



MINUTES FROM FSA AGM (28/9/2016)

Present: Kirsty Marks (Assistant Secretary), Maria Demetriou (Chair), Lucy Butterworth (Vice Chair), Louise Gluckstein, Helen Glass (President), Miriam Clark (Secretary), Keith Rampley, Francesca Wiseman, Guy Barker (Acting Treasurer), Mary Russell, Chris Dale (Independent Financial Examiner), Annette Thurgood, Mohammad Helmi, Maysoun Abdel-Fattah, Gill Piesold, Tommy Danvers, Elena Logara-Pantel, Helen Filali, Kate Stannard, Sarah Hale

Apologies: Fabienne Canale (Vice Chair), Anne Keogh, Vanessa Bell, Brian Walshe (Treasurer)

1 President's Address

The FSA President, Helen Glass gave an interesting presentation about last year and the vision for this year. She outlined that the most important areas for all of the Fortismere community to focus on is having a big heart, a finger on the pulse and an active mind. As part of this a great deal of work has gone into improving the transition process for yr7's and yr12's.

The key areas she took us through were: Reputation-Teaching and Learning, Inclusion-Attendance and Behaviour, Standards-Outcomes, Every child progressing: staff and students mindful and enriched and Structures- Developing the site and learning environment.

In terms of inclusion, the new attendance target is 97% and so far for this term the school is at 96.4%. She mentioned Madame Peng's visit in October 2015 and Hunter Davis's visit in November 2015 (an ex-Creighton student and author) and her re-reading of his book, The Creighton Report.

She mentioned attainment levels and that at GCSE Fortismere had achieved their best ever outcomes and significantly above the national average; 86% 5+A*-C including Maths and English and 56% EBACC. Most significantly, there is only a **1% gap in the attainment of boys and girls** at Fortismere compared to the national picture of 8% last year, and the gap closed again between the lower attaining students. At A-Level the school has had their best ever outcomes at A2; 72% A*- B with 11 students accepted at Oxbridge and 2 at Medical School. She mentioned the difference in noise levels commented on by staff because of the mobile phone ban (a good thing - kids are talking to each other outside classrooms instead of looking at screens) and she mentioned that there has been an investment in games for kids to play together as well as the introduction of mindfulness sessions.

She finished by talking about the site, including the fact that Guy Holden has been tasked with looking at how the walls are covered, aesthetics and messaging/posters. She also discussed the ongoing need for investment in the structures and fabric of the buildings and grounds and pointed out that despite the fact that the school has a large site, it does not get any extra funding from Haringey, for eg Fortismere has only just had a grant of £125,000 to drain the field (which has been requested for a very long time). This makes the need for the funds raised by the FSA even more obvious. She very kindly answered some parent's questions. And as ever she finished by thanking the FSA for the funds they provide and expressed the wish that more parents and carers would get involved with the FSA and the events they run. Slides inserted at end.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Chris Dale (Independent Financial Examiner) proposed that the wording of the Constitution be changed to state that the accounts be subject to an Independent Examination (vs audit, as audit is expensive). Miriam will make this change to the others already highlighted and circulate for approval.
- Miriam also mentioned that Guy is proposing to change the year end to 31st July (from 31st August) on the Constitution as having less than a month (end August to last week Sept at AGM) to produce and get a full set of accounts independently examined for the previous year was proving difficult, so having an extra month would be felt to make the task more achievable and would tie in with academic year.
- 2014-2015 accounts have been approved at the EGM on 20th June 2015 and can stand (subject to any adjustment into material areas that are presented). Chris and Guy to submit asap to Charity Commission unless anything material is presented, in which case these will need to be re-presented at the next EGM (20th October 2016).
- 2015-2016 draft accounts and highlights were not ready for this meeting. Accounts to be drafted and externally examined asap to be approved at an EGM in the near future.

3. Chair's Report with evaluation of the previous year's progress

Report from Maria Demetriou, text attached.

