

Meeting MINUTES: Committee **Date:** 28th September 2023 8pm

At: Willaston Pre-school, St Johns Methodist Church Hall

Attendees & Apologies

Committee Officers	Y/N	General Committee	Y/N	Staff	Y/N
Chris Taylor – Chair	Y	Kathryn Varo	N	Jacqui Piaf	Y
		Eve Kettle	Y	Jackie Herring	Y
Ruth Chesters - Treasurer	N			Caryl Freeman	Y
Cath Scales – Secretary	N			Ursula Maywald	N
				Others	
				Debbie Reyland	N
				Alice	Y
				Rachel Bridgett	Y

Apologies: DR, RC

1. Welcome & Introductions

CT welcomed all to the meeting.

2. AOB

Home visits - positive but how would we run/fund it. Parents thought it would be very valuable. Maybe trial it while it's not busy (children as they are due as it should be quiet until June).

Pre-school trip – a parent has offered to let us come to his restaurant- show us what the equipment does. Bake (brownies?) with us and let us eat them in the restaurant. JP said there was 3 ways of getting there. Discussed going by bus, cars or coach (coach would cost £70) Parents said they would be happy to send money for the coach.

3. Admissions

Sept situation as at 26 Sept. Overall 79% full. We need to maintain capacity for when most of our current 2 year olds will obtain 15 hours of free funding from April 2024.

	Morning		Afternoon		Hot lunches
	% full	Spaces	% full	Spaces	
Monday	77	5	63	6	5
Tuesday	91	2	94	1	6
Wednesday	86	3	75	4	6
Thursday	82	4	63	6	3
Friday	73	6	81	3	4

Waiting list

2 new starters for Jan 2024 (two 3 year olds)

2 new starters for April 2024 (3 year old and young 2 year old)

1 new starter for Sept 2024 (2 year old)

4. Finances

Year ended 31 August 2023 – surplus of about £5,000.

Rent contract from 1 September 2023 - new rent is £8 per hour (compared to £7.50 previously).

SEND funding of £6,300 received in respect of 4 children - this equates to 38 hours per week at our salary rates when we are actually spending 60 hours. We are facing a large shortfall of funding.

Discussed fund raising. A twice yearly raffle was suggested. EK suggested “Easy funding”

5. Covid 19 issues

Staff voted to take 5 days when positive or until they feel well enough.

6. Premises

Toilet still dripping. Jeff to fix latch.

7. Staffing

Over staffed but is necessary due to the needs of the children.

8. **Committee**

EK indicated she would like to stand down at the AGM. CT thanked her for her service.

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9. **Feedback from manager about pre-school achievements and challenges**

There are a high number of children who require a lot of support. The bees 50% are where they should be.

SEND have been in because Ofsted have created a SEND curriculum- A high percentage of children with SEND are abused so they want Pre-schools and schools to know these children really well to try and reduce these numbers.

SEND are no longer attending meetings about individuals or observing children. Their role will be to discuss the requirements of Ofsted, to advise on children (once a term) and discuss the children at panel.

There will be no funding available for individual children after OCT 2023. It will be grants that will be applied for termly. JP has down loaded the rates and who will be entitled to claim. JP has filled in the Cheshire east questionnaire about changes and emailed regarding concerns.

Date of next meeting: AGM – early Nov 2023