

Long Marston V A C of E Primary School

Meeting of the Governing Body on Tuesday 11th May 2021 at 18:30pm (Zoom)

Minutes

'Rooted in God's love, we rejoice to learn & respond to challenge'

Present:

Rev J Banister	(JB) (Chair)	Mr N Anderson	(NA)
Mrs C South	(CS)	Mr S Pitchers	(SP)
Mrs L Annett	(LA)	Mr S Dawkins	(SD)
Mrs J Finlan	(JF)	Mrs L Bancroft	(LB)
Mrs K Jaquet	(KJ)	Mrs J Kelly	(JK)

In Attendance: Mrs S Moore **(SM)** (Clerk to the Governors) Mr A Scahill **(AS)** SLT

NO.	Item	Action
1	To receive apologies and approve absences Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Absent with apologies Eileen Springford (ES) – unable to access Zoom Absence approved.	
2	Declaration of Interest Governors reminded that they must declare any conflict of interest, both pecuniary and other, that refers to an item on the Agenda. Governors should make known at this point any items that they intend to raise under 'Any other business' so that all Declarations of Interest are based on all matters to be discussed. No declarations made regarding the Agenda or Any other business.	
3	To approve the Minutes of 16.03.2021 meeting The minutes agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.	
4	To consider any matters arising from the Minutes of 16.03.2021 None raised	
5	COVID Update CS reports that there have been no cases of Covid in school and no incidents of anyone having to self-isolate. Staff and children seem happy. We need to make sure there is no complacency. It would be really nice to be back to being a normal school by the end of the year. There has been an update to guidance. It hasn't changed massively. Minimising contact is still very high on the agenda for schools. They talk about delivering a broad and balanced curriculum whilst minimising contact and not mixing. It talks about reducing contact between pupils and staff, keeping everyone in their bubbles. Keeping in their groups. Limiting interaction. For the younger children that can't distance, lots of handwashing and sanitising. Ventilation is still key. All staff are regularly testing twice a week and this is still a high priority. One thing that came up was face coverings in secondary schools and will no longer be required in class. They say face masks should still be worn by visitors and when out of the classroom. We can have wider groupings for wrap around care but still need to avoid large gatherings for things like Collective Worship. They are still advocating staggered everything if you can. For visitors and visiting, specialists are allowed in. They have their own guidelines they are following. Volunteers are to be kept to a minimum, not moving between the bubbles. Educational visits, we have been able to do those for a while. We will be waiting until September. Transitional days will have to have risk assessments. It says to work to resume before and after school clubs. It's really important to minimise mixing children	

where possible and we should be advising parents to limit the use of after school settings, so only using one in addition to school. It talks about residential visits and being confident that you can maintain integrity of your bubble while on these. We made the decision a long time ago that Thriftwood would not be going ahead. It talks about what the accommodation would look like. Is there enough space, minimising amount of children sharing that space, no staff to share accommodation and volunteer helpers would not be allowed. We talked about Health education and Relationship education in Curriculum recently, it is very clear from the document that the focus should be about what the immediate needs are in school. A more comprehensive programme for HE/RE can be left now until September 2021. It talks a lot about PE. It is as before, still keeping consistent groups. Being outdoors as much as you can, but if it needs to be indoors then large ventilated spaces. OFSTED will start again in September 2021.

JB comments that it is absolutely the right decision to have made about Thriftwood, although disappointing. **AS** explains he does not think that Thriftwood would have allowed it to go ahead. The Scout Association are not allowing any residential experiences until September anyway. We may not have had the option with Thriftwood even if we had wanted to.

Q – Is there anything in the guidance, where you know people are breaching Covid rules? A – Nothing at all in the Education guidance about that.

6 Head Recruitment Update

It has been a 2 month process from start to finish, which isn't too bad. Huge thank you to everyone for their part in the day, especially **SP** and **JF**. We still have some checks to make. There is hope for a very good handover time.

Q – It would be lovely to get an update out to parents at the end of the week. Do you think that is likely? A - I am dealing with four different people in HR. I can try, and there are a few other things that need to get done this week.

7 Resources

Minutes were circulated to all prior to the meeting.

We have passed Year end. We thought there would be a deficit of £67K but it ended up being £19K. **JB** has signed off all documents, **CS** has been budget setting. It's looking like we will have an actual deficit of £14k 2021/22. There are a few things to finalise and a few big spends coming up. **CS** advises there have been a few changes around TA support. We had budgeted for 25hrs for a child with additional needs, but we will need a few more hours for things like lunchtime. The additional training for the SENCO award. Legal services were £300 more than we were expecting.

CS advises that on Monday we were granted planning permission for the space outside. Outdoor places are booked in for half term to complete and make good.

Q – One of the comments for planning permission were around hours of use. I infer from that they thought we would be using it in the evening? A – You could make a comment as a local person, or different parts of the local authority were able to make comment. It could be used at any time the school is open.

Q – It's not a full size netball court, so it's not like we can rent it out for matches. A – No it is about 8m short.

8 Curriculum

Minutes circulated to all prior to meeting.

JF reports the main focus was for Relationship and Health policy. School bought into Jigsaw, a scheme of work. The staff went through what was relevant and what wasn't. Some bits were removed as they felt it was too explicit. Nothing mandatory has been removed. By leaving it in we could have problems with parents needing to approve what wasn't mandatory and they could remove pupils which would be complicated matters. This has been signed off. We had a quick look at the SDP, it wasn't particularly a priority at this moment in time. It was more about getting the children sorted. If you read it, there is nothing that jumps out that we should have achieved but haven't. **JF** advises that we need a Mental Health governor. **SP** volunteers for the role.

Q – Mental Health, is that something that **AC** oversees? A –Yes, she is the Deputy Mental Health lead.

JF continues, we had a brief look at data, it wasn't easy to interpret as there is no bench mark across anything. You can only look at where the progression was last time.

CS comments that all the RSE information is now on the website and parents have been given the opportunity to comment by 21st May. It will be ready to role out properly in September.

Q – How did you inform the parents it is all online? A- I put it in the Newsletter. There is a Jotform link.

9 Governor Training

This is about the bigger training. Because of Covid we haven't kept up the Complaints and Exclusion training. These will have to be done early next year. As the training has lapsed, if you needed to put together a panel together for an Exclusion you wouldn't be able to. Exclusion training should be booked in for the Autumn term and then Complaints in the Spring. The reason for being that way around, we bought into the silver complaints package. So if there was a complaint, you would have support for that.

10 Meeting Dates 2021/2022

Just want to go through each of the meetings and check that the days and times still work for everybody. All agreed as follows

FGB on a Tuesday at 6.30
Resources Tuesday 6.30
Personnel Friday 8.30
Curriculum Wednesday 6.30
Our Church School Friday 8.30

11 Governor Membership – Vacancies

Three governors end of term upcoming. **ES** September, happy to carry on, but maybe not the three years. **KJ** September, happy to stand for one more year. Feels should maybe do something closer to home. **SD** October, willing to stand again. **SD** will need to be advertised to parents in September.
Still x 1 vacancy empty

12 GDPR

Nothing to report

13 Correspondence

None

14 AOB

Nothing raised.

Meeting closed at 19.20 pm

Date of next

Meeting: Tuesday 6th July 2021 18.30

