

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Redhill
St Joseph's Association (SJA)
Registered Charity No. 1106839**

MINUTES OF SJA GENERAL MEETING

Date: 13 July 2026

Time: 8pm (30 minutes)

Location: Online (video conference)

Chairs: Ann-Marie Dalton and Frances Simm

1. Attendance

Name
Ewa B
Ruqia Begum
Rahmi Bulukertas
Natalie Carroll
Ann-Marie Dalton (AM) (Meeting Co-Chair)
Daniella Deeholfs
Martin Frank
Caroline Gonsalves (CG)
Lucy Griffiths
Faye Haines
Christina Hart (CH)
Jenny Hogan
Fiona Keady-Whyte
Ishego Molelekwa
Chelsea Nimes
Ciaran Pinn
Cindy Redant
Rebecca Regan
Asha Roy
Frances Simm (FS) (Meeting Co-Chair)
Nabuheera Zainah
Amond
Rahmi

Agenda

- Chairs' Report – Review of 2025-2026
- Financial Update
- Looking Ahead
- AOB

2. Meeting business

3.1 Chairs' Report – Review of 2025-2026

- AM welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined its purpose.
- AM reflected on the SJA's activities and achievements during the 2025–2026 school year, noting that this was the first year of AM and FS serving as Co-Chairs.
- AM thanked the committee, volunteers, parents, carers, staff and wider school community for their support throughout the year and acknowledged the significant collective effort involved in delivering the SJA's events and fundraising activities.

Fundraising Highlights

- AM reported that, although the final accounts were still being completed, the SJA had raised over £20,000 during the 2025–2026 school year.
- The Christmas Fayre and Summer Fayre continued to be key events in the SJA's fundraising calendar, while the school disco was once again extremely popular with the children.
- The SJA also introduced Wonder Bars as a new event to celebrate World Book Day and provided inflatables for the Year 6 end-of-SATs celebration.
- Three gift shops were held during the year: Someone Special, Superhero Shop and Elfridges. These gave children the opportunity to choose and wrap a gift for someone special to them and were considered valuable and enjoyable experiences for the children.
- It was noted that the gift shops approximately broke even financially and therefore made little or no contribution to overall fundraising. School policy ensures that every child is able to participate and receive a gift to give, regardless of whether their family has made a financial contribution.
- The committee recognised the importance of maintaining this inclusive approach while considering how the gift-shop model could remain financially sustainable in future years.

- Employer match funding provided valuable additional income. Parents and carers whose employers operate match-funding schemes were encouraged to consider using these to support future SJA events.
- The SJA also successfully secured two £1,000 grants through Neighbourly, generating a further £2,000. The committee intends to continue exploring grant-funding opportunities.

Challenges and Priorities for the Future

- AM noted that the year's fundraising total represented a significant achievement but emphasised that event-based fundraising relies heavily on the time and goodwill of volunteers.
- The committee recognised the importance of ensuring that the demands placed on volunteers remain manageable and sustainable.
- Event-based fundraising also carries financial uncertainty, including the potential impact of weather, attendance levels and increasing supplier and running costs.
- The financial sustainability of the gift-shop model will be reviewed while retaining the principle that all children should be able to participate.
- The committee remains conscious of pressures on family finances and agreed that requests for donations and contributions should continue to be made sensitively and without pressure.
- AM reiterated that the SJA's purpose is to enrich the school experience of every child and thanked everyone who had supported this aim by volunteering, donating, attending events or otherwise supporting the SJA.
- AM concluded the Chairs' Report by thanking the committee and wider school community for their contribution to a successful year.
- AM handed over to FS to provide further detail on the SJA's financial position.

3.2 Financial Update

Profit on events

- FS reiterated the Co-Chairs' thanks to parents, class representatives and school staff for their support throughout the year, without which the SJA's events could not have taken place.
- The SJA raised over £20,000 during the 2025–2026 school year.
- The Christmas and Summer Fayres were the largest fundraising events of the year, raising a combined total of over £7,000 and demonstrating the school community's strong fundraising potential.

