



BRIDGET'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL



MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Held on 2nd July 2013 at 6.30pm

Present

Dr A Bates (AB)	Ms A McDonald (AM)	Mrs E Green (LG)
Mr N Ledingham (NL)	Mrs S McHattie (SM)	Mr F Price (FP)
Rev J Bleazard (JB)	Mr N Le Feuvre (NLF)	Mrs C King (CK)
Mr A Hughes (AH)	Mrs S Lea (SL)	

In Attendance

Miss S Marriott	Clerk of Governors
Mrs J Connah (JC)	Associate Governor
Mrs T McCarthy (TMcC)	Associate Governor

Opening prayers led by – Father John

The Chair of Governors opened the meeting and

1. Apologies

Dr G Francis
Mr J Such
Miss K Hanson
Mr R Brown

1a. The Chair opened the meeting and acknowledged that this would be Mrs Connah's last meeting as a staff member however, it was hoped that she would return in her capacity as an associate governor in October, the Chair thanked Mrs Connah for her valuable contribution to the Governors.

1b. the Chair read out the letter from the union members which outlined their reasons for not striking on this occasion but highlighting their support for the strike. He also read out to the meeting his reply to the letter.

2. Declaration of Business and Pecuniary Interests

- None declared

3. Minutes from Full Governors' Meeting on 14th May 2013 (VLE)

- No corrections

Noted actions for the clerk

- Forward Evaluation forms to AH & FP
- Follow up the circulation list for the Diocese news letter

Action: Clerk

4. Matters arising

- Reducing the LA appointed Governors from 2 to 1
 - Although this is possible it would mean that we would have to reduce the staff governor's to one as well. Those present voted in favour of keeping the present number of staff governor's (two). AB to advise Governors support of this and that we still need another LA governor appointment from them.

Proposed: AB

Seconded: FP

- RAISE ONLINE training for all governors has been arranged. Diane Hollis would be coming into school to do this at 6.30pm Monday 8th July 2013. NLF to send out an article to all governors with regards to this.

Action: NLF/All Governors

- Self Evaluation forms, some of these have been returned. The chair requested that everyone returned them to either himself or the clerk before the end of term.
- Tree trimming, NLF confirmed that the caretaker had been informed by the Local Authority (LA) that this is no longer a service that they supplied/supported despite the current contract. The governors requested that NLF asked the LA to pay the invoice for this as it is in the current contract.

Action: NLF

- Janet Connah's leaving party at school on 16th July 4 to 6pm all governors are invited

5. Prior notice of AOB

None reported.

6. NUT strike action – letter to the Chair and Governors and reply (on VLE)

The Chair had mentioned this earlier in the meeting see point 1b. AB wished to add the following; The strike was about;

- Terms and conditions
- Pensions
- Changes to the length of the school day and school holidays.

With these important issues it was likely that there would be further strikes and that the NUT members would wish to strike.

The meeting acknowledged the decision made by the NUT members and thanked the teaching staff for their continuous commitment (in all areas including the decision not to strike on this occasion) to the children and in turn school.

7. School and Governors' priorities

Academies (see briefing on VLE)

- The chair encouraged governors to look at the briefing on the VLE if they had not already done so.
- Deeside Heads meeting had asked that governors looked at this issue
- There were no immediate plans to change to (or consider changing to an academy) however AB felt it was important that we stayed informed.

Questions arising from the report: Was this a when rather than if scenario? AB responded bringing up the following;

- The situation was fairly fluid at present
- Elections may change the situation
- At present the majority of Academies are High Schools
- Hardly any primary schools in the North West are Academies
 - At present headteachers were not ready to commit and the general consensus was that there would need to be alliances/trusts between primary schools to enable this to work.

In summary: This was not being pushed at present but it was felt that governors should keep their minds open to the possibility and perhaps return to this in approximately a year to see what the 'state of play' was.

Collaboration with other schools

- We have an obligation to share information as an Ofsted outstanding school.

Capital projects

Planned Projects;

- Mobile classroom upgrade to a permanent building
 - A letter to the LA was suggested from all governors with regard to the mobile classroom
- Develop playground
- Part Astroturf the playing field to enable school to use it all year round
- A possible Infant Hall
- More toilet facilities
- A room/extra space to be used by all

It was noted by NL that for most of these schools would need to wait until a grant from the LA may be on offer to assist with the cost.

b. Learning and Teaching priorities (long term)

- i. NLF reported that he is in the process of analysing the SAT's results and these are currently running ahead of the National Average.
- ii. Teaching and Learning has improved in the Y2 to Y3 cohort
- iii. We are aiming for children to leave our school with both Academic achievement and social skills. TMcC commented on that mornings assembly where the children had clearly shown that school was a medium for 'the whole child' to develop
- iv. Foundation Stage (FS) the bar has been lifted in the expectations of this year group (this was covered in detail at the curriculum meeting on 17th July)
- v. Rights Respecting Schools was continuing to flower and the children were clearly seeing this message
- vi. It was intended to have more parents come in to school and see what we/their children are doing

8. Headteacher's Report (on VLE)

Mr Le Feuvre made the following points from his report;

- NLF is now dealing with 3 safeguarding issued reported to him
- The feedback on Teamwork was much more positive, with special reference to 'pier observation'. NLF looking at developing this within school.
- Mr Brown had attended Courtroom Skills; this cover ways in which you would dealing with unusual or unexpected events in school and the course of action you would follow

9. Reports on Governor Visits

To be reviewed at the next governors meeting.

10. Governors' reports on training

To be reviewed at the next governors meeting.

11. Wirral Governors' Forum

To be reviewed at the next governors meeting.

12. Reports from Committees:

Finance 18.06.13(VLE)

Mr Ledingham reviewed the minutes of the Finance meeting highlighting the following;

- Budget had be reviewed and agreed at the Finance meeting and now needed to be ratified at this meeting and signed by the Chair.
 - All present were happy with this and the Budget was formally approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair.

Proposed: FP

Seconded: SL

- NL had compiled a comprehensive list of all the matters that needed to be covered throughout the financial year by the finance committee and the meeting had agreed dates and times for the coming year to cover this.
- Three year capital expenditure plan (see above 7c.)
- Surplus and overspend

To be reviewed at the next governors meeting.

Curriculum 17.06.13(VLE)

Personnel & Staffing 10.06.13(VLE)

13. Any other notified business

None

14. Dates and time of next meetings

3rd October 2013 Thursday 6.30pm

Closing Prayers – Led by Father John

Meeting closed at 8.30pm