4. Discussion of the programme for the coming year:

Discussion about events that are being developed for this year, agreement that not all events should be run just to raise money, community inclusion also a high priority for the FSA. Events include:

- **Fireworks** (underway and main focus at the moment. Being run as in 2015 with team of helpers, meeting with school to be held 11th October to discuss logistics).
- **Car boots** possibly monthly? details to be discussed
- **Phil the bag** tbc possibly in November
- **Fortitude Festive Fair** Details to be confirmed. Suggested it's run with outside suppliers, format to be discussed and rides etc to be booked once date confirmed – proposed as 8th July TBC (or near to, subject to ride availability and no major sporting/other events being held).
- **Thank you to volunteers** pub evenings/picnics
- **FSA presence at parents/info evenings (KS3/4 and 5)** Kirsty to be provided with dates and an FSA presence at each parents evening (stands? Posters?) to try and recruit helpers is suggested, try for 2 per year group.
- **Other fundraisers for Spring 2017** to be discussed and agreed at meeting 11th October. Tommy Danvers suggested an event like 'ForktoFork' (<http://franklinforktofork.com/>) could be incorporated or tried as has been a good fundraiser for Franklin primary school. To be discussed further.
- All events to be reviewed and discussed once accounts for 2015-2016 are available and we can see successes

5. Elections of Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant secretary

No-one came forward to stand as Vice Chair so Lucy and Fabienne will be co-opted until a replacement(s) is found. Helen, Kate and Sarah mentioned they had friends who might be interested. Miriam has sent Role description, friends or anyone in the parent community to step up if they feel they (and a friend) might be interested, otherwise Kirsty to continue to send out messages to try and recruit.

- Guy Barker was elected Treasurer
- Claire Thompson was elected Assistant Treasurer
- Amina Pfeufer is also happy to be co-opted to help out as the assistant treasurer as and when needed over the next year.
- Kirsty Marks was elected Secretary
- Gill Piesold was elected Assistant Secretary.

The constitution requires a minimum of 10 committee members however, Miriam and Francesca have been re-drafting the constitution on this point – see point 6.

6. A.O.B

- **All to bring one mate to a meeting** all to try this to try and expand the team of helpers. Miriam to write about how few people are on the committee (less than 10 at meetings vs a total of 1,500 families at Fortismere) and remind parents of the need for funds (DONE) and ask for help with specific skills (eg PR, Website etc) DONE.
- **School fundraiser** is currently being recruited for and will be expected to work closely with the FSA (NB this person could manage the online shopping donation sites etc Giving Machine which donate every time you shop). Mrs Glass to keep FSA in the loop about what progress is made with this recruitment (any parents or others in the community with relevant school fundraising and grant application skills are welcome to apply to find out more).
- **Involve 6th formers in fundraising efforts** Mrs Glass to liaise with K Sullivan and Zoe Judge about this.
- **Sponsorship of events:** Lucy has agreed a new deal with Martyn Gerrard of £3,500 for Fortitude 2017 and £3,500 for Fireworks 2017 (year runs calendar year not academic year). Other sponsors are welcome for other events. Reminder that MG will donate a part of the commission from their fees for any Fortismere parent selling a home. Parent to advise the FSA that this is what is happening so FSA can chase up funds.
- **Suggestion of setting up an FSA whatsapp group** NB there is an FSA Officer group already



- Need to emphasise to parents **how few parents are on the FSA** and working on all the events, lack of awareness that amongst a school of c1,700 parents only 10 or so regularly turn up at meetings. Try and recruit specific skills or time units from people
- Suggestion to promote the **FSA facebook group** more. Kirsty to promote this now that ning site is down.
- **Firework update:** to be discussed in full at meeting on 11th October.
- **Updating the constitution:** Miriam and Francesca presented the re-drafted Constitution and explained that it has been updated from the original version (published in 1988) with new clauses better defining membership, covering realistic volunteer numbers and levels and providing liability to the committee over their actions undertaken in good faith. The changes have been taken from the PTA-UK Model Constitution dated November 2011 and available here:
<http://www.pps.sch.qa/images/downloads/PTA%20Constitution%20and%20Guidance%20Notes.pdf>
The re-draft will be circulated to the whole school via Parentmail (done 10th October 2016) requesting feedback to Miriam and subject to any feedback, or comments/queries will be approved at the EGM on 20th October and submitted to the Charity Commission.
- **Thanks to retiring officers:** Done with lovely bouquets of flowers, many thanks to all for their tireless efforts and thanks from the officers, it's been an amazing and highly rewarding experience.

Whether you have time to give or not you can add to our funds by registering with Justgiving and clicking on the Fortismere School Association link and choosing how much you would like to give. Please do. <https://www.justgiving.com/fortismereschool/>

Date of next meeting (which is about Fireworks and rest of year planning) set as 11th October, 7.00-9pm - conference room, 1st floor, South Wing.