- The school disco was extremely successful, raising approximately £2,800. Following feedback from parents, a wider variety of snacks was offered, including healthier options, with watermelon proving particularly popular.
- The 2026 Challenge raised just under £800. FS noted the impressive range of activities undertaken by children as part of the challenge.
- Steady additional income was generated through a range of smaller events and initiatives, including:
 - cake sales and Frozen Fridays;
 - Sports Day refreshments;
 - pre-loved uniform sales;
 - Christmas tree and Christmas card sales;
 - clothes donations; and
 - costume hire.
- FS again highlighted the success of employer match funding and grant funding and confirmed that the SJA hoped to make greater use of these opportunities in future.
- The committee intends to continue exploring opportunities including Neighbourly and Easyfundraising.
- FS gave particular thanks to the class representatives for their support with cake sales and the various gift shops held throughout the school day.

Spending

- FS provided an overview of how SJA funds had been used during the year, including:
 - Library resources: Just under £4,000 was donated towards the school's library subscription service, representing more than half of the overall cost to the school.
 - Christmas pantomime: £2,000 was spent on the Christmas pantomime for the children.
 - Christmas books: Approximately £2,000 was spent on providing a book for every child at Christmas.
 - Year 6 end-of-SATs celebration: Approximately £1,400 was spent on the celebration, including inflatables and food and drink. Some of this expenditure was subsequently recovered through a whole-school event

held after school, at which families paid to use the inflatables and could purchase food and refreshments.

- St Joseph's Day: The SJA funded ice lollies for the children and staff as part of the school's St Joseph's Day celebrations.
 - Parish Day: The SJA funded a bouncy castle for Parish Day, which was hosted at the school.
 - School trips: Financial support was provided to the school to assist families who might otherwise have been unable to meet the cost of school trips, including the Isle of Wight trip and Year 6 PGL.
- FS noted that there had been relatively few requests for funding from the school during the academic year.
 - Discussions with the school were ongoing regarding further areas in which the SJA could provide support, including potential improvements to the school playground.

3.3 Looking Ahead

- FS outlined some initial ideas for events during the Autumn term, including a possible disco/Diwali Festival of Lights celebration.
- Anyone able to support such an event, or with relevant ideas or experience, was encouraged to contact the SJA.
- The SJA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held during the Autumn term, with the date to be confirmed.

Constitution and AGM Elections

- FS explained that in March 2026 the SJA Core Committee adopted a new Parentkind model constitution. Parentkind provides advice and support to PTAs and also arranges the SJA's insurance.
- Under the constitution, committee members/trustees are elected at the AGM and hold office until the following AGM. All positions will therefore be open for election at the forthcoming AGM.
- The Core Committee includes the roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with a number of additional Trustees.
- FS encouraged anyone interested in joining the committee or standing for one of the positions to speak to a member of the Core Committee or contact the SJA via sja-redhill@hotmail.co.uk.

- Further information about the respective committee and trustee roles is expected to be shared ahead of the AGM.
- FS confirmed that AM and FS intended to stand again as Co-Chairs, and CG intended to stand again as Secretary.
- CH confirmed that she would be stepping down as Treasurer and would not be standing for re-election.

3. AOB

- There was a general discussion regarding the funds raised during the year and plans for the following academic year.
- FS and AM confirmed that the Core Committee would review the SJA's programme of events and consider which should continue, taking into account both their financial contribution and the enjoyment and experience they provide for the children.
- AM discussed Easyfundraising, which had been promoted in March. Only three people had signed up to date, and it was agreed that further communication and promotion of the scheme would be beneficial.
- One parent commented positively on the use of online meetings and online payment systems, noting that these had made the SJA more accessible, and thanked FS and AM for introducing these approaches.
- CH thanked FS, AM and CG for their efforts and commitment throughout the year.
- CH confirmed that she would be happy to speak to anyone interested in taking on the role of Treasurer and encouraged interested individuals to make contact through the SJA mailbox.
- FS thanked CH for her significant contribution and hard work over the years in her roles as Treasurer and Trustee.
- No further business was raised.

4. Close of Meeting

- The meeting closed at 8.29pm.

These minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

