

Churston Ferrers Grammar School
Minutes of School Forum Meeting
Held on Tuesday 24 April

Present: Mr King , Mrs Butler, Form representatives
 Apologies: Mrs Banham, Mrs Foot
 Minuted by: Mrs Wakeham

1	<p>Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.</p>	
2	<p>Matters Arising: New headmaster Mr Owers will commence in September, Mr Goldsmith is acting headmaster for the summer term Year 9 Options booklet was circulated to the Forum to look at the new format Mr King advised the Forum that issues and questions to Mrs Banham and Mrs Foot at the previous meeting held on 14 February 2007, had been very negative and critical and that Forum reps must think about how to formulate their questions and issues in a more constructive and polite manner.</p>	
3	<p>Parliament feedback Brad Reiman was unable to attend the meeting - Mr King expressed thanks to Brad on behalf of the Forum for his hard work on the Parliament</p>	
4	<p>Commendations Mrs French attended the Forum meeting held on the 14 February – the outcome from the meeting was that a working party will be set up to compare the old and the new system with 2 representatives from each year group up to year 11. The working party will hold 2 or 3 meetings of 30 minutes duration at lunchtimes. Ideas will need to be passed to the working party members. The dates of the meeting will be confirmed by Mr King.</p>	
5	<p>School Listeners The school has a pool of trained listeners but they are not being utilised in school as expected. Mr King suggested that this could be a good thing and that the listeners are not required as much as the school had anticipated but it is more likely that pupils are not sure who the listeners are. Forum were asked to contribute ideas as to how the listeners could be used more or in a better way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of a room where pupils can go to meet with a listener – listeners are not in a fixed location • Make it more clear in assemblies what and who the listeners are • Listeners should be committed to the role • Introduce a rota of listeners • Have a notice board of listeners in a corridor • Pupils can find it intimidating walking up to the listeners when the listeners are with their friends • Pupils are concerned about confidentiality when confiding in a 6th former • Some pupils don't know who the listeners are or that some prefects are also listeners • Have an assembly to tell pupils exactly what happens with listeners – the listeners need to advertise more pro-actively • Some pupils find it difficult to talk to someone who is only a slightly older than themselves • Introduce a listener's chat room on Moodle or contact via a private e-mail address – Mr King reminded the Forum that there are various forums on line for teenagers – including websites on bullying, exams etc. • Students could correspond anonymously for privacy but it may be difficult to monitor an open forum or it could be open to abuse - it may be difficult to know what can be talked about and what may need to be referred on • Private e-mail could be used to make an appointment to see a listener • If contact with a listener is anonymously via moodle or e-mail – how can the listener help someone in danger? • Pupils are re-assured that the listeners are in school – but some pupils will go to family and friends with their problems - Forum agreed that for those pupils with no back up of family and friends, the listening service should be expanded • Assemblies with Nigel Taylor and the listeners should take place at the beginning of the school year and advertised to all years, explaining their role • The listeners and prefects are introduced to year 7 - this needs to continue throughout the school 	

6	<p>Options and careers software (Pilot Scheme) and 50th Anniversary Celebrations - Mrs Butler</p> <p>The 50th anniversary has been announced in assemblies and takes place in October. There are lots of items and artefacts that the school would like to display during the celebrations and Mrs Butler asked Forum members to talk to their tutor groups about asking parents/grandparents/friends if they have any old books, uniform and artefacts from that era that can be used</p> <p>'Options For Me' software – is a scheme for years 10 and 11 which has details of which qualifications can be studied and where in South Devon - but does not include A levels. The launch of new software for further study and careers will take place at CFGS on 4 May 2007 with volunteers from years 9, 10 and 11 to pilot the scheme.</p>	
7	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Litter – the school is having a purge on litter from this term – the standards have dropped in the school</p> <p>Chewing Gum - pupils must not bring chewing gum into school</p> <p>Feedback from parliament and forum – it is important that feedback from parliament and forum is passed to tutor groups and that that form reps ensure they bring ideas to the meetings. Tutors need to allow time during tutor time for form reps at least once after the meetings and once just before the meetings</p> <p>Options for 6th form – guidance for 6th formers seems to focus on Oxbridge and Medical applications – the careers library could be more efficient for 6th formers</p> <p>Desks in the new science classroom – a request from students for foot rests/bars to be included on the new desks</p> <p>Premises issues – (Mr King on behalf of Mrs Foot)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls toilets – lack of feminine hygiene products and toilet paper in most of the girls toilets • A request for more litter bins for the field • Some pupils unhappy about male premises wardens cleaning the girls toilets and vice versa • Can the premises wardens clean the toilets during lesson time and not at lunchtime? 	
The meeting closed at 3.40pm		