Specialist Speech and Language College, Stratford Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire DE7 8QZ
 Tel: 0115 932 6374 www.bennerleyfields.derbyshire.sch.uk info@bennerleyfields.derbyshire.sch.uk

Acting Headteacher: **Ann Harrison**

Friends of Bennerley Fields
14th January 2016, 2:00pm

Annual General Meeting

- **Welcome**

The meeting was attended by:

Ruth Fowler (RF)	Lisa Ferris (LF)
Ann Harrison (AH)	Sarah Spence (SS)
Barbara Joss (BJ)	Yian Linthwaite (YL)
Sue Firth (SF)	Marie Taylor (MT)

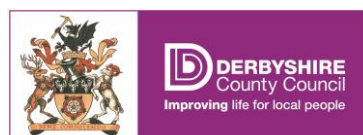
- **Overview of PTA –**

- **AGM** – RF explained to the new parents how the Friends of Bennerley Fields has raised significant amounts of money in the past by organising Summer and Christmas Fairs, gaining donations for raffles etc.

RF explained that as the school Fundraiser she would like to make the meetings of the Friends of BF more formal and eventually reach Charity status as this enables the school to access more funding from places such as the National Lottery and other large organizations.

The Friends of BF will meet at least three times per year.

- **Election of Chair and Treasurer**
 The members voted and elected RF as the chair and BJ as the treasurer – these will make up the Committee and be the Committee Members/Trustees; with parents, staff and other people over the age of 18 being Members.



- **Adopt Constitution**
The Committee and Members agreed to adopt the model constitution as set out by the PTA-UK organization. It was decided that the Association will continue to run as a Friends of the School. The Constitution was signed by the Chair and witnessed by a parent Member.
- **Accounts**
The annual accounts for the Friends of BF are published on the school website.
- **Current Needs of the School**
 - **Better Together Project**
RF explained 'Better Together' project to the Members (see enclosed booklet). The next stage of the project is to install a wheelchair accessible swing and roundabout. The Lord's Taverners have donated £15,000 towards this and the school have three months to raise the remaining £5,000 needed.

RF stated that ideas for needs for the school come from staff, Governors and pupils via the School Council. If parents have any other suggestions then please let the school know.

Some of the needs identified have been:

- Wet weather gear for KS3 Adventurous Activities
- Play equipment for the KS3 and KS4 area – to include a track for scooters/bikes and 'chill out' activities.
- EYFS activities such as music therapy etc.

- **Fundraising ideas / suggestions**

The members discussed various options for raising the £5,000 needed for the 'Better Together' project and decided to run a Sponsored Event – Lands' End to John O'Groats in 24 hours – covering the distance by using Gym equipment for cycling, walking or running and rowing.

This will be run over two days with both children and adults participating.

RF and BJ will organise things from School with parents and other members finding contacts for businesses who may be able to offer sponsorship/help, plus any other suggestions!

Suggested businesses contacts:

- Giltbrook Cleaners
- Rotary Club
- The Round Table
- Lions
- Shipley Garden Centre
- Tesco / Aldi / Morrisons
- West Transport
- Bellinis
- Estate Agents
- Banks

RF is also to contact the media for coverage of the event and to raise awareness of the project.

- **Time and Date of next meeting**

As the Lands' End to John O'Groats event is a huge undertaking, the Friends of BF decided to meet again on:

Thursday 28th January 2016 at 1:30pm.