



Full Governing Body Meeting

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Chaired by: Jill Skidmore

Clerked by: Laura McNulty

Present: Jill Skidmore (JS) Chair; Karen O'Connor (KO) Headteacher; Sharon Redfern (SR); Mary Teeboon (MT); Sarah Bellicoso (SBe); Caroline Boam (CB); Cat Labio (CL); Caroline Payne (CP); Sue Bamping (SBam); Helen Smith (HS); Simon Bates (SBat); and Laura McNulty (LM) Clerk;

**Action:**

112 15/16 **Introduction and Welcome**

JS welcomed all Governors to the meeting and thanked them for giving freely of their time on such a beautiful evening.

113 15/16 **What we are hoping to achieve this evening**

Governors agreed that all present hoped for a positive and productive evening.

114 15/16 **Any other business**

Staffing

115 15/16 **Apologies**

Ellie Wragg (EW), and had sent apologies for her absence, which were accepted.

**Agreed**

116 15/16 **Governing Body Membership**

There is a vacancy for the position of Vice-Chair. JS explained that this role has recently had very few additional commitments. Should the Chair (JS) be absent, then there is the requirement to step in. SBat has previously held this position. Governors discussed interest and SBat volunteered to take it on. In the absence of any other interested parties, Governors very gratefully accepted and agreed to SBat taking on the position of vice-chair for Taddington Governing Body.

**Agreed**

117 15/16 **Declaration of Business Interests**

There were no interests declared in the agenda items of tonight's meeting. SBat, CP and CL completed 'Declaration of Pecuniary and Personal Interest' forms.

118 15/16 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March had been previously distributed. The minutes were agreed as correct and signed by JS.

**Agreed**

119 15/16 **Confidentiality**

Governors agreed that there were no items to be marked as confidential.

**Agreed**

120 15/16 **Matters arising and actions**

(046 14/15) Enquire with Trustees re donation – ongoing – o/s  
(047 14/15) Take laptops to LMS – o/s  
(113 14/15) Consider purchase re B Gregory – o/s  
(109 15/16) Organise DBS checks for Governors – delayed by DCC – o/s  
(110 15/16) Book Governors on finance training – SBe attended – discharged.

121 15/16 **Committees:**

**Curriculum Committee**

KO talked through the minutes of the meeting. HS, SBam and JS noted the significant amount of pressure all teaching staff are under due to the frequent

changes in policies, assessments, agenda, finances and DBS sent down from the Government and Ofsted. SBat asked if there was anything that the GB can do to help. KO replied that there was very little that could be done at GB level. The school aims to continuously provide excellent education which is child-centered as a priority, whilst also meeting the changes and demands from the Government. SBam asked KO to pass on to staff that the GB is aware of the increase in significance and frequency of changes and is here to help and support.

### **Finance Committee**

KO talked through the minutes. Pupil Premium allocation (£3900) has been spent on intervention work. Next year's allocation is to be used to provide 1-2-1 teaching. Sports Funding allocation has a planned overspend of £1834, as £8200 funding is due imminently. This has been used for swimming, coach hire, cluster events, Tai Chi, BCS Sports and lighting.

### **Personnel Committee**

**\*Confidential Item Removed \***

**Agreed**

**\*Confidential Item Removed \***

financial year. Governors unanimously agreed.

**Agreed**

### **Buildings, Health and Safety Committee**

This committee had not met.

122 15/16

### **Headteacher's Report**

KO talked through the report which had been previously distributed. Average attendance is 95.6%. Two children may be leaving the school before the end of term. KO will update governors when information is available.

123 15/16

### **Sports Funding and Pupil Premium**

Discussed under minute 121 15/16.

124 15/16

### **Policies**

The following policies had been previously distributed and were accepted and adopted by Governors without amendments:

**Agreed**

- Grievance
- Statement of British Values
- Authorised Leave of Absence
- Sex & Relationship Education

125 15/16

### **School Improvement Plan**

KO talked through the SIP. Progress is good.

126 15/16

### **SEF and Skills Audit**

These were completed by all Governors present. The collated results will be brought to the next meeting in July.

127 15/16

### **Chairs Report**

Nothing to report.

128 15/16

### **Admissions**

There are eight reception children due to start in September. Two children may be leaving before the end of term. Ten year 6 children will be starting secondary school in September.

129 15/16

### **Extended Services**

Meetings are ongoing to discuss and evaluate the possibility of opening/reopening the after school provision. It may start as a new entity to attract different funding options. A business team from DCC have visited and provided advice. There is

another meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May to discuss costings. If it becomes a viable option then Ofsted would need to be notified and new staff found.

- 130 15/16 **Acadamisation**  
KO was pleased to report that the Government have made a u-turn and agreed that 'good' and 'outstanding' schools will no longer have to become academies by 2020. The small school cluster are continuing to make decisions and strategic plans aimed at making the cluster of schools (previously 4 and now 6) stronger should acadamisation rear its ugly head again. Governors discussed the many benefits to being part of this cluster including support, disseminated information, varied ideas, and professional understanding. HS wished for it to be noted that KO frequently attends these meetings in her own time. Governors thanked KO and agreed that this was fantastic and added a huge benefit to the school, but should only continue for as long as KO wished.
- 131 15/16 **Parent View**  
There are still too few responses to monitor. Parents are to be advised that each parent can complete (not just one per family), and that the returns are only valid for a year.
- 132 15/16 **Budget**  
KO has previously talked through the budget under minute 121 15/16.
- 133 15/16 **Virements, Approvals, Disposals and Inventory**  
KO requested that an old laptop with a broken screen be written off. Governors agreed. **Agreed**
- 134 15/16 **SEND**  
KO talked through the written report. There is presently one child who has a statement, 8 children who are under the 'graduated response', and no children with Education Health and Care (EHC) plans.
- 136 15/16 **Safeguarding**  
Nothing to report.
- 137 15/16 **Governor Visits**  
CB to try to visit in May. SBat to try and visit in May. Both to contact KO with suggested dates and times.
- 138 15/16 **Correspondence and Information for Governors**  
JS's term of office is coming to an end. JS does wish to remain as a Governor and stand again as a representative of the LA. LM to notify DCC. **LM**
- 139 15/16 **AOB**  
Staffing – previously discussed.
- What have we achieved that will make a difference to the children in our school?**  
Good policies, practical and positive plans for the future, and a healthy and happy workforce.

The meeting ended at 9:15pm.

Date of next meetings (2015/16):

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 – please bring diaries to arrange next year's dates.**

All meetings start at 7:30pm and are held in Taddington School.