



Minutes of the ASA Meeting - 18 January 2023

1. Welcome and apologies

Gary welcomed everyone. Apologies had been received from Andrea, Mark, Jo H, Clare F and Helena P.

2. 2022 Overview

Gary gave his thanks for the extra push at the end of 2022 when a large number of successful events had taken place.

Jules reported profits as follows:

- Halloween disco £880. Around 200 students attended. The decorations and lighting were fabulous. The sixth form ran the tuck shop.
- Santa Sleigh – not yet known – a cheque was due next week.
- Craft fair £5,151. This required a lot of resource but was a successful community event. The footfall was down on previous years but the profit was not. The date clashed with a book festival in the town. There was sufficient interest for this year's stall holders.
- Festival of Light - £1,621.00.
- Cyclo-cross £894. It was agreed that the effort required was disproportionate to the profit and that ASA involvement was unlikely in future years. Additionally, the food provider organised by the Cyclocross Team had cancelled at the last minute.
- Carol concert £210. This was more about the school and wider community than a fundraising opportunity.
- Hampers - £2973

A total of £11,733 had been raised in the autumn term.

3. School update

Andrea had reported via Gary that the boiler house development was in the planning stage – it would provide a drama facility and might be a subject for targeted ASA fundraising. The flat roof work was finished and the bell tower would be painted imminently.

4. Key ASA Roles

Helena P, a qualified accountant, had come forward to be Co-Treasurer of the ASA alongside Jules, and also a Trustee for the charity. This was proposed by Gary and seconded by Alison and voted in unanimously by the meeting.

A letter would go out with the e-bulletin this week to explain more about the role and time commitments of the co-Chair, which would need to include use of social media to publicise the main events. Dhrooti would stay on as a trustee and cheque signatory until a co-Chair was appointed. She would continue to support the ASA in her role as Ashlyns lettings officer and as the joint lead for the festival with Gary.

5. Allocation of funding

- a. Music DJ Technology – Mr Grant had asked for **£1,707 +VAT** for DJ equipment. This would be used at school events, but more importantly was intended to start up a DJ club at

lunchtimes, support in house music competitions, and create a peloton-inspired music for the gym. **Approved (£1,707 +VAT.)** Alison would notify school.

- b. The Art Department had asked for additional resources to the value of **£1,030.33**. This was for regular art supplies such as paper, card, ink and brushes, but also for items that students could draw – such as animal skulls and ammonites. The request appeared to relate to items which the school would be expected to supply from the art budget. Funding for a 6th form printer was also sought, with no clear reason what it would be used for. After some discussion, the meeting agreed to:

Approve the funding for objects to draw only (value of £148)

Ask school for more information about the printer

Ask school whether the art supplies could be funded from school budget.

- c. Mrs Gaches had bid for **£3,225 (+ VAT)** per annum to pay for Massolit resources for GCSE and A-level students. This would provide short video lectures in each subject.

The main issue that the meeting had with the request was that it was for one year only. It was decided that the school should be asked to provide further information, such as:

- Would some subjects benefit more than others?
- What had been the impact of the free trials the school had accessed?
- Were all teachers aware of the potential of this resource and would everyone use it?
- Could the ASA fund some subjects only to start with and then the impact could be evaluated?
- Would school match fund the overall cost?

- d. Mr Hutchinson (music) had emailed the ASA directly to ask for 6 new keyboards at a cost of **£221** each (including VAT). **Alison will speak to Andrea to ensure this request was supported by school.**

6. 2023 Events

February

Bags2School – collection is 2nd February (closing date for drop-off is 30 January)

March

Quiz Night - 17th March. Tickets would go on sale shortly via ParentPay. The cost was likely to be £8 per ticket or £75 for a table for ten. Food bags (nibbles etc) would also be available to purchase at £15, people could bring their own drinks and food and there would be a licenced top-up bar. Rounds would include plasticine modelling, heads and tails and there would be a homemade cake auction.

July

14th July - Comedy Night

15th July – Music Festival. There will be a ‘fun zone’ with climbing walls etc. A volunteer would be needed to oversee this.

September

Year 7 and 8 Parents Welcome Evening Social – date TBA. Would need a person to lead.

October

ASA AGM – date TBA

19th October - Year 7 and 8 Halloween Disco – TBC, depending on school calendar.

November

19th November – Craft Fair – a volunteer was required to lead a small team for this. Jo H would organise the café again this year.

26th November - Festival of Light Tombola – Helena would run this.

December

Santa Sleigh – date TBA – Clare F would lead.

Carol Concert – date TBA

Christmas Hamper Draw – date TBA – David and Liz would lead this with new volunteers shadowing.

Cyclo Cross – It was not clear if this would happen in Berkhamsted in 2023, but it was not a priority for the ASA due to high effort vs low return.

7. AOB

It was proposed that there should be a specific event for year 9s who have not had a social event since year 5. The Rex could accommodate all of year 9 at a minimum cost of £400, preferably a Thursday morning screening. Alternatively, a tried and tested provider could put on a silent disco at an approximate cost of £400 for 200 headsets, plus £90 for a playlist. The 6th form could run a tuck shop and the whole event would last 2 hours. **Nicola would put this in writing to Gary who would discuss with school.** 30 March was a possible date.

For the 2023 London Marathon the ASA had a 'Silver Bond' place. The cost was £370 plus VAT for one place every five years. One participant had come forward. It was suggested he raises a minimum of £1,000 for the ASA. **Approved. Gary would speak to him.**

The bulletin would include a request for any unwanted iphones or tablets to be used in conjunction with card readers at events.