

# JAMES ALLEN'S GIRLS' SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF THE 26th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 AT 7.30PM

### Attendance.

**Committee members:** Mrs Gibbs (President), Diane Taylor (Chair), Penny King (Vice-chair), Helen Doris (Secretary), Elaine Shackleton (Treasurer), Oyinkan Ade Ajayi, Sade Adewunmi, Julian Brightman, Linda Magistris, Fiona Phelps and Lorrie Trotman.

**Staff and Parents:** Mrs Bicknell (Deputy Head) and 29 parents.

### **1. President's introduction.**

Mrs Gibbs welcomed everyone and handed over to the Chair, Diane Taylor.

### **2. Apologies.**

There were apologies from Camilla Hamilton.

### **3. To consider the minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 4 October 2007.**

The minutes of the previous AGM were confirmed.

### **4. Chair's Report.**

The Chair thanked parents for supporting the JPA by attending the AGM and explained its role to support the school in ways which will benefit the girls. This included organising social events (for both girls and parents), encouraging and supporting the role of class reps, some fund-raising and running second-hand uniform sales.

A number of events had been held during the year including the annual **Quiz**. This had been a very lively and enjoyable evening directed at a fast and furious pace by guest quiz master, the broadcaster Henry Kelly. The bar, run as always by Mrs Gibbs, did a roaring trade. Many thanks to Linda, Camilla and other members of the committee for decorating the Holst Hall for the quiz.

In January the committee hosted a very successful **Drinks party for year 7 parents** attended by over 100 parents. This party gives parents an opportunity to meet the parents of their daughters' new friends.

The annual **Year 7 and 8 disco**, organised jointly with parents of Dulwich College boys, was hosted this year by JAGS. Tickets were sold out within days. Particular thanks to Penny and Elaine for all their hard work organising this very successful event.

Following the success of the joint disco we have started to increase contact with our DC counterparts to try to organise **social events for year 10 and 11 children**. Many thanks to Camilla for driving this forward initially by organising mixed discussion groups with DC boys and JAGS girls to find out what activities they would like.

We had excellent weather for **Founder's Day**. Consequently the Pimms Tent was a very popular attraction. We also sold strawberries and cream for the first time this year. Thanks to all the committee members who helped organise the Pimms tent and to all the parents, mostly from year 7, who volunteered to take part in the serving rota.

Several committee members supported the school by attending the **Information evening for new parents** last month. This is the occasion when the committee tries to recruit class reps. The Chair explained the valuable role played by class reps and invited parents to consider volunteering for their class. Further information about the role of class reps can be found on the parents pages of the JAGS website.

The JPA is holding a small **surplus of funds**. The Chair invited parents to make suggestions on how this money might be spent for the benefit of the girls.

The Chair thanked parents for supporting these events and the committee members for organising them and thanked Mrs Gibbs for her unfailing support and encouragement to the committee and its work throughout the year.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report.**

Elaine Shackleton reported a profit of £2,454.62. Quiz Night had returned a large profit of £715. The Disco had been held at JAGS, so we retained the £684 profit this year. Uniform Sales brought £726 profit and Founder's Day had enjoyed good weather, raising a profit of £442. The Committee was intending to make a donation to the school and suggestions from parents would be very welcome. Net current assets stand at £6,414.23.

Accounts for the year 2007/2008 had been audited and passed by Kevin Barry. It was proposed by Diane Taylor and seconded by Helen Doris that the accounts should be adopted. They would be published on the website.

#### **6. Vote of thanks to the retiring committee members.**

Mrs Gibbs expressed a warm and generous thank you to the retiring members: Diane Taylor, Helen Doris, John Curtis and Heather McKenzie.

#### **7. To accept nominations and vote on membership to the committee.**

Sheila Khullar (Year 8), Emma Hunter Jones (Year 7), Mary Mathieson (Year 7) and Hayley Matheson (Year 7) were proposed to join the Committee by Diane Taylor and seconded by Helen Doris. They were elected unopposed.

#### **8. To accept nominations and vote on committee office holders.**

Penny King and Elaine Shackleton will continue in their posts of Vice-chair and Treasurer respectively. Fiona Phelps was proposed as Chair by Diane Taylor and seconded by Helen Doris. Camilla Hamilton was proposed as Secretary by Diane Taylor and seconded by Helen Doris. They were elected unopposed.

#### **9. To confirm cheque signatories.**

Penny King and Elaine Shackleton will continue to be cheque signatories. The retiring cheque signatory, Diane Taylor, will be replaced by Fiona Phelps.

#### **10. Uniform Sales.**

Elaine Shackleton informed parents that the main sales take place in September and June on Saturday mornings and in May on the afternoon that Peter Jones are at the school. There are also sales every first Friday of the month between 8am and 8.30am, mainly for the girls. Labels should be pinned on to the garment. Price guidelines and labels are available on the web site or from the office. The JPA takes 10% profit and parents are reimbursed in September and June. Elaine warmly invited any parents who would like to help with the sales to contact her.

## **11. AOB.**

Christine Heath, who is helping to organise a Christmas Fair at Dulwich College, extended an invitation to JAGS girls to become involved. Mrs Gibbs suggested that she liaise with Fiona Phelps and Mrs Bicknell outlined what had already been done to promote the Fair.

Mrs Gibbs invited parents to attend the **Art Fair** on 22 and 23 November 2008. To date, there are to be 36 stalls and an online auction.

Mrs Gibbs reminded parents of the dates of the **Information Evenings for the Music Centre**. Parents are very welcome and should let Mrs Gibbs know which date they would be able to attend.

## **12. Date of next meeting.**

The date for the 2009 AGM will be set during the summer term and will be advertised on the school website, in the parents' newsletter and on the School Calendar.

Mrs Bicknell conducted tours of the new class rooms and the evening concluded with an informal social time and refreshments provided by the school.

Helen Doris  
7 October 2008