

Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund AGM

15th June 2023

Minutes and actions:

Apologies: Judith Vosper, Neil Spurdell, Louise Carver, Michelle Major and Julie McQuillan

1. Welcome and introductions

Jude Owen – Link member of Leadership Team

Sharon Warne – Parent and Treasurer

Nicola Dowd – Parent, Governor and Acting Chair of SSOF

Others present:

Nicola Dew, Lisa Pullin, Ann-Marie Neil, Lauren Dare, Danielle Deery. All parents.

2. Overview of the SSOF and report of the year

Originally School Association Fund raising committee, it became the Parent Enrichment Fund in 2006. It has charitable status. Aims to raise money to part fund enrichment opportunities, equipment, kit and trips to keep the costs down for all students.

During Covid – it was an opportunity to rebrand and rename and our old committee had left/retired. We created the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund and changes were really driven by Nina Copping a parent and our chair – and Sharon Warne as Treasurer.

Fundraising has taken place – Amazon Smile (now has ended), Easy Fundraising, on ParentPay, one off donations, regular donations and more through the Benevity scheme – employer pays half and company pays half (tax saving system), more recently the 500 club.

This year we have had some challenges. Nina and Sharon Bisset stepped down for personal reasons and we have focused more on the bids from staff and funding of enrichment opportunities now that school clubs and trips are back in full force once again. Nicola Dowd (Governor and parent) has stepped in as Acting Chair and we have managed to recruit a few more parents who want to get involved.

Moving forward, we need a more stable committee. Neil Spurdell and Jude Owen are leaving at the end of the 2023 academic year and with a new Head and Deputy Head and it is an exciting time for the school. There is also a new School Business Manager and Finance Manager who are really onboard – supported by Jess Webster who has been brilliant in support of the finances/bids from staff.

The SSOF would like to be in a position to organise school quiz nights/have a Big Give Week, actually hold the new parents' welcome breakfast and be much more visible.

Since Covid there has been a lack of engagement from parents and it is an opportunity for the Fund to reach out and get more parents on board.

2022-23:

We have held two virtual bids meeting this year in November 2022 and March 2023. There will be one more meeting held in July for enrichment opportunities going out in Terms 1 and 2 2023-24.

We have funded/part funded trips, kit, DofE, Ten Tors, leavers proms, brains, book buzz and so much more.

A special mention must go to Olly Woodman an ex-student who donated £15,000 through the Benevity scheme – he personally donated half that amount.

- **The attached **ADD IN** terms of reference were shared and agreed.**

3. Finance Report 2022-23

Sharon Warne – Treasurer reported that there had been £20,000 in donations. Approximately £12,000 left to spend (usually don't have this much but this year was the large one-off donation). The SSOF has supported 30 projects this year. These include, Y7 camp, Ten Tors, DofE, dissection club, netball dresses, theatre tickets, entrance fees, transport support, Book Buzz (Y7 and 8), further maths trip, additional musical instruments, £10 subsidy per student for Y11 and Y13 Prom tickets, Japanese club, girls football kit, a new gazebo, prizes for competitions, art materials for Y8 art club, and we provide £500 per term hardship fund for students who don't qualify for FSM.

Need to encourage more donations from a variety of means as well as raising money through other easy schemes e.g. Tesco Blue Token Scheme. The 500 club will need to be taken on by another member. Need to advertise the fund more to parents e.g. Sheldon Standard. Website will need updating.

4. Election of new committee:

Chair: Nicola Dowd

Treasurer: Sharon Warne

Secretary: Lisa Pullin

All others present were happy to become 'the committee' and be trustees from 2023.

Account signatories will be: Peter Lynch (Headteacher) , new LT member link (TBC), Sharon Warne (Treasurer), Nicola Dowd (Chair) and Lisa Pullin (Secretary).

5. Plans for 2023-24:

A discussion was had about plans for the future. Three meetings for next year need to be put into the calendar. Perhaps a 'Big Week Fundraiser' for something specific e.g. sports equipment for outside at lunchtimes. The website needs to be updated with the new committee and a meeting needs arranging with Peter Lynch and LT link member about how to work best for the school in the future.

JAO 18th June 2023