

Notes of the ComVoc Meeting held on 8 Jan 2018

Present: AH; KT; MM; RA; HB

1. **Funds remaining from last year's duck race.** Following the previous meeting Helen contacted Rosie Hopkins, Head of Birchwood school, about how the monies raised could be spent. Ms Hopkins really appreciated our efforts to support the children and made the following suggestions:-
 1. Twin Lakes is more suitable for the younger children BUT many of their children already visit Twin Lakes with families so it is not such a 'special' event;
 2. September isn't a good time for them – later in autumn term might be better – I pointed out weather etc;
 3. The older (KS4/Birchwood Vale) would benefit from a more educational visit – eg the Space Centre in Leicester . We would only need one coach for this and the school are prepared to make a contribution if necessary;
 4. I mentioned Warning Zone – she was very interested in that. For the relatively small number of Yr6/7 pupils the school could probably organise their own transport.

After discussion in committee it was agreed that we would offer up to £500 for each of 3 visits (Space Centre, Warning Zone and perhaps a pantomime for the younger children). This will ensure we cover all age ranges.

2. **The future of the Duck race in its present form.** Last year members agreed this should become a whole club event aimed at raising funds for a kids out visit. However the organisation still came down to ComVoc with the valuable help of MO and DO. RA put forward the suggestion that it should become like SFR and have a separate committee to run it; members concurred. The elements to consider are that this year we will be selling tickets outdoors in March. This will be cold and clearly unsuitable for many members. If we want to sell to local people we will need to have proper tickets printed (approx. £150-200). HB has spoken to people in another town hosting a similar event... (further info at council meeting if appropriate).
3. **Monies for the Hub.** Last year we failed to send termly cheques to the Hub as previously agreed. This to be rectified with cheque of £100 asap.
4. We raised £120 with the Christmas card. Members appeared happier to sign at the reduced price of £5. The Christmas cake raffle raised £60.

H Bett