



**Wellesley College Parents' Association  
Meeting Minutes  
12 November 2018  
Wellesley College Staff Room, Days Bay at 7.30pm**

Association members attending	Katy Lethbridge, Robert Pritchard, Louise Croxford, Cilla Bennett, Bridget Hargreaves, Veronica Stevens, Rochelle Parks, Annabel Acland, Kate Oppenhuis, Kati Schroderus and Frances Crombie
Apologies	Rosie Torbit, Michelle Newington, Amanda Gregan, Chloe Bridgeman, Philippa Bossley, Janelle Harland, Rachael Wilson, Madeleine Andrews and Brendan Pitman

### **Opening/Apologies**

Katy opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Apologies were conveyed.

### **Previous Minutes review**

The minutes of the meeting of 16 October were confirmed as a true and accurate account (KL/AA). The minutes of the Special General Meeting of the same date were also confirmed (FC/BH).

### **Briefing on school re-branding**

Sylvie Gould gave a presentation on the new school branding and tagline, *Discover your Best*. There will be a new website soon that draws on this new branding has lots of lovely new images of the boys. The school has decided to continue its Discovery Days, which have been a lot more successful, in terms of conversion rate, than the Open Days. Next year they will be more targeted to different age groups.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Robert presented the PA Income statement for 1 to 31 October 2018. He noted that there will be one more statement before the end of the year, incorporating the final figures for the disco and Artbourne.

### **Spooky Disco**

This was a success, particularly with the juniors. Robert noted that the PA had been asked to take care of the finances for the Disco, but that it had no control over the spend. It was agreed that next time the PA would need to decide whether or not it would sponsor an event at the outset. If not, then the event

would need to be a 'school event' and the costs would not go through the PA account.

### Principal's Report

Brendan is away on the Year 7 camp so Veronica gave a short verbal update on his behalf:

- They have been busy interviewing candidates for vacant staff positions and will be able to make announcements on this shortly.
- They have recently signed up for a new student management system called Edge, to replace the Australian PC Schools, which was no longer fit for purpose. Parents will be able to access their boy's records via an app and it will deliver more up-to-date student evaluation.

### Artbourne

- Artbourne went really well, with a possible profit for the school of \$50,000 (tbc).
- Katy noted that it was an awful lot of work for Margie and Rosie, and this needs to be shared more fairly next time.
- She also wondered why more parents didn't come over the weekend. There was a discussion about the more expensive pieces that didn't sell and it was noted that the more affordable un-framed prints sold well.
- The effective advertising campaign (billboards, Air NZ magazine etc.) was mentioned.
- Amanda is discussing potentially curating the School's art collection with Margie.
- The PA bought a Michael Browne piece for its collection, spending \$2,500. The balance was paid for by the Foundation, which is also going to cover the cost of the framing. The Foundation also bought a work by Crane Amaru, the father of a scholar, which is going to be displayed in the Foyer.

### School picnic

- The PA reiterated that it is keen to be involved.
- It was thought March would be a better option, rather than in the first few weeks of term. There needs to be a rainy day/postponement date too.
- The PA could organise food trucks and a sausage sizzle so parents didn't have to organise their own picnic hamper.
- An outside company, such as Youth Town, could be brought in to provide some entertainment for the children. Also, traditional things like a tug of war, egg & spoon races could be fun.

## New parents drinks

There was a short discussion about this event. It was thought to be a helpful entrée to the school for new families but Veronica said it was poorly attended this year. It was suggested that it would be useful for the class reps to come along. Or, it could perhaps be rebranded as a 'Meet the staff' event, which would give current families the opportunity to come too.

## Class Reps

Cilla said that she and Louise will shortly set about recruiting class reps for next year, with a view to getting most in place before the start of next year. She is considering whether to send a questionnaire to get feedback from this year's class reps.

## Fundraising

### Art Calendars/Diaries

This was, unfortunately, a fail. Only after spending the best part of two days collating all the boys' artwork did Katy discover they weren't the right size for the supplier. It is a good fundraising idea though and we will look to do it next year – but with art that is either A4 or A3.

## Constitution

Katy will update the records held at the Charities Commission and the Companies Office (for the Incorporated Societies).

## Additional Business

- **BBQ:** Robert will buy this after he has arranged for the school to have Bunnings' cards.
- **Marquee:** This is approved but not yet purchased.
- **Class events:** Katy was approached by a class asking the PA to help finance an event they were organising. After reflection and consultation with other PA members, she decided this was not an appropriate use of PA funds. The PA will only finance events that it has organised itself or agreed to support.
- **Gala 2019:** Again, we ran out of time to have a detailed discussion about the Gala. To run a successful gala, we need to ask ourselves two important questions:
  - Is there an identified fundraising need/target that the gala is being held for (or is it rather for community bonding or marketing purposes)?
  - Is there a committed group of people who want to make it happen?

- Other options were a beefed-up school picnic that is more of a festival, or a Quiz Night.
- Note that the gala is a lot of work for quite limited return, compared to Artbourne.
- Because it was getting late, it was agreed that we would try to have some Christmas drinks to discuss, with a view to making a decision before the end of the year.

**Meeting closed: 9.35 pm.**

Katy will send around possible dates/venues for the drinks/meeting.