

# **The Kings of Wessex Academy**

## **Parent Teacher Association**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

#### **Apologies**

Geoff Francis, Gail Colthurst, Sarah Cunningham, Jane Goodison, Jackie Fowler, Carole Shuff

#### **Present**

Chris Richardson, Barbara Marshall, Chris Strang, Gail Millard, Sarah Williams, Kath Hanlon, Sue Crompton, Amanda Kelly, Ginnie Soffe, Jane Dickinson, Martin Kay, Lucy Rowntree.

#### **Minutes**

The previous minutes were approved and signed.

#### **Chairman's Report**

Kath Hanlon thanked everyone for coming and highlighted our successful year during which we have funded a wide range of donations to school departments and activities. We have provided refreshments at concerts and the school production and supported the senior team by helping with the winter balls. Kath particularly thanked Mrs Marshall, the Treasurer and Secretary for their work through the year.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Jane Dickinson presented her report. The PTA has spent £2867 on items for the school in the last year. The biggest source of income is the enrichment fund which is augmented by the Gift Aid scheme whereby the PTA is able to reclaim income tax paid on donations. In addition we receive a commission from the HSBC Insurance scheme and make a small profit on sales of refreshments at school events. While this profit is relatively low (£245 last year), we do see it as an important service to the school and an opportunity to raise the profile of the PTA. Funds in the bank at the start of this academic year amounted to £2,855.

#### **Head Teacher's Report**

Mr Richardson thanked the PTA under Kath Hanlon's Chairmanship for their contribution to the Academy and for all the funding they have provided.

The highlight of the year was the excellent set of exam results this summer, with 91% of students gaining 5 or more A\* to C passes at GCSE (74% including English and Maths). The A level pass rate of 98% contributed to most students getting into their first choice of university. In this the last year before the tuition fees increase this was a particularly commendable result given the greater competition for places and the Academy had the highest percentage in the state sector regionally for students getting into the top 20 ranked universities.

The enrichment activities are a real strength of the school with various clubs and activities organised ranging from the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme to the 150 or so external visits.

The introduction of the English Baccalaureate has meant that students are now strongly recommended to study the requisite range of subjects including maths, English, sciences, a language and a humanities subject. This is particularly important for students wishing to study at university in the future, however the Academy is not making this compulsory.

The school continues to grow and currently has over 1200 students with the highest percentage ever staying on to the sixth form. The funding cuts have presented problems with schools expected to make year on year savings of 1.6%, not taking into account the effects of inflation. This has inevitably meant some loss of teaching posts, however Mr Richardson is confident that there will be stability over the next few years.

### **Any Other Business**

None

**Signed:**

**Date:**