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# Grindleford Gallop/PTFA combined meeting

**Date:** 23/04/2026

**Time:** 7.30pm

**Location:** The Maynard

**Attendees:** Mrs Crease, Dave Kumar, Kaori Carter, Emily Erskine, Zena, Liz Drew, Chloe Holmes, Helen Fulson, Jamie Fulson, Emma Walker. **Apologies:** Mrs Harding.

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## Previous Minutes

- No questions raised from previous minutes.

## Gallop Update

- Overall positive feedback from runners. One negative comment related to insufficient finish line support, with participants not receiving adequate acknowledgement as they crossed the line. The finish area was identified as too busy for one person to manage, particularly during prize-giving when runners were still arriving.
- The need for additional marshals is required at the bottom of the road near the church, at the bridge, and at the road crossing point – volunteers please.
- The 30th anniversary of the Gallop falls on 13/03/2027. free places for 30 runners who would otherwise face barriers to participation was suggested, including people from black trail runner groups in Manchester and Sheffield, people with disabilities, or those for whom cost is a barrier. Helen to explore logistics of this.
- Suggestions include having a carnival samba band, bringing back pizza, and creating a more festival-like atmosphere at the finish.
- Discussion re traybakes size and cling film use – feeling that sometimes the pieces are too small and one suggestion to have full trays.
- Dave stepping down as coordinator next year - need another parent volunteer to step up to this role.
- The playing fields committee is looking at marquees. Discussion about using old marquees for one more year if new ones are purchased. Discussion about putting information on Ramblings for past participants or old photos.

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## Treasurer Update

- Current balance is £39,784.72.
- Gallop profit is £14,107.83 this year.
- Since last meeting PTFA has paid for plumbing, class 2 trip.
- Garden upgrade quote is £19,600, which includes filling in/moving the pond, installing a concrete base, building new planters, purchasing and building a cabin and clearing around the play area. The cabin would cost approximately £9,000. The building would be large enough for classes to use during break times and for learning and would be available if preschool is brought up or for playgroup situations. The base would allow for a proper stone-built building in future if desired.
- PTFA have agreed to fund Victorian workshops for the 150 year anniversary of the school.

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## Upcoming Events

- Carnival tea/cakes June 21<sup>st</sup>
- BBQ in May
- Discussion regarding family camp on the pavilion field in the summer term – work on this ongoing.
- Junior fell race
- Ice cream Friday
- 150 year anniversary event in September 2026

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## Funding Requests

- Transport funding - Buses to Hope Valley for sports and events cost £200 per session. The sports council may be cutting their funding. PTFA agreed to fund the transport with voluntary contributions from parents, if funds allow.
- Garden upgrade - Discussed the quote for the garden upgrade. Chloe and Mrs Crease to meet to share plans and ensure they meet the school needs. Discussion regarding keeping the pond in some capacity to support learning and wildlife. Discussion regarding whether the garden upgrade includes the trim trail. Confirmed the trim trail is not being changed as children enjoy it. The garden area around the pond is separate from the trim trail.
- Reading Nook and Arts Hub – School looking at creating a reading nook and arts hub. Discussion re grants available. School to provide the PTFA with estimated cost once plans made. Agreed in principle this is a good use of funding. Options Presented: Library grants are available and can be applied for.

Discussion and Directions Given: Chloe to look into library grants and apply. School to provide wish list of items needed.

- School Advertisement and Marketing - School numbers are dwindling and there is a need to advertise the school more effectively to families in Sheffield. Working party to be set up with Mrs Crease leading from school side and Ben and Zena leading from parent side. Leafleting to proceed sooner rather than later to capture families disappointed with other school allocations. Banner at the train station, school banners in the village, website in production and prospectus already being created. Further suggestions of video production with drone footage, social media campaign, stay and play sessions. PTFA agreed in principle to support funding the advertisement and marketing costs.

## **AOB**

- Discussion about the unique selling points of the school including small class sizes, outdoor learning, arts and crafts, and forest school.
- Discussion re time capsule that was buried at the school – no leads yet. Miss Moore has a metal detector.
- School family camp to be explored on the pavilion field in June/July.
- Arnold Clark funding for football kits has been applied for.
- Platform housing has been approached for funding to support garden upgrade.

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### **Action points**

- Garden upgrade working party – Chloe and Mrs Crease
- Advertising and marketing working party – Ben Carter, Zena, Mrs Crease.
- Time Capsule and historical photographs – Mrs Crease, Mrs Moore and Dave
- School camp – All
- Next meeting online on MST after May half term. Possible earlier meeting if required prior to this if needed – community to be informed in due course.