



FOURLANESEND COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Minutes of a meeting of the full Board of Governors of Fournalanesend C.P. School held at the school on Thursday, November 17th 2022 at 1.30pm

PRESENT: Mrs Rebecca Norton (Headteacher), Mrs Vicki Richards, Mr Ben Rimron, Mr Piers Taylor (Chair).

APOLOGIES: Major Adrian Battley, Mrs Fran Ferguson, Mrs Sue Robinson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss Caroline Stone (Clerk).

A team from Lynher class came in to explain their plans to improvement the road layout outside school to reduce the danger from traffic. They had been the winning team with their problem solving ideas. Their ideas will be presented as a three minute video to the Lions for their 8 billion ideas project to encourage children to think big. The class had been out with trundle wheels and measured out the road junctions and built their evidence before considering ways to solve the issues and present their ideas. The children had created a model to help explain the ways they thought the traffic danger could be reduced. Governors were impressed with their ideas and with their presentation. The Chair said he felt all the ideas could be implemented. The children have made very sensible suggestions. A letter will go from Governors to the Parish Council and the local County Councillor to support the children's' ideas.

1. Apologies for absence: Major Adrian Battley, Mrs Fran Ferguson and Mrs Sue Robinson sent their apologies for absence which were accepted.

2. Opportunity to declare pecuniary interests: No new pecuniary interest forms were declared.

3. Minutes of the full Board meeting of September 21st 2022: Governors approved the minutes of the FGB meeting of September 21st 2022 to be a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair on behalf of the Board to reflect this.

4. Matters arising from the minutes:

- a. The clerk will chase a reply to the question of H&S governor requirements with Governor Services at Cornwall Council.
- b. Mr Rimron queried the scope of his responsibilities as Health and Wellbeing Governor. It was thought it related to staff; the children's health and wellbeing fell under the Safeguarding remit.
- c. It was thought that the time commitment required to be a Governor reduced the number of people who could be approached to become a Governor. The time taken up by the Ofsted inspection means that the new staff have not yet been asked if they know any possible candidates. They will be asked and letter will be written to local organisations to ask if anyone would like to become a Governor. (Action: Head & Clerk)

5. Update on Ofsted Inspection:

- a. The draft report from the Ofsted inspection was received much later than expected. The Head has written a 3,000 word response, but has had no response yet. She is waiting to see the final report. The NAHT have checked the Head's response. They have said that Ofsted often don't keep to their timetable even though they expect everyone else to, and warned not to expect

Ofsted to read the response to the draft report. They advised to bullet point the main concerns. They were happy with the response. The School's SIP also helped with the response.

- b. The timetable is that the final report is shared 30 days after the inspection. There are five working days (not school days) to complain, and three working days later the report will be published. Kate Evan-Hughes, the Director of Education and Community Health at Cornwall Council, has just visited the School. She warned that Ofsted often publish reports outside the scale of the timetable, so the Head is keeping a close eye on the Ofsted website. When she puts in a complaint she will ring to emphasis that the report should not be published.
- c. There is a lack of consistency in Ofsted reports that have been published recently. The Head has formally complained about the inspection. She complained at the time of the inspection and raised it at receipt of the draft report. There will be an internal review, normally there would be a written response within 30 days.
- d. A Governor asked what the objective of the complaint was? The whole grading system needs challenging. Kate Evan-Hughes said that it had not been an inspection. Inspections can be declared null and void. Kate Evan-Hughes said that Ofsted has a recruitment issue. A lot of inspectors were not happy with the new angle taken in September. As a result previously employed inspectors have been brought in and new people have been rushed into leading inspections. This reflects Fourlanesend's experience.
- e. There were completely inaccurate statements in the report. The NAHT advised that the strongest points to raise were the conduct, the lack of evidence, that outcomes were ignored: the School has a third of children on PP, and children come in below National expectation and consistently leave above the expected level. The judgement and findings, the inspection process and conduct are all being challenged.
- f. A Governor said they felt it would help the team in School to see that the Head is fighting for them. Staff expect to be respected and not be treated as they were by the Ofsted inspectors.

6. Curriculum and Learning:

- a. Andrew Beasley from the County School Improvement Team has visited the School and felt that there were very few necessary actions as a result of the Ofsted report; he will support the School in making minor tweaks. He will come back before Christmas. He spoke to all the staff and his comment afterwards was that they would all take a bullet for the Head and that was unusual. He commented on the quality of the pedagogy as had Kate Evan-Hughes. Kate Evan-Hughes had also commented on the depth of the children's understanding of their learning having spoken to the children.

7. Safeguarding, SEND, CiC :

- a. Item in confidential appendix.
- b. Item in confidential appendix.

8. Staffing:

- a. Staffing update:
Item in confidential appendix.
The School is short staffed at lunch-time with no lunch-time cover on one day while the assistant covers swimming. Teachers are covering lunch on a rota when required.
Lunch-time assistants are being used to cover some TA absence; they are doing well.
One TA is doing TA training and her Maths GCSE. One parent is doing a work placement.
- b. Staff wellbeing: Staff are all pulling together. The inspection has proved to be a team building exercise drawing them closer together.

9. Finance issues:

- a. Budget monitoring: Governors were given the October 12th management report. The Head is watching the budget carefully. Supply is only being used for moderation training and to cover Fran's absence (which is covered by sickness insurance). There is still a cushion within the budget.
- b. SFVS: the SFVS is being worked on and will be ready for the next Board meeting ready for approval by the full Board.
- c. Set date for the Pay Committee: a date will be set before Christmas. If Mrs Robinson is not available an alternative Governor will step in.
- d. Any other financial issues: the Head is waiting for a quote for a new server. A legal letter has had to be sent to the previous IT company who have failed to hand over data belonging to the School.

10. Premises and Health and Safety issues:

- a. The firm who support the heating system do not know what is wrong with it. The Head feels that it is wrong that the controls are in the basement which is hazardous to enter.
- b. A Governor asked what had happened about the oil from the old oil tank. It has been replaced.

11. Data Protection: there have been no GDPR breaches.

12. Dates for future meetings: The Clerk will email possible dates for future meetings.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2.50 pm.

Chair.....

Date.....

ACTIONS

Action

Date

Responsible Person

Write to local organisations

Head & Clerk