



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COURT  
SCHOOL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 5.00PM –  
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT:** G Hunt (Chair), D Sargent, R Bent, S Jenkins, G Webb, A Griffiths, and J Beesley (Headteacher).

**ALSO PRESENT:** C Jones (Clerk) and S Pritchard (LA Area Commissioning Lead)

Minute		Action
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies for absence.</b>	
1.1	The Chair welcomed governors to the meeting.	
1.2	Apologies were received and accepted for N Pearson, E Cousins, R Cadwallader, and S Bounds	
1.3	The meeting was quorate.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declaration of interest in agenda items.</b>	
2.1	There were no declarations.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Approval of draft full governing body minutes 15.12.21.</b>	
3.1	The minutes of the previous meeting on 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 were approved as a true and accurate record and would be signed by the Chair.	GH
<b>4.</b>	<b>Matters Arising 20.10.21.</b>	
4.1	There were no matters arising.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Review of governing body member/ instrument of government.</b>	
5.1	There was nothing to discuss.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Governor training and development.</b>	
6.1	J Shimmin who was the Link Governor for Health & Safety would be attending training provided by the local authority on 10 <sup>th</sup> February 22.	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Committee reports.</b>	
7.1	<u>Finance</u> The Finance Committee had met with the school's LFM Officer. The school was on target for an estimated surplus carry forward of £40k. However, due to a number of factors/LA/WG grants	

*J. Hunt 9-2-22*

	<p>(RRRS) the figure had changed to £70k approx. Governors agreed that this would enable the school to sustain its current staffing levels.</p> <p>The formula budget would be available at the beginning of March March 22.</p>	
7.2	<p>It was discussed that formula funding for special schools had still not been revised, but the school were in a strong financial position.</p>	
7.3	<p>The Headteacher advised that the budget for communication/telephones would need to be increased as each class utilises a mobile phone to enhance communication between school-home.</p>	
7.4	<p>The Headteacher requested that the larger school minibus be replaced with a people carrier. <b>Governors agreed the request</b> but advised the Headteacher that in the vision for the new school, minibuses would be provided. Staff governors agreed that a people carrier would be more suitable. <b>Governors asked the HT to liaise with LA regarding any financial assistance with this. HT agreed he would do this.</b></p>	
7.5	<p>The Headteacher requested that some of the school's surplus in 2022-23 be invested for possible purchase of new vehicle. <b>Governors agreed the request.</b></p>	
7.6	<p><u>Health &amp; Safety</u></p> <p>J Shimmin had met with the school's previous, and new Health &amp; Safety Officers from the local authority.</p> <p>The new H&amp;S Officer would be carrying out a full site visit with the Headteacher.</p> <p>There were some on-going issues with the roof being resolved, and the fencing provided for the roof repairs had been broken, but had been fixed by the Caretaker.</p> <p><b>Governors were concerned that pupils had managed to climb the broken fence to access the rood, and thanked the Caretaker for his swift repair. They expressed their concerns that all fences in school should be robust and 'anti-climb'.</b></p>	
8.	<p><b>Report from Sarah Pritchard</b></p>	
8.1	<p>Sarah Pritchard, the local authority's Area Commissioning Lead from Schools Organisational Planning (SOP) introduced herself.</p>	



