

FOSS Chair Report

AGM

Thursday 19 October 2023

Thank you to everyone for joining us tonight, for taking time out of a very busy week preparing costumes and pumpkins ahead of next week's Halloween party.

We have had another successful fundraising year increasing our end of year donation to school again which is something I am hugely proud of, details of which I have broken down in the financial overview document which I will present as this year's Treasurer's report.

But before I do that, I would sincerely like to acknowledge the hard work, support and commitment of two of our Committee Members, Helen Mackinder and Lu Turner who have both decided to step down from the Committee this year. Whilst looking for a previous financial presentation I stumbled across minutes of the FOSS AGM from October 2018 and read that it was in that meeting that Helen and Lu both joined the team, which is testament to their commitment to Slingsby School. Thank you both.

With change though comes new opportunities and I feel so encouraged as we have a flurry of new members joining the team. Dipping their toes in the FOSS waters throughout the 2022 / 2023 school year, and surprisingly not put off, have made the decision to formally join the Committee and our existing team; Bev, Kate, Kathryn and Nicola. We also have a new member who will manage our Social Media and is very experienced in that world which will hopefully extend our reach so that our events can capture more people and raise more funds.

And as shared with many of you in our kick start meeting in early September and more recently Mr Smith, I will be stepping down as Chair after tonight's meeting but will be here to help handover if needed however I am 100% certain our new Chair will hit the ground running. On a personal note, I would just like to say that it has been an absolute privilege to have been a part of the FOSS team since I attended my very first AGM in November 2017.

I have been lucky enough to have worked with an amazing school team firstly lead by Mrs Metcalfe and now Mr Smith, during a pandemic and seeing first-hand the love for our "small school with a big heart". A special thank you to Charlotte Hope and Emma Massey for their never-ending patience, encouragement, and support for all that FOSS do. And to the amazing FOSS team, past and present.

To ensure that the transition is seamless, the calendar of events has been finalised complete with dates which now need working groups formed to share responsibility and planning which will be discussed after this meeting is closed.

I wish you all an amazing year ahead with your families, and a successful year of fundraising.

Thank you.

Sonja