First Bids (and EGM) meeting set as 20th October, 6pm, conference room, 1st floor, South Wing.

Head teacher/FSA President presentation:

fortismere

The year ahead 2016-2017



Our vision

- ▶ Fortismere will continue to be an outstanding, popular and successful school. It will win hearts and minds through adding value to its students and staff, playing a key role in its wider community and leading innovative practice that impacts nationally and internationally.
- ▶ All staff from both teaching and non-teaching teams will share this vision and be committed to contributing to a dynamic learning environment which results in significant and measurable year-on-year improvement in all key stages.
- ▶ Fortismere will have an active mind, a finger on the pulse and a big heart.

The Balanced Scorecard

- ▶ Reputation-Teaching and Learning
- ▶ Inclusion-Attendance and Behaviour
- ▶ Standards-Outcomes
- ▶ Every child progressing: staff and students mindful and enriched
- ▶ Structures- Developing our site and learning environment

Reputation

- Fortismere graded as 'Outstanding' November 2011
- Named as one of the country's top state schools again this year
- Delivering the leadership modules for the NRTA (New River Teaching Alliance)
- A school that plays an active role in its community - Muswell Hill Soup kitchen, North London Hospice, student leaders working on joint projects with fellow Haringey schools, Year 11 volunteers running the Year 7 lunchtime club, representing Haringey in sporting events.....
- One of just 15 schools rolling out the Mandarin Excellence Programme
- A school that had a book written about it - The Creighton Report
- Recognised by Buckingham Palace for its contribution to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Entrusted to host the First Lady of China, Madame Peng (21st October 2015) during a State Visit
- A school that has produced some of the finest young talent in the field of the Arts: Simon Rynink (photographer and winner of Sundance London's best short film), Lauren Davies (founder of HEKA), Bronwen Rhodes (Director for Channel 4, Vivienne Westwood et al), Rafi Greifer (music producer), Anthony Lewis (drummer), Billy Adamson (guitarist), Michael Kivanuka (No 1 in the Official Albums Chart this week!), Jess Glynn (singer), and of course, Rod Stewart and Ray Davies!
- A school where students excel at sport: Year 7 girls swimming-Haringey champions; Year 8 boys cricket-North Middlesex champions; Year 9 boys cricket-Finalists in Barnet Cup, Year 7 and 8 girls cricket-Middlesex indoor champions and Haringey champions; Year 9 and 10 girls cricket-Haringey champions; Year 9 netball-Haringey champions; U13 Junior and Senior girls football-Haringey 5-a-side champions and U13 Middlesex champions; Year 7 boys hockey-Middlesex champions; Athletics Haringey champions; George Miles-High Jump, Michael Barr-Long Jump...the list goes on....
- A school for everyone.....

The Quality of Teaching and Learning



'Fortismere will have..... a big heart.'

Supporting with Transitions

- ▶ 'The school had been open for one whole afternoon, with each department doing displays and then all evening for parents who couldn't manage the afternoon.'
- ▶ 'I don't think the preparation for next year's intake can be bettered. I've never liked the idea of children being frightened all summer by the thought of their new school.' Molly Hattersley, Headteacher, Creighton School (The Creighton Report 1974)

Risk-taking and that all-important leap!



The Transition Projects 2016

- ▶ One of the most significant changes
- ▶ Anticipation not dread!
- ▶ Ofsted's report on KS3 (September 2015) emphasised again the importance of well-planned and supported transition



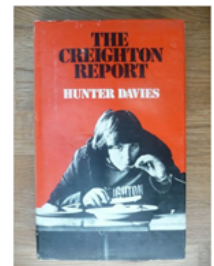
Year 11 into 12



Inclusion

- ▶ Attendance – a high priority – minimum expectation 97%
- ▶ Attendance for the term so far – 96.4%
- ▶ BFL– Behaviour **for** Learning
- ▶ Vertical Tutor (VT) groups
- ▶ Student Leadership – Sixth Form and KS4 Leadership teams

'But there is one aspect of a comprehensive school that can't be measured—the quality of the young people it is producing. This will be my most impressive memory of Creighton. In their concern for tolerance, freedom, equality, fairness and democracy, they are unrecognisable from the pupils of my generation.'



Hunter Davies (The Creighton Report)

Hunter returned!

