

Trustees Annual Report 1st April 2020 – 31st March 2021 Accounting Year

Charity name – the Friends of New-Bridge

NI Charity Number – 101120 Registered 13/2/15

Charity Base - New-Bridge Integrated College, 20 Donard View Road, Loughbrickland, co Down, Northern Ireland, BT32 3LN

Charity Trustees – Lorraine Bell, Pamela Hood, Daniel Miller, Cathal Mathews

Membership at the end of the accounting year is 4 trustee volunteers and 9 parent volunteers active in Friends of New-Bridge

Trustees have had regard to the Commissioners Public Benefit requirement statutory guidance

Organisation – the activities of our organisation involve a variety of fundraising activities to help inject much needed finances to the colleges budget for the benefit of the students of New-Bridge

Classification – the advancement of education

How the charity works – education/training

Structure, governance and management – the charity follows the Parentkind model Constitution 2014 version (formerly PTA-UK), membership number 64455. The Friends of New-Bridge is entirely run by its volunteer members. As of 1st April 2021 we have a membership of 13. We are actively recruiting new members as soon as Covid restrictions allow face to face meetings to continue fundraising. Friends of New- Bridge is managed by 4 committee members in the roles of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and PR. Face to face meetings have been suspended in the college premises this whole accounting year. The team therefore carried on communication and decision making through media devices. Due to unprecedented conditions, social fundraising events have been paused during restrictions. We have continued funding requests for the college where possible until we hit our minimum safety level of £3000 after contributions are reimbursed.

There has been no face to face meetings this financial year. All financial decisions were put to the whole team of 13 members for approval through a private media group. We were able to hold 1 socially distanced event of a 2nd Chance Uniform Sale

The active members in the social media private group are: - Lorraine Bell, Andii Moore, Carol Makin, Cathal Mathews, Daniel Miller, Natalie Dewhurst, Ingrid Orr, Pamela Hood, Paula McAnearney, Rachel Avevor, Siobhan Keegan, Tanya McAnearney and Paul Smith.

The latest accounts have been available to the team throughout the pandemic, all transactions have been discussed as a team. Funding applications are still being considered by college staff for funding approval. Post covid new members have been generated through the school website, social media, email, SIMS parent App and Virtual Parent Events via Vice Principle.

The annual report and statement of accounts were approved by the Trustees and presented to all members on our virtual AGM. At this point we have no sub-committees.

Charity registration administered by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI). New Trustees appointments and any changes permitted by the charity will be made by Lorraine Bell – Chair/Trustee

Management arrangements –

1. Our Charities work summary. Our main activity is to raise funds to provide for the college staff, pupils and families. And support the college community where needed in instances where the college is unable to fund those needs. Under normal circumstances the volunteers meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month, except holidays, in current conditions decisions have been agreed when needed. All members are voluntary. Our recruitment drive is currently on hold, and volunteers would have attended parent events, which have all gone virtual. When the college welcomes parents back to social evenings we will resume attendance to aid recruitment. When able to resume college meetings the team will recruit through all the college media sites and within the children's communities. When applicable we will advertise all our events through college social media sites and within the whole area community. In normal circumstances we would have regular attendance in meetings from a college staff member. We provide college staff with Funding application forms to submit funding requests for their department, after school activity, or classroom aids, to enrich the students learning environment. All requests go the committee members to vote, and this decides if we can financially fund the proposed project. Our funds have enabled extra after school activities for the students, pre covid. Our funds have improved our students knowledge and friendships, the ability and technology for all students to learn remotely from home, and funding raised for children for laptops, provided to the students who were unable to study with their own device to join in google classroom lessons during lockdown, and on their return to school, a dedicated mental health porta cabin, for struggling students to gain help from professional bodies supplied to the college.

2. Achievements and performance

- Providing laptops to all students who don't have access to own device, to work on during lockdown, ensuring all children can have their own laptop to follow working through google classrooms, ensuring no child is disadvantaged during home learning.
- Socially distanced 2nd Chance Uniform sale selling perfect condition returned uniform to parents that may not be able to afford new uniform pieces.
- Repairing unfit for use Porta Cabin, to enable a private space for school councillors to help students with their wellbeing during covid periods in school.

Normal annual fundraising events have been cancelled during this accounting year, due to social gatherings being stopped.

2. Public Benefits. Purpose 1: Improved relationships between home and college. The benefit which flows from this purpose includes funding for additional resources for the college and links built with the local community. This is demonstrated through having a functioning PTA that works in partnership with the college and engages parental support. This purpose does not lead to harm. The benefit is for the children at New-Bridge College. Charity Trustees (PTA Committee members) are usually also parents at the college which their children attend and hence gain benefit in the same way as all other beneficiaries. This benefit is incidental and necessary to ensure the benefit is provided to all beneficiaries. Purpose 2. Advancing the education of pupils in the school. The benefit which flows from this purpose includes increased educational progress and attainment of pupils in the school and links built with the local community. This is demonstrated through pupils having access to resources, events, activities and links with the local community which are not available through direct school funding.

3. Financial Review

- Financial year starting balance £16,818.17
- Financial year end balance £12,107.52
- At the end of this financial year, there are liabilities outstanding of £8,916 owed to the school account for PC's, 100 Club and the ABC council grant. Any monies collected for parental contributions will be reimbursed back to school
- Income £722.87. Expenditure -£3793.38 (excludes chq paid to school re prior year balance. Net profit -£3070.51. The school bank balance is still healthy despite covid preventing social events. Income is lower than previous performance and not consistent with previous performance, or Trustees forecasts and expectations
- This financial year we have only held 1 event.
- This financial year monies have been dedicated to students wellness during covid, home schooling and student welfare
- For this financial year there were no Trustee expenses.

Major Risks

The major risks foreseen is the continuation of events not being to go ahead due to social gathering restrictions. We will still continue to support the college and its students. We have agreed spending must not leave the bank balance with less than £3000 after contribution reimbursements. New membership has been slow, we have lost members due to students finishing their education and gained a total of 2 more members higher than this time last year.

Approved and adopted by a virtual meeting of the committee on 22nd January 2022

Report prepared by Lorraine Bell, Chair & Trustee

Approved virtually Pamela Hood, Treasurer & Trustee – 22/1/22

Cathal Mathews, PR & Trustee – 22/1/22