



Full Governing Body Meeting

Monday 4th July 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); Helen Smith (HS); Simon Bates (SBat); and Laura McNulty (LM) Clerk;

Action:

140 15/16 **Introduction and Welcome**

JS welcomed all Governors to the meeting and commented on how yet another year had passed so quickly.

141 15/16 **What we are hoping to achieve this evening**

Governors agreed that it was hoped the meeting would tie up any loose ends for this academic year, and put the school in a strong position for starting academic year 2016/17.

142 15/16 **Any other business**

None

143 15/16 **Apologies**

Sue Bamping (SBam) and Ellie Wragg (EW) had sent apologies for their absence, which were accepted.

Agreed

144 15/16 **Governing Body Membership**

There will be a vacancy for a Foundation Parent Governor as EW's term of office is ending in July. LM to notify Rev Benson, for the church to find a suitable candidate.

LM

JS's term of office is due for renewal in July. Details have been sent to the LA and the school are awaiting official approval from the next full Council meeting, due to be held in August.

Governors agreed the suggested meeting dates for next year – to be found at the bottom of all minutes and agendas.

Agreed

145 15/16 **Declaration of Business Interests**

None

146 15/16 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of the meeting held on 9th May had been previously distributed. There was a slight error in minute number 121 15/16 where centred had been typed as cantered, giving a new meaning to 'child-centred'! LM to amend on the public copy for display on the school website. Other than this, the minutes were agreed as correct and signed by JS.

Agreed

147 15/16 **Confidentiality**

Governors agreed that both paragraphs of minute number 121 15/16 – Personnel Committee, were to be marked as confidential.

Agreed

148 15/16 **Matters arising and actions**

(046 14/15) Enquire with Trustees re donation – the Trustees have kindly agreed to donate £500 this year and £500 next year towards further resources. KO wished to

pass on the thanks of all the staff for this generosity. – discharged.

(047 14/15) Take laptops to LMS – the hard drives have now been removed from the computers, which can now be donated to LMS or binned. LM to chase if LMS want them and let KO know – underway – discharged.

(113 14/15) Consider purchase re B Gregory – Governors discussed options and asked SBA to suggest a bell for placement in the school bell tower – ‘Bill’s Bell’!

(109 15/16) Organise DBS checks for Governors – underway – discharged.

(138 15/16) Notify DCC of JS wishing to stay as LA Governor – discharged.

149 15/16

Committees:

Curriculum Committee

MT talked through the minutes of the meeting.

- Curriculum statement has had the dates changed and been agreed.
- Pupil Premium – unable to measure impact as until results of KS2 SAT’s are known.
- Sports Funding allocation has a planned overspend. It was expected that next year’s payment would be approximately £8,000. It is now known to be approximately £16,000. This will be used for many wonderful and additional sporting opportunities including swimming, coach hire, cluster events, Tai Chi, and BCS Sports. Staff and Governors agree that the BCS Sports package is offering outstanding value.
- KS1 SAT’s results – discussed at committee level and again during this meeting. National figures are not yet available for comparison. Taddington’s results are average amongst the cluster schools. As always, the very small year groups can skew result averages. Staff felt that the SAT’s were extremely hard and the field of measurement very narrow.
- SBA asked why the KS1 writing results were so much lower than previous years and lower than the reading and writing results. KO explained the structure of the writing framework and how some of the areas (i.e. spelling objectives) had stopped some children from getting an ‘AT’ judgement. KO reminded governors of the discussions this year about the changes in the assessment frameworks and our previous discussions about how much harder the new assessment framework appeared to be.

Finance Committee

KO talked through the minutes of the meeting.

- At approximately a quarter of the way through the financial year, spending is on target.
- PFA have donated money towards resources.
- No concerns

Personnel Committee

KO talked through Personnel updates:

***Confidential Item Removed ***

Buildings, Health and Safety Committee

KO explained that school are waiting for some quotes for jobs including decorating which will take place over the summer.

150 15/16

Headteacher’s Report

KO briefly talked through the report which had been previously distributed.

