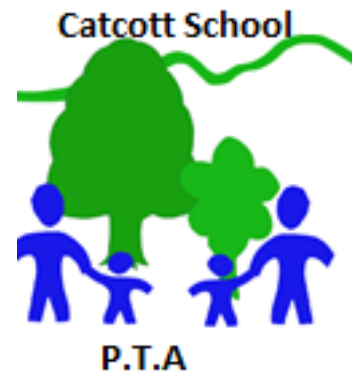


Catcott School PTA

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 28th September 2022



Present:

Rachael Armstrong (Chair), Cassie Watson, Paul Blundell, Laura Constanza, Jen Chilcott, Rebekah Cannon, Emma Hawthorn-James, & Liz Warwick

Apologies:

Kathryn Hall, Martha Nimmo, Kayleigh Ball, Paula Marsh, Faye Matthews

Our new Headmistress, Laura Constanza, introduced herself to the PTA and said she was looking forward to working closely with us over the coming year.

Chair's Review of the Last Academic Year

R Armstrong thanked everyone who had given their time to be at the meeting and welcomed Mrs Constanza.

RA said that it had been a privilege to be Chair of Catcott Primary School PTA this past academic year. It had been a year of adapting to change, coming out of a pandemic and culminating in a change in the school's leadership.

Not all the planned events could happen last year but thanks to a tenacious team of parents, we adapted and preserved where we could.

The Halloween Disco was unfortunately unable to go ahead so children came to school in their costumes instead and brought in carved pumpkins – prizes were awarded for best dressed and best pumpkins. £117 was raised. This went towards refreshing the pots and plants at the front of the school.

December's Christmas Movie Night again couldn't take place due to another outbreak of covid cases but to keep spirits high, all 160 children were given a cone of sweets and popcorn as a treat and staff were given wine and chocolates.

The Ukraine War hit our lives in March 2022, whilst the PTA weren't able to specifically co-ordinate an event, many parents and teachers did their bit to support Ukrainian citizens.

The Easter Disco took place in April along with Easter Bonnets and Bakes. These are much loved events and it was a delight to be able to hold them, despite the small issue of a power-cut and no spotify! Takings were over £600.

The PTA have fulfilled their commitment made at the beginning of the last academic year to donate a lump sum to each class year for teachers to spend as they saw fit. The continuity of this is incredibly important for this year.

The PTA ran the pizza oven to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee in June. A lovely sunny afternoon spent on the school field watching the children dance and eat pizza.

Cattstock in July was another outstanding success. Bands played, there was a circus tent, pizza oven was running, fish and chip van, a bar, cream teas, mocktails, fun craft activities, tractor rides etc all helped make for an incredible atmosphere. The Mayor of Bridgwater opened the event which appeared in the Bridgwater Mercury. The Red Arrows even flew past and let off their smoke above the field! The pictures speak for themselves as does the profit, over £2,000 which came about through hard work, love, support, kindness and extraordinary team work.

The academic year ended with our farewell to Sharon Foxall and a thank you for everything she had achieved in her 9 years at Catcott. Sharon was driven around the village in a pink tractor and the streets were lined with parents and children bidding her farewell. A huge hot air balloon dominated the school field as a farewell gift from us all.

Rachael is immensely proud to be part of such a wonderful TEAM of parents on the school's PTA, supported so well by teachers and children. It is the people that make donating one's time to fundraising so enjoyable and worthwhile. RA hopes the next academic year sees more parents join, take ownership of fundraising events, see the value of all that the PTA can achieve and continue to create a friendly welcome to this wonderful school community.

Every penny raised goes back to the children, their classrooms and into the school. We have a really healthy money pot so good luck to the future committee and Mrs Constanza in deciding how best to spend it!

Treasurer's Review of the Year

Paul Blundell handed out the accounts for year ending 31st August 2022 and ran through the figures at the meeting.

The report shows exactly how much was raised at each event.

Net funds raised from the last academic year were £2,308.93

Funds dispersed during the last academic year: Christmas sweet cones £88.38, Parentkind £116, Plants £190.28, Easter disco costs £70.27, Cattstock costs £1,768.93 – this was slightly higher than was expected and lessons have been learned in regards to running a large event going forward, New parents evening £12.18 and Jubilee events £125.36

Funds carried forward to this academic year: £5,269.73

PB wished to report that only £100 of PTA funds was spent on the hot air balloon, the rest of the cost was given by generous donations from parents.

Re-Election of the Committee

The committee confirmed that the present committee would stand down for re-election.

Rachael Armstrong was nominated for Chair and was voted in by Rebekah Cannon and was seconded by Cassie Watson

Cassie Watson was nominated for Secretary and was voted in by Emma Hawthorn-James and was seconded by Liz Warwick

Paul Blundell was nominated for Treasurer and was voted in by Jen Chilcott and seconded by Rachael Armstrong

Rebekah Cannon is happy to stand in as Vice Chair until a new Chair is found after Christmas (RA would like to start a handover after Christmas as this will be her last year at Catcott).

Any Other Business

LC is hoping to use some of the PTA funds for some new outdoor learning equipment. To be further discussed at future meetings.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 4th October at 7pm at Rachael Armstrong's