

1. In attendance

Jill Foley
Gary Harte
Kamilla Jakubowska- Switaj
M. Shakeel
Jeslet Matthew
Paul O Leary
Christian Spagnol
Goran Klasic
Ivana Jurkic Klasic

2. Apologies

Aoife O Herlihy
Reena Mc Carthy
Louise Crowley
Rosaleen Fitzgerald
Mary O Connor

3. Treasurers Report

Gary Harte introduced himself and Jill Foley as Chairperson and Secretary respectively and welcomed all parents especially new parents to the meeting. In the absence of Treasurer, Reena Mc Carthy, Gary presented the latest financial statement which shows a closing balance of €4804.86. The proceeds from the last 2 fundraiser events, namely the Loose Change Drive and the Summer Hammer Raffle, generated €791.28 and €346.63, from which flowers and a book voucher were purchased for Mr O Callaghan on his recent retirement from SSNB. Gary confirmed that €438.18 was given to school office for cost of texts messages directly related to Parents Association in the last school year. Also a lodgement was made to Allianz Insurance for Pupil Accident Insurance for the coming year to the value of €904.80 and a renewal fee of € 185 was paid to Brennan Insurance.

Although it was not reflected in the financial statement, Gary confirmed that €2000 was given to Brian Cuthbert to contribute to software licence renewal fee for software that is specifically geared to 1st and 3rd class students at this present time.

Further information on this software and what it entails can be found at <https://www.gi-assessment.co.uk/products/cognitive-abilities-test-cat4/>

Gary suggested asking Brian Cuthbert if there is anything specifically that the school requires at this time that needs funding and same will be discussed in further detail at the next meeting.

4. NPC Talks

Gary Harte has contacted the NPC re arranging 2 talks.

It was agreed that Anti -Bullying and Mental Well Being would be 2 particular areas of interest for parents, as was reflected in the survey undertaken by PA in February this year.

These talks have been scheduled as follows:-

- a. Talk on Childrens Mental Health/Well being at 7.30 PM on Thursday November 9th -> <http://www.npc.ie/training-page.aspx?contentid=6001>
- b. Talk on Anti-Bullying in the School at 7.30 PM on Tuesday November 28th -> <http://www.npc.ie/training-page.aspx?contentid=1162>

5. Book Swap

Following the success of last March's book swap, it was proposed by Gary to repeat the event in November and this was seconded by Jill Foley.

Gary Harte has sent out an email to all parents requesting children's books. There is a box in the hall from Tuesday October 10th where books can be left. There are sufficient numbers of adult books left over from the last event. A drop off point in the school will be decided and books will be stored in the school in the meantime. A request must be made to Bishopstown GAA to use facility for the event.

6. Clothes recycling

A clothes recycling day with NCBI is scheduled for November 9th, 2017.

An email will be circulated closer to the to inform all parents of same.

Gary suggested possibly recycling other items? mobile phones? Toys? Etc. Gary contacted NCBI and they only accept clothes and books.

7. Calendar Sponsorship

This was suggested last year by Mary O Connor. Gary showed a sample calendar to parents present at meeting. He wishes to talk to Mary re doing further research on same and will discuss it again at the next meeting.

8. AOB

- Gary proposed that we plan one big fundraiser and one social event during the upcoming school year. Further discussion is needed with regard to volunteers for these.
- Paul O Leary suggested a 'Family Fun Day' or walk in? Regional Park, Ballincollig. A similar event has taken place there recently as a fundraiser for a local club. Jill Foley confirmed the success of SSNC family walk in June 2016 but acknowledged that a lot of time and effort went into organising same. It may be possible to arrange for one of the girl's school parents who were involved in organising that, to come to a SSNB meeting and give us an idea of what it entails.
- Gary suggested a Christmas Party as a possible social event? venue Chuckies as a successful event was held there in 2015. Further discussions will be held at the next

meeting to see if this is feasible or not. Volunteers would be needed to organise same.

- Paul O Leary suggested a Nutritional Talk be made available to parents re healthy lunch boxes etc. He was under the impression that something along those lines was being planned for the girl's school. However, when Gary contacted Donal Dowling re same, he wasn't aware of any such presentation taking place. This will need to be discussed at the next meeting.
- Jill Foley raised the question of small numbers attending at meetings in both boy's and girl's schools and queried whether both Parents Associations would benefit from amalgamation. Gary discussed this with Brian Cuthbert and as both schools are legal entities, it is not possible to merge the associations.
- Paul O Leary suggested setting up a What's App group. This needs to be further discussed but those in attendance were agreeable to same and provided their phone numbers. Gary Harte could administer same but it needs further discussion.
- Gary discussed the option of 'conference calls' for future meetings if parents could not attend in person. There may be technical logistics involved so Gary will look into same.
- It was proposed by Paul O Leary and seconded by Kamilla Jakubowska- Switaj that Gary Harte stay on as chairman for another term.
- It was proposed by Kamilla Jakubowska- Switaj and seconded by Paul O Leary that Jill Foley stay on as secretary for another term.
- The next Parents Association Meeting will be held on October 24th, 2017 at 7.30pm