

Minutes of the meeting of the full governing body held on Monday 11th March 2024 at 4.30pm.

**Present:**

Mrs N Galloway (Chair)  
Mrs H Benwell  
Mr I Lindsay  
Mrs J Vila  
Miss L Scott  
Mr J Branker  
Mrs G Pardoe-Boi  
Mrs J McKinnon  
Mr C McConnachie  
Mrs N Harwood  
Mr A Walker  
Mr I Siddall (Headteacher)

**Also Present:**

Mrs E Wallace (Clerk to Governors)  
Miss F Bate (Observer – Deputy Headteacher)  
Mr S Stott (Observer - Director of Resources)  
Miss S Hetherington (Observer – Senior Assistant Headteacher)

**Apologies:**

Apologies received and accepted for Mr C Feeney and Mrs Collins.

**2. Governing Body Matters**

**a) Chair and Vice-Chair.**

The Chair discussed her resignation as Chair with governors. It was agreed Mrs Benwell to Chair meetings until the new academic year. Mr Siddall presented Mrs Galloway with flowers and governors thanked Mrs Galloway for her hard work and support over the years.

Mrs Benwell nominated Mr Lindsay to Vice-Chair until the end of the academic year. This was seconded by a governor.

Mr McConnachie arrived at 16:37

**b) Declarations of interest**

Mr Stott presented the new governors with declaration of interest forms to complete.

**c) Terms of office/membership**

With the step down of Mrs Galloway committee memberships will change accordingly.

**3. Minutes of the previous meeting and any matters arising**

It was resolved of the minutes of the previous meeting be approved and signed by the chair.

- Matters arising: Leader of attendance at next meeting – **Completed**

- Cost centres updated by Mr Stott and reported back to governors at the next meeting.
- Prevent document distributed to governors – Completed.
- Staff induction discussed later in the meeting.
- Search bar on website – Mr Stott explained there is currently a search bar on the website with further tags being added over the coming months.

**Extraordinary Minutes** – After being circulated to governors prior to the meeting, the minutes were approved and signed by the chair.

**Confidential minutes** – After being circulated to governors prior to the meeting, the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

#### 4. Theme input - Attendance

Miss Hetherington distributed a document to governors prior to the meeting. Miss Hetherington explained Hodgson had received a bronze award for attendance from FFT. Miss Hetherington continued to explain Year 11 attendance is a concern and is below average with steps being taken to improve this, by distributing statistics to form tutors regarding all students in their form. This allows form tutors to try and prevent a pattern of absence. Catch up sessions are underway allowing students extended time in their options subjects. A resilience coach attends weekly to teach students resilience. The pastoral team is utilised extensively to bring students into school.

**A governor questioned** if this statistics system has been bought in.

Miss Hetherington explained Mr Farmer had created the document and this is automatically sent to form tutors on a Monday morning.

**A governor queried** if the document was shown to the class.

Miss Hetherington explained it is shown to the form and competitions are in place to improve attendance.

Miss Hetherington explained the government has provided guidance where less evidence is required with a mental health diagnosis, with this affecting figures.

**A governor queried** the EHCP Y9 attendance figure.

Miss Hetherington explained this is a small cohort of students, with only 15 students across the school with an EHCP.

#### 5. Chair's action and update

The Chair invited Mrs Galloway to discuss the item. Mrs Galloway explained all actions had been associated with the MAT with Mr Siddall to discuss in the next item.

#### 6. Academisation update

Mr Siddall explained Hodgson Academy is now a MAT as of 1<sup>st</sup> March. There remains issues with governors from the other schools able to remain on committees. Mr Siddall explained there will

be a trustee meeting prior to 1<sup>st</sup> June to discuss finer details. Blackpool Sixth Form college is hoping to join on 1<sup>st</sup> July with multiple notifications needing to take place prior to this.

Mr Siddall explained the two pupil referral schools are looking to join on 1<sup>st</sup> July, however there remains issues with land. TCaF funding of £220,000 has been applied for, growth funding was originally rejected due to a misunderstanding of the sixth form's location, this is expected to change.

**A governor questioned** the funding spending.

Mr Siddall explained the funding is related to the size of the trust and would be used for issues that may arise.

**A governor asked** for the connection between the local governing bodies and the trust.

Mr Siddall explained the local governing body reports into the trust board. The link will be the Chair reporting via forums.

**A governor asked** if Hodgson's budget planning will remain the same for this year.

Mr Siddall explained it will remain the same and reported back to governors.

**A governor queried** if the budget will remain with the governors after next year.

Mr Siddall explained that it would be decided by the trust and reported back to governors.

## **7. Finance update and questions**

Mr Stott discussed the document circulated to governors prior to the meeting.

**A governor discussed** the TLR mistake on the document.

Mr Stott explained this was a good observation and corrected a £2000 difference.

**A governor queried** the PE works.

Mr Stott explained there have been quotes received for the Astro turf and the Gym floor. This will take them out of circulation whilst the works are being completed. There is also a quote incoming regarding the tree roots starting to break through on the turf, with a French drain to be fitted. The Sports Hall floor will be worked on in the Summer.

**A governor asked** if there will be funding available for the works.

Mr Stott explained this is being looked into. A grant was queried via Sports England however these works are not eligible due to not being a full rebuild.

Mr Stott discussed the second part of the CDC survey has been completed. It will be approximately three months before the report is distributed.

**A governor asked** if the insurance had been claimed for the ski trip.

Mr Stott explained this is underway.

**A governor queried** whether governors would complete the cyber security training.

Mr Stott explained the link will be sent to governors to complete this.

Mr Stott

## **8. Headteachers Verbal Update**

Mr Siddall explained there is movement with staffing. The recruitment taken place is 1 science teacher 1 geography teacher, Head of Technology and a Head of Music. A further Science post to come in due course and a Maths post to be advertised. An Assistant Head of Technology to be advertised in the coming weeks. A temporary MFL teacher for a 1 year post will also be advertised.

Mr Siddall explained Hodgson is full for the September intake based on catchment area - This is the second time in two years. There may be non-arrivers, where students receive a place and then proceed to attend a private school.

Baines have appointed a new headteacher with effect from September. They have been in discussions with Cidari Academy Trust in relation to becoming a MAT.

**A governor queried** how many appeals had been received.

Mr Siddall explained currently eighteen appeals have been received with Mr Day to attend these meetings, usually held in May.

**A governor queried** allowing military children to be added to the priority list

Mr Siddall explained this currently is not part of the admissions policy, however the academy currently has a large amount of military families. Carr Hill does include this in the admissions policy.

Miss Bate explained every month a member of the safeguarding team visits Weeton Barracks to keep upto date with students. There are currently 32 students on roll from a military family.

## **9. Educational Visits**

A type B visit to Krakow including Auschwitz will be coming to governors at the next meeting when more details have been received.

## **10. Governor Training**

Mrs Vila asked governors to keep her updated on any training they undertake. Mrs Vila to send information to the new governors.

**11. Any other business**

There were no items to be discussed.

**12. Confidential**

There were no confidential items discussed.

**13. Date & Time of Next Meeting**

The next full governors meeting will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 16:30