



Minutes of the meeting of the Local Governing Body of Stokesley School held on Wednesday 6th May 2015

Present: H. Boal (Chair), S. Brennan, C. Brooker (Headteacher), B. Griffiths, P. Howes, P. Hutchinson, A. Price, S. Thorogood, V. von Morgen,

In support: S. Newman (Clerk)

The clerk took the chair for the first item on the agenda

LGB1/15: To elect a chair

LGB2/15: To elect a vice chair

LGB3/15: To agree the terms of office

It was agreed: in the interest of continuity following the conversion to academy status, H. Boal would continue as chair and A. Price as vice chair until July 2015.

LGB4/15: Apologies for Absence:

There were no absences

LGB5/15: Confidential Agenda Items

No items were considered to be confidential

LGB6/15: Declarations of Interest.

Governors were reminded to make declarations of interest, pecuniary or otherwise, for any agenda item.

LGB7/15: Notification of Other Business

To appoint a governor to be responsible for Health & Safety

Permanent exclusion of a student

LGB8/15: To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the final meeting of the governing body of Stokesley School.

There were no matters arising

LGB9/15: Areté Learning Trust Scheme of Delegation

The Scheme of Delegation had been circulated to governors in advance of the meeting. Governors discussed the future structure of the local governing body. The committee structure would continue for the remainder of the summer term, from September all committees would be removed and monthly governing body meetings would commence. For these meetings to be time efficient there would need to be a highly structured plan for the whole academic year which would tie in with trust meetings.

It was agreed: C. Brooker and A. Price would draft a schedule of meetings with provisional agendas for 2015/16, to be presented at the next meeting.

A governor asked if there were any plans to elect more parent governors. The Headteacher said that elections would take place in September. She reminded governors of the need to appoint a new clerk as S. Newman was retiring.

It was agreed that: A. Price and H. Boal would talk to new parents at the information evening in July about the role of a school governor and elections for new parent governors would take place in September.

LGB10/15: Review of Ofsted inspection

The Headteacher told governors she was expecting a response from Ofsted by the end of the week to the complaint she had submitted with regard to inaccuracies in the inspection report.

Governors discussed school priorities for development and improvement as the founder member of a multi academy trust.

Key points discussed:

The need to build capacity to be able to fulfil the responsibility of sponsoring another school

Lead governor national qualification – usually undertaken by the chair

Specialist Leader in Education – development opportunity for a member of the teaching and learning group.

The need to draw up a 5 year strategic plan as a lead school in an academy trust which would include the key points discussed.

It was agreed: governors should consider what the school improvement priorities were for the coming year and bring ideas for discussion to the next meeting of the local governing body.

A governor asked if any schools had expressed an interest in joining the trust. A. Price told governors he and P. Hutchinson attended a meeting with a governor from Hutton Rudby primary school who were considering becoming an academy. Hutton Rudby were yet to make a decision but were also researching other trusts.

A. Price told governors there would be a launch event for the Areté Learning Trust in July to which the heads and governors of other schools would be invited.

LGB11/15: Headteacher's Report

The Headteacher presented her report to governors which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, she summarised the key points and governors asked the following questions:

Business manager - will the contract offered include a probationary period – yes.

Will the services of the business manager be offered out to any partner schools - the appointment is to the trust not just to Stokesley School.

Will the admin manager, who is retiring in July be replaced? No the business manager will take over the admin responsibilities.

Are any other admin staff leaving? Yes the exams officer leaves at half term, she will be replaced.

Changes to sixth form teaching - are there any plans to talk to year 11 parents. The changes were discussed at the last meeting of the Parent Forum, there are no plans to send out further information.

Although there was clearly some anxiety about the change among parents and students few major concerns had been raised.

Are any subjects being – dropped? No the range of subjects offered is based on student recruitment, if any subjects do not run in next year, they can be offered again in the future.

Governors discussed progress data and were happy that any areas of concern were being addressed.

LGB12/15: Health and Safety

There were no health and safety issues

LGB13/15: Correspondence and Publications.

Nothing to circulate

LGB14/15: Other Urgent Business notified at item 7

Governor responsible for Health & Safety.

V. von Morgen agreed to take on this role.

Student exclusion

The Headteacher told governors a student had been permanently excluded. Governors would be required to form a pupil discipline panel.

Date of next meeting:

Signed: (Chair)

Date: