



# FRIENDS AGM MEETING

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## Meeting minutes

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 7.30pm

### In Attendance

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Sarah M, Karen B, Rachel B, Clare D, Paula M, Charanjit S

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### Apologies

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Maria G, Gill R, Elaine L

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### Introductions

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We have had some contact with parents who have expressed an interest in supporting us with our events. We welcome this and RB will contact the parents with dates of our events and ask for specific event availability.

Members discussed structure and CD will continue as Chair and RB as Secretary and Treasurer.

If any other parent/carer would be interested in helping support our events please email [friends@alcesteracademy.org.uk](mailto:friends@alcesteracademy.org.uk)

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### Review of the Year 2024-25

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Sarah M thanked everyone for their fundraising efforts for last year. Rachel thanked everyone for another successful year and for all of our events. In total we raised £7188.64 after expenses through event fundraising and easyfundraising.

Event name	Income	Outgoing	Profit
Easy Fundraising	£76.66	£0	£76.66
Non-Uniform	£706	£466.52	£239.48
Bingo (Nov)	£1679.42	£152.70	£1526.72
Show Raffle	£431.33	£42	£389.33
Show Bar/Tuck	£1119.61	£455.17	£664.44
Santa Route	£250	£0	£250
Bingo night (Jan)	£2098.19	£255.45	£1842.74
Acoustic night bar	£374.29	£187.50	£186.79
Bingo (Mar)	£1782.15	£220.32	£1561.83
Street Market	£468.57	£67.92	£400.65
Sports Day Donation	£50.00	£0	£50.00

<b>Total</b>	<b>£9036.22</b>	<b>£1847.58</b>	<b>£7188.64</b>
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### Staff Bids

Since the start of the year, we have had 16 successful staff bids. We have purchased items to the value of **£3919.59** so far, with a further £1634 pledged. (£2860.38 from Gen Acc, £315 from 200 Club and £744.21 from School Fund)

Item purchased	Department	Number of items	Value
Collins French Dictionary	MFL	10	£94.90
Games to create wet break boxes for Y7's	Year 7	20	£117.59
Class set of Sony headphones	iMedia	25	£260.50
Sublimation printer	DT	1	£650.79
Digital piano	Performing Arts	1	£254.47
Lifesize skeleton and DNA model	Science	2	£267.71
Set of stainless-steel saucepans	Food	20	£42.90
Scrabble Sets	English	10	£87.02
Pin Badges	Charlie McKenzie	130	£84.50
Year 8 STEM Day	STEM - Year 8	1	£1000
PE Medals – Sports Awards	PE	277	£383.31
PE Medals – Sports Day	PE	579	£360.90
White Ivy Flowers Christmas workshop	Staff Wellbeing	1	£315
			<b>£3919.59</b>

Donation Pledged	Department	Number of items	Value
Smart TV	Pastoral	1	£350
Peer Mentoring	Pastoral	1	£895
Saucepans	DT	Class Set	£389
			<b>£1634</b>

### 200 Club

During this years' reporting period (Aug 2024- June 2025) we have raised £2436 after prize and cost deductions. We currently have 153 members. The value of prizes claimed so far this year is £953.

Event name	Income	Outgoings
200 Club	£3724	£1288

During this academic year we have spent £335. Money has gone to support staff wellbeing.

Item purchased	Department	Number of items	Value
Lottery License Fee	Licensing	1	£20
White Ivy Flowers Christmas workshop	Staff Wellbeing	1	£315
Value of Prizes claimed	Prizes	Monthly x3	£953
			<b>£1288</b>

### Rock Academy Studio Fundraising (2 Year Update)

For the last 2 years, the Friends have been supporting Rock Academy by fundraising for a new studio. We are pleased to announce that we have recently exceeded the target due to a very generous donation from an anonymous source. £13,535.44 has come through the Friends since launching the campaign with a further £7000 donated from Rock Academy event.

