



RHODES **A**VENUE **P**RIMARY **S**CHOO**L** **A**SSOCIATION
Registered Charity No: 1062916

RAPSA AGM
18th October 2016 – 8pm

Present:

Anna Sanchez (Chair)

Helen Gilbert (Secretary)

Meera Ganatra (Treasurer)

Sheena Patel (Treasurer)

Natalie Tilbury (Rep Co-ordinator)

Adrian Hall (Headteacher)

Bronya Elderkin

Sarah Lewis

Abigail Rappoport

Naaheed Mukadam

Becks Bohling

Geeta Nayar

Fleur Nielsen

Lindsey Blizzard

Sam Willoughby

Apologies: Eva Ontiveros, Nina Watson, Sally Eustance

1. Minutes of last year's AGM

The minutes of last year's AGM were sent out to committee members prior to the meeting and approved. The minutes are available on the website for all parents to read.

2. General review of last year's events

Quiz Night: a fun, sociable evening with a healthy bar profit.

Christmas Fair: hot turkey rolls (tried for the first time) and mulled wine were very popular. The Fair was busy but not overwhelming.

Burns Night: an event RAPSA should be proud of. Cultural evening with poetry and great food as well as dancing. Unfortunately turnout was low (scheduled too early in January and perhaps too 'niche' an evening) which affected the profit.

Spring Fair: great Fair for the kids. The feedback was that it felt a bit short and it could be half an hour longer.

Jumble Sales: one in the autumn term and one in the spring term. They are renowned in the local area and jumlbers come from around north London to attend. Very successful, raising a significant amount of money.

Parents' Disco: a good number of parents came (although there's room in the hall for plenty more!) and there was a great atmosphere. Replaced Bollywood which will happen this May.

Children's Disco: ran for the second year and the children very much enjoyed it. It made a very good profit.

Fun Day: another highly successful event that involved the whole school. The silent auction alone raised over £1,300. Fun Day programme advertising local businesses raised £700 and sponsorship by Tatlers, Layzell's and Woodland Tree Surgery raised £1,350. Fun Day as a whole raised nearly £8,000.

None of the events would be possible without the help of the parents and the committee members. The Chair thanked everyone involved in the events last year for their dedication and hard work in organising and running the events.

3. Update of this year's events

This year the RAPSA calendar will be similar to last year.

Autumn Term

7th October – Yr 2 cake sale

21st October – Halloween cake sale

12th November – Jumble Sale

18th November – Nursery cake sale (Children in Need)

18th November – Quiz Night

2nd December – Yr 5 cake sale

3rd December – Christmas Fair

Spring Term

3rd February - Boogie Nights

10th February – Yr 6 cake sale

17th March – Yr 3 cake sale

25th March – Spring Fair

Summer Term

28th April – Yr 1 cake sale

29th April – Jumble Sale

12th May – Yr 4 cake sale

19th May – Bollywood

16th June – Reception cake sale

2nd July – Fun Day

4. Financial review

Sheena gave the financial review for 2015/2016. Since RAPSA is a charity, the reports and accounts will be on the charity commission website. In total, RAPSA raised **£28,222**.

The biggest fundraising event was Fun Day (£7,936). The Christmas Fair was also very successful (£4,130), as was the Spring Fair (£1,481). Quiz Night (£1,586) was the evening event that raised the most funds, followed by the parents' disco (£975), the children's disco (£863) and Burns Night (£413). The Jumble Sales again raised more than the previous year and were the second biggest earner (£6,113).

Of all the fundraising initiatives, Christmas cards were again the biggest earner, raising £1,798, with cake sales the second biggest fundraising initiative, raising £1,621. Other initiatives that did well were selling mince pies & coffee at the Christmas shows and running a bar at the school evening concerts and the year 6 performance, as well as parent offers and calendars.

RAPSA's total spending this year came to **£26,593**. This was broken down as follows:

Pledge for infant playground £20,000

Financial support for school trips £3,000 (increased by £1,000 this year)

Additional classroom supplies for teachers £2,520

Portable loud speaker for sports day £461

Djembe drums £341

PTA insurance £107

Other small expenditures

Sheena thanked all parents for their generosity and commitment to the school.