KO then discussed Acadamisation, which is still an issue for schools and is rapidly becoming ‘the elephant in the room’ where the Government seem to be concerned. Whilst the push for schools to become academies has dropped from the headlines, it still appears to be an unofficial agenda. As a small school it is extremely hard to know what will happen. Minimum size for academy trusts are 1500 pupils, resulting

in a need for small schools to join with other small schools, or larger schools including secondaries. The diocese may form an academy trust, which in turn may take on Taddington at some point (on approval by the Governors). KO is to talk further to David Channon at the diocese. Governors may need to form a working party for an in-depth look into options, and to agree a strategic plan for the next 5 years. Funding is likely to change in September with an increase in pupil funding and a reduction in block funding. This would most likely have a negative impact on Taddington's budget. There is presently a lot of uncertainty, and a lot of up-to-date knowledge is required. This is putting stress on staff who are already trying to cope with changed marking schemes, new SAT's, continuous changes to Safeguarding policies, and many other alterations. Governors thanked KO for the update and sympathised with the large number of recent changes that school staff were required to endure.

HS left the meeting at 8:45pm

151 15/16 **Sports Funding and Pupil Premium**

Discussed under minute 149 15/16.

152 15/16 **Policies**

There was only one policy for approval, which had been previously distributed and was accepted and adopted by Governors without amendments:

Agreed

- Accessibility Plan

153 15/16 **School Improvement Plan**

KO talked through the SIP. Areas outstanding include computing and French which will be addressed during next year.

KO has written the school SEF and summary SEF, which were distributed to governors for comment and suggested alterations. The SEF is a very thorough document and Governors thanked KO for her time in preparing it.

154 15/16 **SEF and Skills Audit**

SEF

The results showed many areas of strength. Areas of weakness were:

- GB seek the views of pupils
- GB raises awareness of the impact of improvement actions.

Governors discussed these and agreed to work on improving the weaker areas.

Skills Audit

The results showed many areas of strength. In general, areas of limited knowledge were those not directly relevant to a primary school such as knowledge of careers and sixth form.

Governors felt confident that these results were positive and showed a good range of knowledge and actions. These results will continue to be monitored and weaker areas improved upon.

155 15/16 **Chairs Report**

Nothing to report.

156 15/16 **Extended Services**

There is a committee established which hopes to be able to open a new after-school club with the name of 'Explorers'. Charity status has been applied for. This is required before bank accounts can be opened, OFSTED applied for and staff appointed. It was agreed that there is a need for approximately £2,000 of

capital/fundraising to provide a buffer.

157 15/16 **Parent View**

There continue to be too few responses to monitor. Parents have been advised that each parent can complete the online form (not just one per family), and that the returns are only valid for a year. Any entries that Taddington have received will be void in September when the process begins again.

158 15/16 **Governor Photos**

Replacement/new Governor photos are required for the board in school. Governors agree to come into school in September and sit for the school photographer.

159 15/16 **Budget**

KO has previously talked through the budget under minute 149 15/16.

160 15/16 **Virements, Approvals, Disposals and Inventory**

None

161 15/16 **SEND**

***Confidential Item Removed ***

162 15/16 **Safeguarding**

Governors had been asked to read the safeguarding policy, working together document and what to do if you are worried about a child'. Governors signed to acknowledge that they had read these documents. KO informed governors that a new KCSiE was due to be published for September and would be sent on in due course.

KO explained that the Safeguarding Audit was to be completed shortly and would be brought to the September FGB meeting.

163 15/16 **Governor Visits**

The present system of allocating Governors with specific months is not working. Governors agreed to trial a new system whereby all Governors are invited into school at regular intervals to cover a specific area (Maths, EYFS etc.), and those that are available can attend. KO will provide Governors with dates.

KO

164 15/16 **Correspondence and Information for Governors inc Training**

CL and CP attended Governor Induction training in May which was found to be very useful and fostered links with other schools. LM attended Clerks Briefing which was less useful (based on the content not being relevant to the audience) but still enjoyable.

165 15/16 **AOB**

India – It has now been decided that there is no external funding available for a second trip to India (previously funded by the British Council). Due to the short notice of this decision, SBe has been left with no choice other than to pull out of the trip. This is a great disappointment. SBe and Taddington have not pulled out of the project and will still be able to triangulate information between the school in Derby, the school in India, and Taddington school. There have fortunately been no costs incurred and money raised so far will be used to send resources to Indian school children.

LM

What have we achieved that will make a difference to the children in our school?

Progress with Extended Services.
Update on Acadamisation.

Post-meeting Update...

KS2 SAT's results have been received and are as follows:

- Reading - 70%
- Maths - 60%
- GAPS - 60%
- Writing - 40%

Preliminary National figures are:

- Reading - 66%
- Maths - 70%
- GAPS - 72%
- Writing - 74%

The meeting ended at 10:10pm.

Date of next meetings (2016/17): **Monday 26th September 2016**
Monday 28th November 2016
Monday 30th January 2017
Monday 27th March 2017
Monday 22nd May 2017
Monday 17th July 2017

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