Event name	2023-24	2024-25	Total 2 Year Income
Rock Academy – Just Giving donations	£750.05	10,737.73	£11,487.78
Offline Donations	£1547.66	£599	£2,047.66
Rock Academy Own Donations from Events			£7000
			<b>£20,535.44</b>

### School Fund 2024-25

During this year up until June, the school has received £1805 in donations to the school fund. £85 direct to the account and £1720 via the Gateway.

£744.21 has been spent to support awards given to students at sports awards evening and sports day.

Item purchased	Department	Number of items	Value
PE Medals – Sports Awards	PE	277	£383.31
PE Medals – Sports Day	PE	579	£360.90
			<b>£744.21</b>

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### The Year Ahead 2025-26

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Lots of events already on the calendar for this year. Full calendar of events will be shared onto our socials and website. As we discussed at the end of last year, the additional bingo night at the end of January was a success so we will hold 3 bingos again this year.

RB ran through the calendar of events and this will be shared via email to members and added to the website.

November is a busy month with our first bingo on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and then the following week we have 3 nights of the show bar and tuck shop including raffle. RB will contact members for availability and draw up a rota.

#### Actions:

Add calendar to socials/website and share to members – **RACHEL**

Contact members for November availability for bingo and show - **RACHEL**

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### Fundraising Goal

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In total we raised £7188.64 last year. We were delighted with this and discussed a stretch target this year of £8000 to aim for.

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### November Bingo – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

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Non uniform to run on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October to support the bingo and future events. 1 house group to bring in chocolate donations, other year groups to make a monetary donation to support prizes for this and future events.

Prizes for the bingo will be part donated by students and partly purchased. Money to purchase will be taken from the non-uniform money like we did this year. RB and CD to look into prizes.

We will run our usual tuck shop and bar.

#### **Actions:**

- Banners will need to be updated and put up in the community to advertise. **RACHEL/CLARE**
- Posters/Flyers to go up to local businesses and posted to our neighbours – **KAREN**
- Social media event created and shared across our platforms and Alcester News. Please feel free to then share this into any other groups that may be relevant – **RACHEL**
- Bingo prizes – **RACHEL/CLARE**

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#### **200 Club**

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Rules and purpose are being updated and will be distributed for this coming year within the next week. RB assessing how many monthly renewals we have and how many numbers we may have going into the 2025-26 draw period.

12-month membership renewals will go out shortly and members will have 1 week to renew before their numbers are made available to anyone.

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#### **School Fund**

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The school fund letter went out at the start of term. This year the donation was £20 and we have been receiving donations via the account, the Gateway and MCAS. This money is ring fenced for the school to use. Money has gone towards funding room refurb.

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#### **Staff Funding Requests**

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We discussed 3 requests made by staff.

Staff	Item	Cost	Reason	Decision
HA	Reading lights	£149.70	Prizes for AR millionaire readers	Yes
HL	New Staging	£3744.50	Additional staging to enhance productions and events at school,	Yes
BT	Mypath Careers	£625	Comprehensive careers resources	On hold

RB to get additional information from BT regarding the request and review in next meeting.

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#### **AOB**

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ME: We will be 60 this year so we are looking into holding an event to celebrate this. PTA to assist and donation to PTA. We will canvas students. The High Bayliff has also said they will make a donation for us to commemorate this milestone.

ME: Support from the PTA to host a coffee morning to support the Mayors charity this year. The Mayor is hosting 100 coffee mornings to raise money for the dementia café. We will host an event on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9.30am-10.30am. We will ask for cake donations.

ME: has added a section about matched funding in the bulletin and asked parents to contact the Friends if they are able to do matched funding through work to support us.

RB: A parent has kindly offered to plant some seedlings and offered to do a plant sale for us. ME suggested selling them in the staff room too. RB to contact parent to discuss timeline and what we can do. The Friends thought this was a great idea and are grateful for the offer of support.

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### Next Meeting

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Our next meeting will be on online on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm.