

POWERSTOCK CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Minutes of the Full Governing Body Meeting
6.30pm Tuesday 12 February 2019 at Powerstock CE VA Primary School

Present: Louise Greenham (Headteacher) LG, Lauren Goringe LMG (Chair), Julia Stantiford JS, Anna Seal AS, Michael Crabb MC, Joanna Moss JM (Vice Chair), Revd Chris Grasske CG

Absent: David Jones DJ

In Attendance: Natalie Green NG (Clerk)

Q/C = Question/Challenge

Item 1. Welcome

LMG welcomed all to the meeting, and noted that this would be MC's last FGB, who was retiring after 14 years' service as a Foundation Governor.

Item 2. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Felicity Fairbairn FF, Tim Connor TC and Tisha Crutchley TCr.

Item 3. Declaration of Governor's Business Interests

There were no matters to declare that would conflict with the Agenda.

Item 4. Minutes of the last meeting of 20 November 2018

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

Item 5. Matters Arising

Other actions had been completed and there were no further matters arising that would not be covered by the Agenda.

Item 6. Chairs Update & Correspondence

LMG noted that the footpath extinguishment consultation was ongoing. However, there had been no public objections and approval was expected to be made at the next DCC meeting. LMG noted the overview of the year she had sent to parents after Christmas, no feedback had been received. LG had received a nationally commissioned report on SEND funding, showing a similar picture across the country. Consultation on the High Needs funding block was noted.

Item 7. Headteacher's Report

The report had been circulated previously and LG gave an overview.

The number on role was 55 with some pupil migration noted due to family moves. SEND was down on last year, but at 32% still higher than average. Issues with Funding and changes in SEND funding were noted. LG referred to the request via Schools Forum to write off £13m relating to the High Needs Funding Block. Significant budgetary impacts on the school were noted. Budgetary challenges were discussed, including unfunded pay increases, pension contributions and a low birthrate especially in West Dorset.

Q/C Governors asked when the new Ofsted framework would begin. LG said that this was from September 2019, and governors asked if there was anything needed to prepare. LG noted that Ofsted were placing a greater emphasis on wellbeing, PSHE, Behaviour and not just data. Governors made the point about SIAMS work for church schools assisting

in this. **Q/C Governors asked about SIAMS work progress, which LG said was moving forward well.** Another local school had had a SIAMS inspection recently and it was a noted as large piece of work, with the expectation being that schools would be that working towards it, but the self-evaluation work was key. LG said that the next SIAMS inspection was due in 2021.

There were no further questions.

Item 8. Attendance

Attendance was a key focus with 5 cases being dealt with. The current figure of 93.14% would increase to just below target if chronic medical conditions were to be removed, but this still needed to improve.

Item 9. School Development Plan

This had previously been circulated and LG gave an overview. She noted the highlighted areas from the Ofsted report and that the plan was now RAG'd.

Some examples of Writing were examined by governors, showing children working to different levels of progress and attainment across year groups. Governors noted how hard staff work with SEND children. A governor made a point about pushing children with spelling early on to get them excited about it, but this needed to be balanced with children's needs who maybe did not get the same level of support at home. There was a discussion about benchmarking and the benefits and drawbacks of testing.

Q/C Governors asked about the tracking system, which LG said was going well.

Governors Key Priorities in the SDP were noted. Training on Safeguarding was referred to. The Safeguarding Lead and Chair only needed to complete Safeguarding in Schools level 2 training every two years (LMG in both cases). There was no suitable course at present but the Clerk would keep an eye on future offerings. All other governors were trained to the appropriate level.

Item 10. Safeguarding

In terms of the Governor Strategic Overview of Safeguarding, LMG noted that she met with LG regularly, checked policies and the Single Central Record. Safer Recruitment training was mentioned and LMG noted a Safeguarding checklist which she would send to LG.

Item 11. Schools Financial Values Statement

This was ratified.

Item 12. Public Health Dorset Bid/Fundraising

JM reported that the school had been successful in securing £11,873k from a £50k bid. 67 schools in Dorset had applied. Most of the funding would be spent on an all-weather Daily Mile course. JM requested that someone knowledgeable look at any quotes she obtained. She also mentioned a Crowd Funding campaign running to buy new Trim Trail equipment. This was matched funding with DCC and over £5k had been raised so far with the response described as 'amazing'. The GB expressed thanks to JM for doing such an outstanding job in fundraising work. JM said that the works and installation should be completed by Easter.

Item 13. Treasurer's Report

AS reported that there was £1302 in the Governors Fund at present. The purchase of Purple Mash software would be part funded by the PSA and it was proposed that the Fund covered the remaining £500. This was agreed.

Item 14. Governor Visits

LG had reported on the Forest School and would report further on this at Curriculum.

JS had visited that morning to look at Maths in Cogden, with a focus on Fluency and Variation. She described work done on Equivalent Fractions with different work set for different abilities. The children were working well. On her next visit she would look at marking and book scrutiny.

JM had conducted a PE visit with Irene Fairley, the West Dorset PE Coordinator working with KS1. This was an excellent session and represented very good value for money.

LMG has visited to talk about Attendance, Safeguarding and HT Performance objectives mid-year.

A Governor Group day was suggested over the next half term. LMG would suggest some dates.

Item 15. Policy Adoption

The Lockdown policy, Behaviour and Discipline, Supporting Children with medical needs, Inclusion policy, Health and Safety policy, Staff code of conduct had all previously been circulated and adoption was agreed.

Item 16. Clerk's Notices

None.

Item 17. Any Other Business

LMG noted a number of vacancies and a potential vacancy on the GB. MC and TCr would be leaving at the end of their terms next month. Another governor may also resign, and this would result in three Foundation Governor vacancies in addition to the current Authority Governor vacancy. LMG proposed new Authority Governor Kate Shelley and the appointment was approved subject to the process of approval by DCC and full ratification. Other potential Foundation Governors were discussed and LMG would make some approaches.

JM noted that she had attended a Pupil Premium course attended which was very useful. Aspiration as a barrier was particularly noted.

MC wished the GB every success for the future and LMG gave him a gift of appreciation from governors.

Item 18. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 24 April 2019 6.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Item No	Action	By Whom	Date
14	Suggest dates for Governor Group Day	LMG	ASAP
17	Submit Authority Governor Application to DCC	LMG/NG	ASAP
17	Approach suitable Foundation Governors	LMG	ASAP