



Thomas Hardye School
10th December 2014
Governing Body Meeting

Present: Garry Batt, Laura Cheney, Iain Cornell, Sue Harries, Lynne Cove, Mike Faulkner, Mike Foley, Tim Gallego, David Grassby, Roger Kirby, Teresa Macklin, Karen Weir, Sheila Johns, Natasha Bousfield, , Linda Morrison, Martin Baker, Simon Kirby, Hugh Griffiths, Wendy Holden, Graham Mounce

Apologies: Tony Foot

Clerk: Tony Day

Item	Minutes	Action
14/56	Declarations of Interest: Graham Mounce, Karen Weir and Simon Conibear gave their declarations of business interest regarding Zero C, DASP and Duchy of Cornwall employment, respectively.	
14/57	Minutes of 17th September 2014 and the Extraordinary meeting of 6th November 2014 were approved and signed.	
14/58	Matters arising: There were no matters for discussion beyond those cited on the agenda.	
14/59 14/59.1 14/59.2 14/59.3	Reports of the Committees a) Mr Kirby presented the report of the Learning and Community Committee of the 1 st December b) Mr Mounce presented the report of the Finance Committee of the 24 th November and Mr Grassby commented upon the Auditor's advice respecting the desirability of an independent auditor. It was agreed that the school would seek to arrange this for the future to formalise a separate audit regarding the school's internal financial controls. Mr Grassby offered to continue his watching brief in this regard. Governors were informed by the Clerk that 1610 had agreed to share their profit from the use of the school's facilities in the sum of 50%. This would be re-visited again at the Finance on the 9th March 2015. c) Mrs Harries presented the report of the Personnel and Resources Committee of the 19 th November. The Chairman addressed the question of meeting lengths, and requested attentiveness to a degree of brevity without compromising the importance of items. He felt that the provision of key information in advance was undoubtedly beneficial in such regard, and voiced the opinion that committee meetings should not normally exceed one and a half hours duration, wherever practicable.	NU
14/60 14/60.1	Review of Link Governors/Governor Visits Natasha addressed the Governors respecting the schools protocol in this regard, upon which she had been working. She placed emphasis upon the matter of quality assurance, and Governors fulfilling a cardinal role as 'critical friend'. An evidence form will be provided for each subject, together with information from the Curriculum Leader, and a Quality Assurance file. Two visits per year would be recommended. Mr Kirby advocated that a clear, written protocol would be helpful to the Governors. It was agreed that a pack would be furnished to the Governors by	NB

<p>14/60.2</p>	<p>Natasha after Christmas. The following was decided respecting link governor vacancies: Admissions committee – Mr Conibear Humanities – Wendy Holden PSHE –Tony Foot RE – Wendy Holden Design Technology – Hugh Griffiths Social Science – Mr Mounce The Colleges - Mrs Weir, Mr Batt, Mrs Cove and Mr Foot Sixth Form – Mr Kirby will join Mr Grassby The Strategy Group will comprise all Chairmen together with Mrs Cove and Mr Baker.</p>	
<p>14/61</p>	<p>Phase VI The Clerk reported his grave concern respecting the progress being made by Morgan Sindall, the contractors for the project. The contract had been for 40 weeks and as things stood currently, it was considered now that the project would not be completed until the expiry of some 70 weeks or more. The contractors were striving to seize any opportunity to claim extensions of time and the Design Team’s inspections portrayed a catalogue of inefficiency, inattentiveness and inadequacy. The issue continues to be monitored very carefully, and the Governors determined that strongly worded letters expressing the adverse effects this was having upon the school be sent to the Senior Directors of the company. This matter will be kept under scrutiny by the Clerk who will report further in the new term.</p>	
<p>14/62</p>	<p>Estate Strategy It was agreed that this matter would be re-considered in the new year.</p>	
<p>14/63 14/63.1 14/63.2 14/63.3 14/63.4</p>	<p>Headteacher’s report School roll – Mr Foley commented about the impact of the Studio School and the perception of future numbers. He recommended that the PAN for the intake year 2016 onwards should be reduced to 450 from the current figure of 475. This was approved by the Governors. Mr Foley sought additional Governor representation upon the Studio School’s Governing Body. Mrs Cove volunteered to fulfil this role. Mrs Holden enquired about the fitness of the school, and Mr Foley replied in the affirmative. The curriculum is currently narrow, and Mrs Harries said that the prospectus needs to be very clear. There was no further news to report as yet respecting the multi-academy trust and sponsorship matters. Mrs Cove updated Governors respecting the present financial concern and negotiations being undertaken to strive to reduce costs. She recommended that the Governors consider the grant of a loan from the school, to the SCITT, for the months of August and September with the intention that this loan be repaid in the new school year. This loan arrangement was agreed. The decision as to whether the programme is continued was delegated to Mr Batt, Mr Foley, and Mrs Cove together with one Governor from the Finance Committee. It was agreed furthermore, to recruit a new Director following Ms Osborne’s retirement on a one year contract.</p>	

14/63.5	The DASP AGM is scheduled for January and Mrs Weir was praised for her sterling work as secretary.	
14/63.6	Mr Foley went through the Raiseonline report; and the Governors were delighted with its exceptionality this year.	
14.63.7	The Chairman expressed the formal appreciation of the Governors and his personal thanks to all the staff for their hard work and dedication, and excellent results achieved this year, noting especially the Governor Dashboard and exceptional Raiseonline document.	
14/64	Audited Accounts Mr Mounce addressed the Governors respecting the audited accounts that had been approved by the audit committee and subsequently by the Finance Committee. The Governing Body approved the adoption of those accounts.	
14/65	Matters for the next meeting It was agreed upon the recommendation of the Headteacher that Finance, Strategy and Standards be included for the next meeting.	
	Any other business Next meeting will take place on 23 rd March, 4.30pm, in the Training Room	

Action Log

Person	Action	Timing	Outcome/Update
Natasha Bousfield	Continue work on Governors' Visits protocol	March 2015	
Tony Day	Report Phase VI progress	January 2015	