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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COURT SCHOOL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th MAY 2023 AT 5.00PM

PRESENT: G Hunt (Chair), A Griffiths, S Deverson, E Powell (online), C McBratney, C Gibbon, A Chaudhry, S Jenkins, G Webb, J Beesley (Headteacher), C Joy (Deputy Headteacher)

APOLOGIES: D Sargent, S Bounds, J Shimmin

ALSO PRESENT: E Gudgeon (Clerk – online)

Minute		Action
1	Introductions The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. The previous Governing Body meeting was cancelled for a couple of reasons, but 3 new members have joined the Governing Body. (S Deverson, C McBratney and A Chaudhry). Everyone was able to introduce themselves for the benefit of the new members.	
1.2	A time for A Chaudhry to visit the school will be arranged with the Headteacher.	JB
1.3	The meeting was quorate.	
2	Review governing body membership and terms of office The finance sub-committee and other committee vacancies will need filling. Vacancies will be discussed at the next meeting.	EG/JB
3	Governor training and development including compliance with mandatory training The Clerk will email vacancies and sub-committee lists to all Governors. The Clerk will liaise with new Governors regarding mandatory training.	EG EG
4	Declaration of items on the agenda The Clerk will email forms to new Governors.	EG
5 5.1	Approval of minutes of previous meeting 15/02/23 Accuracy Page 2, Point 5.1, Line 11 - Should read "CG shared there was a low number of male members on Baden Powell's Governing Body."	

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	<p>Page 3, Point 6.3, Line 4 – Should read “I am trying to work with S.W.A.S.S.H to make a change.</p> <p>Page 4, Point 6.9, Line 8 – Should read “AG shared that her child was encouraged to eat sweets across a period of time, which goes against healthy eating encouragement and promotion.”</p>	
6.	<p>Matters arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Interests – Completed • Behaviour Policy – Completed • Grade 5 position. • Team Teach Training – 9th June. • Previous Minutes, Page 4, Point 6.10 – Governing Body Open Days to be re-arranged. • Previous Minutes, Page 5, Point 6.14 – Meeting on March 23rd did not take place. • Previous Minutes, Page 6, Point 11.1 – SJ & DS training has been completed. • Previous Minutes, Page 7, Point 13.1 – CJ met with AG • Previous Minutes, Page 7, Point 13.6 – JB waiting to hear back from the LA regarding new school names. 	
7	<p>Curriculum update</p> <p>The H/T explained the Deputy Headteacher RF was unavailable due to family matters. CJ read through the report on RF's behalf. Report is Appendix 1.</p> <p>Barry Atkins has run pottery sessions with pupils and next week a Graffiti artist, Lloyd, will be coming into school to work with pupils.</p> <p>Classes will be given the opportunity to make some money grow, as the class will be given £5, and they must try and make more money in the hopes of encouraging creativity.</p> <p>The company Sports Xtra come into school and run sessions with pupils.</p> <p>Bike rides, healthy eating and healthy lifestyles are promoted.</p> <p>Staff do all they can to provide a safe, nurturing environment at school.</p> <p>The school has a football team that play games off site and football games take place every breaktime and lunchtime that pupils can take part in if they wish.</p> <p>Sensei Rob visits twice a week (Tuesday and Thursday afternoons) to run karate sessions for pupils.</p> <p>Bad Wolf Studios visit once a week and run workshops to help pupils create Minecraft sets and use these sets to create animations.</p>	

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	<p>The school has members of staff with talents such as football coaching and boxing coaching, who introduce these activities to pupils and encourage them to try these activities.</p> <p>CG and CJ to have a discussion about Bad Wolf Studios and what they have done at Baden Powell school (workshops etc).</p>	<p>CI/CG</p>
8	Headteacher's report including update on School Improvement Plan (SIP)	
8.1	The H/T shared that the Deputy Headteacher RF had been off work for a period with a broken hand, which was the result of an incident at school.	
8.2	It seems that pupils were struggling with the recent 3-day weekends, which SJ agreed with. Pupil behaviour has also been more vibrant post Easter, which was somewhat expected.	
8.3	There are 15 year 6 pupils who are going through the transition process before leaving us in July and starting at secondary provisions in September. This is a tricky time for them.	
8.4	The school is going to make an application to set a deficit budget for the financial year 2023/2024.	
8.5	Discussions have taken place regarding the school moving onto 2 sites. The plan is to have one deputy headteacher and one assistant headteacher on each site, with one site hopefully opening in September 2024.	
8.6	One of the Assisting Headteacher positions will be advertised shortly, with the second position being advertised in the future.	
8.7	The current staffing structure and the aspirational staffing structure will be shared at the next Governor meeting.	JB
8.8	<p>The LA is looking to have a period of overlap for new staff to be able to learn from current staff. This should hopefully aid the transition when the time comes to move to new sites.</p> <p>The LA need to understand and commit to the school and understand how we need to operate in order to keep Staff and pupils safe.</p>	
8.9	With regards to current Staff, most new TAs are now employed by the Council (2 will move from Agency to Council in July). It is hoped that the school can have 2 psychology students attending at the school from September.	

