

**LORETO HIGHSCHOOL BEAUFORT
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of the AGM 13TH October 2020

Email: parents.association@loretohighschool.com

Present: Fiona Budds (Chair), Una Gibbons (Secretary), Donna Walsh (Treasurer), Sue Foran, Gemma Fitzsimons, Judith Brown, Jane Fitzhenry, Kathryn McAree

Attending: Principal: Aoife Kavanagh

Deputy Principal: Niamh McNally

Apologies:

Note: due to Covid –19 this meeting was conducted remotely on the ZOOM platform

Item 1: Minutes from Previous Meeting	Actions
Minutes of 2019 AGM were agreed.	
Item 2: Chairperson's Report	
<p>Fiona welcomed everyone to the first ever virtual AGM and explained the change to the Agenda relating to the guest speaker – Jacinta Kitt, who had a family medical emergency. Dr Maria Garvey kindly agreed to step in and speak on the topic of Bullying.</p> <p>The committee members from each year were welcomed.</p> <p>A thank you to the outgoing members: Anne Cassin, Clara Darker, Eithne Tobin, Anna O'Shea for their dedication to the committee and all the activities they helped with.</p> <p>The Principal Ms. Aoife Kavanagh was welcomed, along with the new deputy</p>	

<p>Principal Ms. Niamh McNally</p> <p>The PA hosted and were involved in many events during the year pre COVID-19 (Sep 2019 – Mar 2020):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review new school policies • Provide catering and support of school events e.g. Night at the Movies, Aidlink Fundraiser Fashion night • Parent social evenings and coffee mornings • Opening of new hockey pitch celebrations <p>Other Collaborations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readers from the parent body helped out in the Mock Exams • U Rock project (Reflective garden) was very successful • 2019/2020 new PAC initiative “The Pizza Pass”. This was deemed very successful as it brought great “joy” to the girls involved. E.g. 6th yr - end of exams and 4th yr - TY Musical Party. Excellent feedback from the 2020 6th years who were very grateful for this pizza party at the end of exams. <p>Social Networking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoom social night with 1st year parents in Sept 2020 was a great success. • Guest speaker event took place with Austin Prior on “Alcohol / Substance abuse in teenagers.” (Feb 2020). It was well attended and very informative. <p>Covid-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional events cancelled such as sports day and 6th year graduation • 6th year Debs postponed • Zoom licence has been acquired to facilitate the re-imagining of events <p>A big Thank you to Mr. Carolan and Ms. Harding who left the school in October</p>	
Item 3: Treasurer’s Report	
<p>Donna thanked everyone for their annual contribution and outlined the many school events supported by the PA. During the year, the PA invested in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering equipment • Gifts for departing and retiring staff (Mr. Carolan and Ms. Harding) on behalf of the parent body • 1st year Open night • Pizza Pass <p>Surplus of income over expenditure for the year amounted to €2,833.73</p>	
Item 4: Election of Parent Representatives	

<p>1st year - Neil Hoey and Sonia Howard Lenane</p> <p>4th year - Deirdre McDonnell and Ciaran O'Brien</p>	
<p>Item 5: Principal's Report</p>	
<p>Aoife Kavanagh welcomed all the parents to the meeting and outlined how grateful she is for the on-going support and contribution of the PA.</p> <p>She outlined that the school continued to provide a robust education to the girls and we are as one as part of the school community.</p> <p>The Deputy Principal, Ms. Niamh McNally was introduced.</p> <p>Ms.McNally indicated to the group that she is a former Loreto girl and has moved from Loreto Balbriggan.</p> <p>She is looking forward to working with the school, the girls and the parents.</p> <p>She has a strong science background and is a strong believer in gender equality in science, sports, politics and business.</p>	
<p>Item 6: AOB</p>	
<p>Fiona apologised for some technical difficulties experienced throughout the evening.</p>	
<p>Item 7: Introduction of guest speaker</p>	
<p>Fiona introduced the guest speaker, Ms Maria Garvey.</p>	

Gemma Fitzsimons and Kathryn McAree (Secretaries)

Donna Walsh (Chairperson)