	<p>She had been working with the Headteacher on the vision for the new school.</p> <p>Sarah advised that an executive summary of the vision would be devised, which would set the scene for the new school. The document would be shared with contractors.</p> <p><b>Governors agreed that the design of the school was very important, including outdoor areas, and felt that the local authority needed to be mindful of sustaining the increased staffing costs.</b> Sarah advised that the increase in pupil numbers at the new school would generate more funding and that she had had the discussion with the Headteacher and school finance.</p> <p>Teacher Governor S Jenkins had been in discussions with Sarah Pritchard regarding the staffing requirements, including therapy and outreach support. Governors agreed that the needs of the current pupils differed from pupils in the past.</p>	
8.2	<p><b>Governors asked whether the size of the governing body would need to increase.</b> Sarah did not think that it would increase, but recommended parent governors from each of the two new proposed sites be appointed.</p> <p>Sarah would seek clarification from Governor Services.</p>	JB
8.3	<p><b>Governors asked whether there were any concerns regarding the distance between the two new sites, and the location of the new special high school.</b> Sarah advised that special provision was city-wide and that transport would be provided.</p>	
8.4	<p><b>Governors asked about the size of the new sites.</b> Sarah did not have plans to hand, but advised that both sites would be situation on a large area. <b>Governors requested that plans be made available at a future governing body meeting.</b></p>	SP/JB
8.5	<p>The Headteacher felt that a new name should be chosen for the school. <b>Governors agreed.</b></p> <p>Melanie Godfrey, the Director of Education would be contacted to request a name change, and parents, pupils, and staff would be consulted.</p>	JB
8.6	Governors thanked Sarah for her report, and she left the meeting.	
9.	<b>Headteacher's Report</b>	
9.1	The Headteacher's Report was emailed to governors prior to the meeting.	
9.2	The Headteacher thanked all school staff for their hard work and dedication in very difficult circumstances due to the pandemic.	

9.3	<p><u>Staffing</u></p> <p>The Headteacher thanked governor R Bent for assisting with some new staffing appointments</p> <p>The new psychology student was working in the school as a Teaching Assistant and was doing well. Two more appointments for psychology students have been made for next academic year.</p>	
9.4	<p><u>In-service Training</u></p> <p>The school had undertaken their second Teach-teach training.</p> <p>Three members of staff, including the Headteacher, had completed training on Trauma Informed Schools, and another member of staff had just started the training. Two teaching assistants would be starting soon.</p>	
9.5	<p><u>Premises</u></p> <p>The potholes in the car park had been repaired.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding improving the area at the front of the school to improve parking.</p>	
9.6	<p><u>Pupil Progress</u></p> <p>The Headteacher would report on pupil progress during the Summer Term.</p>	
9.7	<p><u>Behaviour</u></p> <p>The attitude and engagement of upper Key Stage 2 pupils was generally better than LKS2 however the LKS2 pupils had usually spent less time in school and were more developmentally immature. HT made it clear to Governors that classes with younger children required more staff support as their needs were usually so profound and complex.</p>	
9.8	<p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>Attendance was slowly improving and the data was shared with governors. <b>Governors agreed that the attendance data could not be compared to pre-pandemic levels but were pleased that attendance was improving.</b></p>	
10. 10.1	<p><b>Review of Policies.</b></p> <p>The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy was emailed to governors prior to the meeting. The policy was from local authority.</p> <p>Governors approved and agreed the policy. The Chair would sign.</p>	GH
11. 11.1	<p><b>Children who are Looked After (CLA)</b></p> <p>The Headteacher advised that all 4 pupils were doing well. One had moved into a new foster placement and was thriving.</p>	

<b>12.</b> 12.1	<b>Health &amp; Safety.</b> Minute 7.	
<b>13.</b> 13.1	<b>Safeguarding.</b> All issues were being processed, and 'My Concern' was working well.	
<b>14.</b> 14.1	<b>Correspondence</b> The Headteacher had received a letter of resignation from Deputy Headteacher Bev Smith. The letter was read out during the meeting. Governors thanked Bev for her commitment and hard work over the years and wished her well. A letter would be sent from the full governing body.	JB
<b>15.</b> 15.1	<b>Any Other Business.</b> It was discussed that the next full governing body meeting would take place at the school, in person. Microsoft Teams would be available to governors who could not attend school.	CJ
<b>16.</b> 17.1	<b>Determination of matters to be regarded as confidential.</b> The clerk would be contacting the school's HR Officer regarding a pay query.	CJ
<b>18.</b> 18.1	<b>Date, time, and focus of next meeting.</b> The next meeting was 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 5pm.	