5. Parents' wish list for use of funds raised by RAPSA

RAPSA requested that parents email suggestions on how money fundraised should be spent and in this way a wish list was generated. The Chair reiterated that the ultimate decision lies with the school's senior staff as they are best placed to understand the needs of the school.

At present the school's priority is fundraising for the KS1 playground.

To further maximise parents' fundraising efforts, the school is looking into match funding based on funds already raised by RAPSA. The school is also looking at generating additional funding from renting out the halls at the weekends for parties and clubs.

Everyone at the meeting was given access to the list of parent suggestions and they were discussed in turn.

- * **Redevelopment of the infant playground:** currently under consultation and planning
- * **Junior playground equipment, including more challenging climbing options perhaps with monkey bars etc and more games/hopscotch marked out on the floor:** Mr Hall explained that children are rotated between the two playgrounds so that they have access to the equipment in both playgrounds. There are playground markings in the infant playground already and no space for any in the junior playground. However, it was suggested that a boulder wall might be installed in the junior playground.
- * **Soft spongy surface in the caged area in junior playground:** this would limit the variety of sports playable in this area and it was generally agreed it would not be of benefit overall.
- * **Musical picnic bench (xylophone) by local designer (about £1,000):** the general consensus was that the money required could be better spent elsewhere, for example on a sensory and music area which will hopefully form part of the new KS1 playground.
- * **A covered area for the table football tables in the infant playground:** it was not clear what the need for this was, as children are not allowed to play outside if it rains and the table football in the infant playground is suitable for outdoors.
- * **Another table football table in each playground:** general agreement that this should be considered further
- * **A plentiful supply of table football and ping pong balls:** this is already supplied by the school
- * **A supplied games cupboard in each playground with footballs, tennis balls, hoops, skipping ropes, basket balls in KS2:** Mr Hall clarified that these are already available in the playgrounds and all children have access to them. The only exception is tennis balls as they go missing at too fast a rate to replenish!
- * **Microphones to amplify the sound from the stage in Whitam Hall:** this item is carried over from last year. RAPSA is looking into costs.
- * **Donation of some of our funds to underprivileged schools in Africa:** RAPSA is not legally able to do this. As a registered charity RAPSA is not permitted to donate to another charity. Similarly, RAPSA is obliged to raise money only for the cause stated in its constitution (ie Rhodes Avenue Primary School). Mr Hall said that the school raises money for many charitable causes and we are re-establishing contacts with the school that we support in Malawi. The issue is not so much raising funds but ensuring they reach the intended recipients.

* **Travel sickness bands for kids to wear on school coach journeys:** it was generally felt that parents should supply these to the children that needed them.

* **A boost to the art teacher's salary so she can increase her hours, or a job share with someone else to increase the art and creative hours for all years:** funding additional posts or salaries would require secure consistent funding which RAPSA is unable to guarantee.

6. Election

The current committee was disbanded prior to the election for the RAPSA committee. Anna Sanchez was proposed by Bronya to remain as Chair of the Association. Bronya was seconded and Anna was voted Chair of RAPSA. Meera Ganatra and Sheena Patel were proposed to be Co-Treasurers. This motion was seconded and Meera and Sheena were voted Co-Treasurers of RAPSA. Helen Gerolaki was proposed to be Secretary. This was seconded and Helen was voted Secretary of RAPSA. Natalie Tilbury was proposed to be Rep Co-ordinator. This was seconded and Natalie was voted the Rep Co-ordinator. Committee members remain the same as last year: Bronya Elderkin, Abigail Rappoport, Eva Ontiveros, Geeta Nayar, Naaheed Mukadam, Nina Watson (staff link), Sally Eustance (staff link), Rebecca Bohling, Sarah Lewis.

7. AOB

Abi reported on the meeting she held on RAPSA's new digital strategy. It was decided that the first step would be to start a Twitter account. Parents can opt in and it doesn't require a lot of volunteers' time, but it's a quick and regular way to keep parents informed on RAPSA and other school business. Facebook is also being discussed as a possibility further down the line. The school is progressing with its new website and keeping RAPSA involved.

Mr Hall thanked the RAPSA committee for all their hard work which makes the school such a special place.

The committee thanked Mr Hall for the letter he sent out at the beginning of the year thanking RAPSA. This was sent out to all the reps from last year and this coming year.