



Full Governing Body Meeting

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Chaired by: Jill Skidmore

Clerked by: Laura McNulty

Present: Caroline Payne (CP); Cat Labio (CL); Helen Smith (HS); Helen Woodruff (HW); James Handley (JH) Head; Janet Haddock-Fraser (JHF); Jill Skidmore (JS) Chair; Lionel Atherton (LA); Mary Teeboon (MT); Sarah Bellicoso (SB); and Laura McNulty (LM) Clerk.

**Action:**

- 110 18/19 **Introduction and Welcome**  
Governors introduced themselves and welcomed JHF to our Governing Body. LA started the meeting with a prayer.
- 111 18/19 **What we are hoping to achieve this evening**  
In his prayer, LA chose inspirational words joining Governors together for the betterment of our school, children and community.
- 112 18/19 **Any other business**  
JH wished to confirm Governor expectations of the Heads role in full GB meetings and committee meetings and discuss alternative meeting structures.
- 113 18/19 **Apologies**  
There were no apologies of absences
- 114 18/19 **Governing Body Membership**  
This is HS's last meeting. She has promised to stay in touch and will continue to visit school regularly. Governors will sincerely miss her knowledge, reliability, experience, enthusiasm and kindness.  
  
Following HS's departure, there will be three Governor vacancies again with 1 for a foundation Governor and 2 for foundation trustee Governors. JS is aware of the possibility of 1 or 2 possible volunteers and will chase with the trustees.  
  
Committee membership and special roles were discussed ensuring that JHF is included and HS's departure is covered.
- 115 18/19 **Declaration of Business Interests**  
There were no declarations of business interests in the agenda of this meeting.
- 116 18/19 **Minutes of previous meeting**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> April had been previously distributed. A slight correction to the minutes was requested, with it being noted under minute number 090 18/19 that JH started on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, and not Monday as typed. Other than this the minutes were agreed as correct and signed by JS. **Agreed**
- 117 18/19 **Confidentiality**  
It was requested that minute number 099 18/19 be marked as confidential. **Agreed**
- 118 18/19 **Matters arising and actions**  
(113 14/15) Consider purchase re B Gregory – 'Bill's Bell'. Ongoing. The trustees have volunteered to fund new school gates in Bill's memory, but Governors hope a bell is still also a possibility. Caroline Parsons (SBM) to be asked to look into the **CP**

purchase.

(067 18/19) Ask parent views on morning sports – Completed. Minimal responses. JH to review entire school sports provision.

119 18/19

**Committees:**

**Curriculum Committee – Chair HS**

Minutes previously distributed, read through by JH. The following salient points were discussed in more detail:

JH spoke about the new class structure from September, separating the students into four groups (Rec, yr 1&2, yr 3&4, yr 5&6). Governors unanimously approved of the new structure.

**Agreed**

JH talked through the purchase and location of the new IT suite, which Governors had previously been emailed about. Governors discussed thoroughly all aspects of this, and unanimously agreed on the purchase and location.

**Agreed**

JH spoke about the ring-fenced sports funding and the entire sports provision currently offered at Taddington. From September the school will change the provisions to ensure that sports are provided in a holistic, challenging, interesting and innovative way throughout the year. Working with the Whitehall centre, all students will be offered a variety of on and off-site activities. Katie Furniss will also be teaching Forest School to all students in our on-sit woodland. This may be offered to other local schools at a minimal cost.

JS spoke about the impact of the above initiatives on school finances, personnel, buildings etc. Governors unanimously agreed that there are no areas of immediate concern, but the changes will be monitored and feedback brought to Governors. Governors appreciate JH's enthusiasm and significant time and thought given to improving the education and well-being of our students.

**Finance Committee – Chair JS**

JS spoke about finances in general and specifically in relation to the above changes. JS asked for Governor approval to fund training for Caroline Parsons in accountancy, which will directly benefit her current position as SBM. Governors unanimously agreed.

**Agreed**

The committee had met but minutes were not yet written to present to Governors.

**Personnel Committee – Chair JS**

Not met.

**Buildings and H&S Committee – Chair JS**

Not met.

120 18/19

**Headteacher's Report**

JH read through the report which had been previously distributed.

*HW left the room.*

JH talked about the requirement for a trained SENCO, and asked for Governor approval to appoint HW who has extensive experience and all necessary (and many additional) qualifications. Governors unanimously agreed. HW will also be able to offer some early help provision, which has been cut by DCC. JH and JS to formalise.

**Agreed**

*HW was invited back into the room.*

121 18/19

**Resources**

JH explained the maths and English resources (some new and some existing) that will be used to support teaching. The school are trialling the use of 'Power Maths' which is an accredited scheme to teaching maths with a problem-solving, real-life focus.

*HS left the meeting at 8:55pm*

122 18/19

**Staffing**

Discussed as part of Headteacher's Report.

123 18/19

**Proposed improvements to the learning environment**

Discussed as part of Headteacher's Report.

JH talked through the replacement of the conservatory roof with a solid and insulated version, due for work to be completed over the summer.

124 18/19

**Summer 2 Summative data**

JH talked through the data, explaining that it is based on an extremely small cohort of 3 children, which limits to ability to make general judgements. The results were discussed in depth by governors, who noted and agreed with the importance of progress rather than attainment.

*JHF left the meeting at 9:20pm*

125 18/19

**Outcomes of the LA advisor scrutiny**

JH talked briefly about the report from Steve Ford, which most Governors had previously received. The findings were positive with no notable causes for concern.

126 18/19

**REHO (Early Help Offer)**

HW in new position of SENCO will look into this further, working with JH from September to ensure that adequate (if not excellent) provision is in place.

127 18/19

**Sports Funding and Pupil Premium  
Sports Funding**

Discussed under Headteacher's report.

**Pupil Premium**

JH is currently assessing how value-added is measured and will report back to Governors in September.

128 18/19

**Policies**

Of the policies for agreement, one had been recently reviewed, one is not required at the moment, and the other two will be brought to the September meeting.

129 18/19

**School Improvement Plan**

JH is writing a new plan for academic year 19/20, to be brought to Governors in September.

130 18/19

**Chairs Report**

Nothing to report.

131 18/19

**Extended Services / Explorers**

CP talked through the ongoing financial position of the afterschool club. Numbers are low resulting in a worrying financial position. Governors appreciate the symbiotic benefit of having this provision to NOR and appeal for new families, and will monitor closely.

132 18/19

**Parent View**

There are not currently enough responses to feedback the results.

- 133 18/19 **Budget**  
JH confirmed that the budget is presently healthy and will provide figures for the September meeting.
- 134 18/19 **Virements, Approvals, Disposals and Transfers**  
No requests.
- 135 18/19 **SEND**  
JH reported that 2 children have received help from CAMHS.
- 136 18/19 **Safeguarding**  
MT read through her report completed with KO. This was extensive as MH was new to the position so asked many relevant and enquiring questions. Governors appreciate MH's time and effort. MH also viewed and approved the school SCR.
- 137 18/19 **Governor Visits**  
Many Governors have visited school recently. There were no additional reports to read.
- 138 18/19 **Correspondence and Information for Governors**  
Nothing to report.
- 139 18/19 **AOB**  
JH enquired about the expectations of the Head in relation to Governing Body commitments and raised concerns over the additional workload that it could entail. JS asked JH to prepare a proposal of how he wished to make changes, and bring to the September meeting for further discussion.

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

We have officially welcomed a new Head and a new Governor, adding strategic security to the school environment.

The meeting ended at 10:00pm ish.

Date of next meetings: **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019**  
**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**  
**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020**  
**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020**  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020**  
**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

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