

FGB Meeting
Thursday, 9 December 2021 at 2:00 pm
Physically in school and
****Via VIDEOCONFERENCE**

Chairman: Tahir Darr

MINUTES

Present:

Tahir Darr – **Chairman**
Steven Mackay (*Headteacher*) – **SMK**
Ashley Russell – **AR**
Jessie Garbutt – **JC**
Ruth Henry – **RH**
Kelly Ogden - **KO**
Louise Nevers – **LN** – **Virtual****
Samantha Parker - **SP**
Nick Regan – **NR** – arrived at 14:40
Steve Vickery - **SV**
Kevin Ward – **KW**
Stuart Weatheral - **SWe**

In attendance:

Jeremy Kaye (Clerk) – **Virtual****
Jessica Lobbett – **JL**
Jonatahn Reeves – **JR**

Note: It should be noted that due to the position of the screen and microphones it was very difficult for the clerk to hear everyone, or indeed differentiate between those in the school and there was a lot of external noise (pupils).

	Item
1.	Welcome and Introductions The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Stuart Weatherall was thanked for his past work as Chair during what were difficult years. He was presented with a gift by SMK this being the first physical opportunity to do so since the pandemic. A very big thanks was given by the current Chair.
2.	Procedural items 2.1 Apologies Apologies were received from Tom Davies, Susan Kara, Ishbel Tovey, and Carl Lander. There were no other apologies received.

	<p>2.2 Confirmation of Quorum It was agreed that the meeting was quorate</p> <p>2.3 Declarations of Interests for this meeting None were notified</p> <p>2.4 Notification of Any Other Urgent Business The Chair accepted two items of AOB, one from himself to give additional thanks and one from AR being a complaint.</p>
3.	<p>The minutes of the last FGB meeting on 15 July 2021</p> <p>3.1 The minutes were APPROVED.</p> <p>3.2 There were no matters arising, however the Chair reminded all governors to advise SMK before visiting the school but that visits were welcomed. SMK reminded everyone to please test first.</p>
4.	<p>Headteacher report</p> <p>The HT report had been distributed in advance and read by all and SMK gave a brief update which included, SEF has not yet been updated with curriculum area needing focus, Q&A systems being upgraded to a more supportive process which will be discussed with governors in the New Year along with T&L updates.</p> <p>Q: SV: How does the QA relate to last year? A: JL: Explained why they can't really be compared as different teachers removes consistency. The big picture is important, not numbers however we will keep looking and do have comparisons boys/girls. A: SMK: On individual basis I agree, it's very difficult.</p> <p>JL mentioned that year 11 are challenging this year which means comparisons again are not consistent.</p> <p>Q: SWe: How is overall behaviour this year compared to last year? A: JL: Overall the high-profile students are taking more time this year Q: SWe: Lessons running better than pre COVID?</p> <p>There was a discussion around behaviour.</p> <p>Q: AR: Safeguarding issues have increased, is this linked to behaviour? A: SMK: The spike in safeguarding may be a lag from Covid A: RH: I agree, this term more staff have been using reporting</p> <p>Q: Chair: Is this additional safeguarding work taking up extra time and more resources? A: RH: Explained no, not overall, no extra time or more work as we have good heads of year who Are able to pick up for their students.</p>