- ▶ 16th November 2015



Standards

GCSE–

- ▶ Our best ever outcomes and significantly above the national average; 86% 5+A*-C including Maths and English
- ▶ 56% EBACC
- ▶ Only a 1% gap in the attainment of boys and girls. Compare this to the national picture of 8% last year!
- ▶ The gap closed again between our most vulnerable learners and all other students
- ▶ We were absolutely delighted that our lower attaining students (based on prior attainment KS2 data) gained a Progress 8 score of 1.2 and a value added score of 1062!
- ▶ Attainment 8 – 6.2
- ▶ Progress 8 – 0.5

A-Level–

- ▶ Our best ever outcomes at A2; 72% A*-B
- ▶ 11 students accepted at Oxbridge and 2 at Medical School

Every child progressing: staff and students mindful and enriched

- ▶ Our pledge is to ensure that all students make at least expected levels of progress, whatever their starting point and within any Key Stage
- ▶ What are the barriers to be removed to ensure that progress is maintained, no matter what?
- ▶ The Linc team (**L**earning **i**nclusion)
- ▶ A new Enrichment Programme tailored specifically for Year 7
- ▶ Mindfulness – new for this year



Structures

- ▶ Developing our site and learning environment





'Fortismere will have an active mind, a finger on the pulse and a big heart.'





Chair's Report 2015-16

I would like to start by saying what a successful year we have had. Fortitude and Fireworks have become a staple item of the Muswell Hill community calendar, and draw large crowds of families, not all of whom are at Fortismere, which is wonderful and helps the FSA achieve its aims of acting as a co-ordinating body within the community. The ever popular quiz night was very well attended and enjoyed (for which we thank Tas and Steve Pemberton for their fantastic organisation and hard work).

We thanked our wonderful volunteers earlier this year at a meeting at The Clissold, we really are very lucky to have so many parents who come to our aid to help us run events. It would be even more amazing to have more parents helping with the planning and coming to our meetings, but events like Fortitude take up to 200+ parents to put together on the day and beforehand, and we are incredibly grateful to all the parents who help us. From those who took Martyn Gerrard boards, Andy and his team who delivered flyers, The ladies who ran the first aid tent, Vanessa who designed the materials and set up an emergency paypal ticketing website for us, Gill with her wonderful book stalls and support all year round in selling tickets (and beach bags) in the library for us, Kirsty who managed the volunteers rosta and gates and all those who donated to the auctions, bought raffle tickets, came to the events or manned the stalls to those who cleaned the field up after the event, or set up at 8am. Every single person should be thanked for their contributions towards making the events not just successful commercially but also really enjoyable. Many volunteers come back year after year and we are incredibly grateful to them (eg hot chocolate ladies!).

In addition this year we launched comedy night, car boot sale and Phil the bag which we can build on in the coming year. Our very first comedy night was a star studded event with A lister Sean Lock headlining and local funny man Mark Maier entertaining the audience and ensuring the event was a sell out.

None of this would have been possible without the Exec team, Fabienne, Lucy, Miriam, Kirsty and Guy (stepping in for Brian): All of us have worked extremely hard and we have been supportive of each other, and it has been great.

I would also like to thank Martyn Gerrard for their continued sponsorship of our events and remind everyone of their offer to donate part of their fee to the FSA if you sell your home through them.

I now have to thank our retiring officers (Miriam, Lucy, Fabienne, Brian) and welcome our new members (Kirsty, Gill and Guy) and we look forward to another fantastic year of great fundraising events. The committee have been very generous with their time behind the scenes, without them none of this would be possible. Thanks are also due to Fi, Keith, Louise, Mary, Susan, Margo and Vanessa who regularly attended meetings and had big parts to play in our events. I would also like to thank Michael, Kevin and the site team for their support in helping us build and manage the events (still hoping for an FSA storage container?) and also the behind the scenes office people who help to make things happen; Jo for the newsletters, tweets and Website coverage and Anne and Mary for organising the bids and the money arrangements and rooms and for attending so many of our meetings and being so supportive to the FSA over the year.

We would really like more involvement from teaching staff with the FSA (it is a parent teacher association after all), particularly for Fortitude (once exams have finished) and we will be calling on all those who are awarded money from the bids to be committed and help out and attend Fortitude with us to help us raise the money that improves the environment for our kids.

I am looking forward to helping plan and lead another highly successful year for the FSA in the Fortismere community. Please do read the FSA newsletter and stay in touch with us and I encourage you to set up a regular donation via our just giving website at <https://www.justgiving.com/fortismereschool/>

Maria Demetriou

Chair

Fortismere School Association