



**Friends of Denver Primary School**  
**Meeting Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 3.20pm**  
**MINUTES**

**Venue:** Denver Village Primary School Staff Room

**Date and Time:** Friday, April 24 at 3:20pm

**Attendees:** Louise Jones (Headteacher), Nanci Lima Abraham (Vice Chair), Nicola O'Mara (Treasurer), Louise Hepburn (Secretary), Michelle Caul-Byrne, Rosie Swain.

1. Apologies for absence.
  - Ben Groom (Chair), Charlotte Challender and Danielle Grummitt.
  
2. [Approve minutes of March 6 2026 meeting.](#)
  - APPROVED.
  
3. Approve agenda of current meeting.
  - APPROVED.
  
4. Chair Report since March meeting.
  - Nothing to report.
  
5. Treasurer Report since March meeting.
  - IN: Yard sale £400 profit; £38.20 on bunny; £70 for Crazy hair day.
  - OUT: Vet bill for Dusty the guinea pig. See Item 8b.



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6. Update on tasks set from March meeting.

a. **Name the Easter Bunny Review.**

- **Overview:** Committee discussed this activity as it didn't feel as popular as the Christmas reindeer. Could we organise an Easter Trail as an alternative for the holidays?

**ACTION:** Think of a different activity for Easter 2027 in Autumn 2026.

b. **Denver Yard Sale Review.**

- **Overview:** A decent amount was raised but would be lovely to have more variety for the bake sale. Popular items were the cheese scones, brownies, sausage rolls. Well done to Ben and Sam who collected pitch fees with their Dad.
- **Feedback:** Get date set earlier (always make it the Sunday after the first car boot), get advertising done earlier, make a checklist of things to do, rethink keeping the leaflets in church,
- **Considerations for next time:** Ask more people to bake and tap into the village community, find another location to keep leaflets over holidays as church not suitable.

**ACTION:** Checklist of things needed in the run up and on the day.



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**c. Crazy Hair Day Review.**

- **Overview:** Children really enjoyed it
- **Feedback:** Better having the day during the summer term on a Friday, and not in spring term because of swimming.

**d. Mother's Day Posies Review.**

- **Overview:** Children enjoy the activity.
- **Feedback:** Tricky to get hold of flowers. Could we try Waitrose as well next time?

**ACTION:** Idea for Father's Day being put to school council.  
Father's Day is 21 June.

**e. Upcoming commitments calendar.**

In progress.

**f. DBS Checks Update.**

In progress.

**g. Cashback scheme update.**

**Overview:** Struggling to get people to shop using the cashback scheme.



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**Consideration:** Can we put out Nikki's posters on how to help the Friends at the sponsored walk and sports day?  
Also appeal for more volunteers by saying: "We need help with..."

#### **7. 150 year celebrations update.**

##### **a. Sub Committee Progress and next steps.**

Meeting was held on April 17. Moyse pizza has since been confirmed. Consider where donation buckets can be placed.

#### **8. Funding requests / money out.**

##### **a. Synagogue trip.** Trip funding was discussed as fuel prices continue to increase.

**ACTION:** Friends to be sent a list of trips for next academic year for planning.

##### **b. Vet bill.** Agreed Friends will pay Dusty's vet bill.

##### **c. Glockenspiels.** Mr Lawrence knows the glockenspiels.

**ACTION:** School to order glockenspiels.

##### **d. Parentkind Membership.** Paid.



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9. **School Calendar.** Our original idea had been to feature the guinea pigs in a school calendar. Following recent events with Dusty, it was decided a photo competition may be a more appropriate option.

**ACTION:** Nikki to re-visit the timeline with the designer / printer. Louise / Nikki to launch photo competition so the calendar is ready at sports day / Denver Fun Day etc.

10. **Parent sponsorship.** A parent has offered funding to the Friends towards a trip / facilities for the school. Ideas include a celebrity visitor, outdoor learning items, a theatre visit or the Shakespeare theatre company coming into school. On a separate note, it was also suggested a plug-in cool box may be useful for events.

**ACTION:** Louise H to pull together ideas for the parent.

11. Other upcoming fundraisers / support.
- a. **Sponsored Walk.** Friday, May 22nd 2026. Issue sponsorship forms, follow up comms.



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**ACTION:** Refreshments and lollies needed for the day, ask for cake donations, Louise to keep an eye out on strawberries coming into season.

b. **End of year photos with Leslie.** Ben sorting.

**ACTION:** Arrange date for after half term.

c. **Dates for the calendar.**

- Art exhibition (17 June) (Volunteers needed).
- Sports Day (24 / 25 June - latter reserved in case of bad weather)
- Marketplace (8 July) Teas and coffees between 2pm-4pm
- Non-uniform day for Denver Fun Day tombola (3 July)
- Denver Fun Day Tombola (12 July 2026 - Louise Hepburn, Louise Jones and Rosie available to help.

12. **Dates for upcoming meetings.** Decided to combine 150 years with next Friends meeting.

**ACTION:** Poll Friends members to see if a different day for meetings works for them.



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13. AOB.
- a. **Class representatives for the Friends.** Nikki presented an idea where each class has a representative who acts as a liaison with the Friends. Both parties exchange ideas and help channel resources into classrooms. The advocate could have their own pin to identify them in the class.
    - **ACTION:** Need to think how we can build a pipeline of helpers at the Friends - this could be part of that strategy.
  - b. **Guinea pigs.** After Dusty's passing, it was raised that Guinea pigs need to be kept in pairs.
  - c. **Prefect badges and ties.** APPROVED.
  - d. **Sports Day.** Could we tie a World Cup themed challenge with Sports Day? I.e. beat the goalie with Luke Fenn, or put the teachers in goal?
  - e. **Plug in cooler box.**
    - ACTION:** Idea to go on group.



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f. **AGM early September.** Noted to get date ready, and send comms out to parents after half term.

Louise Jones thanked all attendees for supporting the Friends.

Meeting ended 5:10pm.