	<p>The current attendance record was then discussed whilst it being the average of the country, it is not good for the school. It was noted that we cannot read anything specific from this and that the systems instigated are having a heavy impact.</p> <p>There was then a discussion around attendance.</p> <p>Q: SV: Regarding pupil premium, would it not be an idea to remove the 'labels' around PP?</p> <p>A: JL/SMK: These are not our labels; we have no control over them.</p> <p>There was then a brief discussion about 6th form.</p> <p>Q: Chair: Are we worried about results?</p> <p>A: SMK: I was a bit until we had our meeting and now, I don't believe this is the case. There will be some pockets of concern with some elements of work already being done to help. We now await year 13 mocks and year 12 are doing well.</p>
5.	<p>Governance structure</p> <p>AR gave a brief update as follows:</p> <p>5.1 Members. New articles will be approved today. NEW members will not vote. Awaiting NEW members DBS which are in hand.</p> <p>5.2 Timing of separation. If all goes well from now, February 2022</p> <p>5.3 Review of SOD & TOR's. Once members are in place, we will review the current SOD / TOR's and maker appropriate changes to fit the new structure.</p>
6.	<p>Our challenges this year</p> <p>The Chair ran through the challenges with SMK explaining the tech challenges</p> <p>6.1 SMK explained the challenges and plans for the tech area including the feasibility study and outcome requirements. He detailed the need for additional accommodation and explained in detail the current options on the table, the original and the more recent ones. He noted that option 5, a two-floor building was the best option.</p> <p>SMK then explained the funding options including the LA grant and other grant options. HE explained the impact over 5 years on pupil numbers if this project was not done with the related loss of funding.</p>

	<p>KW explained the costs related to the project and the need to carefully look at reserves and why the figures of £1.6m, with £500k from the LA left a need for approximately £200k.</p> <p>The different funding options were discussed and SMK detailed the assumptions in the various modelling explaining that model C with £500k left in reserves was workable which still needed the gap to be bridged.</p> <p>There was a further discussion and reference to the F&A discussion on the same subject and their recommendations.</p> <p>The Chair confirmed he was happy to release £700k from reserves and be left with £500k.</p> <p>SMK confirmed that there was still time to look at further funding options as the project could now not be done until 2023, however he did need to proceed with further feasibility and some costs would of course be forthcoming.</p> <p>It was AGREED to proceed with option 5 to further feasibility studies and discuss again at the next F&A meeting.</p> <p>6.2 The chair advised that these were updates from the last meeting which included the following: JL advising that she was not feeling 'new' in her position any longer. The PAN will be 224 in 2022 and was discussed for future years. Finances were in good condition and forecast to be £1.1m by the end of the year.</p> <p>ACTION: A further SEND block update will follow at next meeting. ACTION: A further alternative provision update will follow at the next meeting.</p>
7.	<p>SIP progress on KPI's</p> <p>It was noted that the SIP latest update was now on GH but was not completely up to date. SMK advised that SLT are in the process of updating and will have done so by the next meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: SMK: To check PSW update reports are put on GH</p>
8.	<p>Link area reports</p> <p>The Chair discussed that feedback was needed from each link area from the next meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Link governors to produce reports by next meeting</p>
9.	<p>Committee reports</p>

	The Chair gave a brief update on each committee including from curriculum which included mock exams and teacher assessments, should these again be required.
10.	What challenges do we expect for the rest of 2021/2022? There was a general discussion with SMK stating nothing specific that we have not discussed, although Covid is unknown. The chair asked the board to advise if anything came to mind at any time so that it can be addressed. SMK advised that it had been a difficult two terms with illness (not Covid) and more long-term staff absence. There was then a discussion around staffing.
11.	Policy review and Approval Admissions policy There was a brief discussion around the policy which had been distributed in advance. One minor amendment suggested by KW was AGREED and will be made. A vote was taken and with this amendment the policy was APPROVED .
12.	Risk register update There were no further changes required since the last update in each committee
13.	AOB 13.1 The chair thanked everyone for their hard work and reminded them of the varies Christmas events the school was putting on and that it would be great if they could attend. He congratulated the school for the proactive Covid/Flu jobs. 13.2 AR advised on a complaint regarding bullying to the school and alerted governors that they may need to take part in a complaints panel in line with the school complaints policy.
	The next meeting date was confirmed as: 3 rd February 2022

Matters arising from the minutes of the FGB meeting held on 30 September 2021:

There were no matters arising.

Outstanding items:

There were no outstanding items.

Minutes will be signed using the GovernorHub signing function