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8.10	<p>SJ shared some information with the Governors regarding Rights Respecting Schools and explained the school had been working since January to meet the criteria to be awarded the bronze award. Each class has a representative, who attends meetings to give their input. It is hoped that the school will apply for the award before the end of the academic year.</p> <p>SJ asked if any Governors would be interested in coming along to a meeting?</p>	
8.11	<p>The H/T explained that the school was a Trauma Informed School and that book looks had taken place with Gethin Howells (Improvement Partner).</p>	
8.12	<p>AC shared that he felt the school website needed updating and did not sell what the school was achieving. Photos of Governors on the website was also suggested.</p> <p>The H/T agreed that not all the school website pages were regularly updated, but some pages were. Content is regularly added on Twitter and shows what goes on at the school, and achievements of pupils.</p>	
8.13	<p>A behaviour meeting has taken place with AG and the current number of fixed term exclusions for 2022 – 23 is 21 days. In 2016 – 17 the number of days was 181</p> <p>The UK has had a bashing from the EU over behaviour policies and the view is to have Child-led policies that respect the rights of children.</p>	
8.14	<p>Attendance is currently around the 74 – 75% mark, which is affected by the number of pupils on PSP's.</p>	
8.15	<p>As of this evening there has been no inspection date from Estyn. They must give 10 working days' notice, and we are expecting a call any day now.</p> <p>Having been a peer inspector at another school the H/T shared that inspectors work in different ways to one another and can focus on whatever aspect(s) they wish.</p> <p>Report attached as Appendix 2</p>	
9	<p>Committee reports: Behaviour, Finance, Governor visit and Health and Safety</p> <p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>9.1 The Chair reported this financial year will be a difficult one for the school. The level of funding available to the school is not right, and the work that the school does is not properly reflected in terms of the financial support being offered.</p> <p>9.2</p>	

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9.3	Funding that was previously offered has been stopped for the 23-24 year, but the LA has increased the budget by 9.4%.
9.4	The finance officer, Paul Mellin has reported 60% of mainstream schools will set deficit budgets this year, which is due to numerous factors (COVID related costs, rising bills etc).
9.5	In November the budget was healthy, but we are now looking at a very different picture, with the school looking at a deficit budget of £70,000. At present, setting a deficit budget is the only option the school has.
	The H/T explained that the school is compared to Greenhill, who are a completely different provision. The comparison is frustrating, but the school does understand it is the only provision of its kind in the LA, and probably in Wales.
9.6	GW raised points about the staffing levels in classes, instances of Teachers working as TA's and asked about the advertising of a grade 5 TA position.
	GH explained it was unknown whether any grants or funding would be made available at any point, as the LA are currently reporting there is no extra money to go into schools.
	The H/T explained £20,000 has been budgeted for Supply Teachers this financial year, and £60,000 has been budgeted for Supply TA's.
9.7	<u>Health and Safety</u>
	An email was read out from the Health and Safety Officer, Clive Kitchen.
	In the last site inspection, several points were raised around actions that need to be taken but were mostly easily rectifiable jobs.
9.8	Lighting elements were missing diffusers (bare lightbulbs identified).
	Finger guards were missing from some doors around the site.
	Signage was missing informing people whether the water source was safe to drink from.
	Fire action notices were missing from several classrooms.
	Restrictors are required on some of the windows around the site.
	A handrail is required on the stairs down to the boiler room.
10	Children who are Looked After (CLA) and Safeguarding
10.1	CJ shared a monitoring report with Governors regarding the four CLA pupils.
	The report shows a colour coded system (red, amber or green), which looks at the wellbeing of each of the four pupils and a

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	<p>scoring scale that looks at each of the pupil's attitudes to learning (1.0 to 4.0).</p> <p>Report attached as Appendix 3</p> <p>Whole school attendance for the autumn term 73.99% Unauthorised attendance: 1.09% (Attendance officer is monitoring one pupil)</p> <p>Whole school attendance for the spring term 74.7% Unauthorised attendance: 1.39% (Attendance officer is monitoring two pupils)</p>	
10.2	No safeguarding issues were raised	
11	Policy Review	
11.1	The School Council Policy was the first policy to be discussed. The H/T explained the policy has been written with input from the pupils. Each class has one representative on the School Council, and this representative was voted onto the council by their peers. Pupils that were not selected for the school council were selected for the rights respecting schools committee.	
11.2	The Violence against Women policy is made up of two documents: the policy and a guide. Both documents are produced by the LA.	
11.3	Both policies were agreed by the Governing Body.	
12	Correspondence	
	None	
13	Any Other Business	
13.1	The Governors Annual Report and Governor's Open Days/Visits are to be re-arranged.	JB
14	Dates for remaining meetings this academic year 28 th June 2023	
15	Determination of matters to be regarded as confidential.	
	None	

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Appendix 1 – Deputy Headteacher's Report

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The Court School Curriculum Development

We continue to develop the curriculum here at the court school by encouraging teachers to be creative, take risks and offer a broad, balanced, exciting opportunities. Since the last report we have continued to build on the fundamentals but have also made strides in implementing other statutory elements such as:

Rights Respecting Schools:

- Class Charter
- RSR Core Group including SLMT, TA and Governor representation
- Right of the week
- On going self evaluation process to become a "Rights Respecting School"

Relationships and Sexuality Education:

- Adapted our planning pro forma to allow visual evidence of coverage the areas and activities being offered
- Non-negotiable delivery across the curriculum

We are ensuring that our curriculum is underpinned by the 4 purposes by introducing "4 purpose immersion weeks"

Healthy, Confident Individuals-

- Circus skills
- Caving in the Brecon Beacons
- Sports Xtra
- Karate
- Football skills
- Bike rides
- Healthy eating sessions
- Sleep awareness

Enterprising, creative contributors-

- Lloyd Graffiti
- Pottery
- £5 challenge
- Big Wolf Movie making