

GULDEN MORDEN PRIMARY GOVERNORS

Minutes of Meeting of Local Governing body of Guilden Morden Church of England Primary School On 16th March 2017 Held at Guilden Morden Primary School

Present

Alan Wright (Head Teacher), Sarah Fryer, Anna Fettiplace, Mark Robinson, Ninette Taylor, Judith Davis Roach, Paul Walker (DEMAT), Katie Roberts (Clerk of the meeting)

Apologies

Sarah Conant, DEMAT

1. Welcome, apologies for absence

Sarah Conant (DEMAT) was unable to attend the meeting.

2. Pecuniary Interests

Register of Interest Declaration forms were circulated and completed by members of the Local Governing Body (LGB).

3. Matters Arising from the Finance meeting

NT commented that she had not yet approached Tesco and Johnson Matthey to request sponsorship.

4. Budget figures

It was agreed that, when AW receives details of the school budget for 2017-18, he will share the chosen cost option with regard to class structures for the forthcoming year. PW suggested that AW contact Nick Hills (Finance Director, DEMAT) to request the information. In light of the fact that an advert had been published for a substantive permanent Head Teacher without the knowledge of the LGB, it was agreed that MR would write to DEMAT regarding the lack of communication. SF sought clarification about whether the LGB would be involved in the DEMAT recruitment process and PW commented that it was likely that the Chair of Governors would be invited to sit on the interview panel. During the course of a discussion about the adverts for 3 teaching positions (one of which includes the SENCo role), it was agreed that they would be published w/c 20 March following written authorisation from Sarah Conant.

Action: MR

5. Head Teacher's report

AW commented on the previously circulated Head Teacher's report, mentioning the need for the teaching staff to address under-performance by targeting pupils on an individual basis and through formal pupil progress meetings, weekly informal meetings and lesson observations by the Head Teacher. In response to comments from NT and MR about the attainment of the Year 3 cohort, AW observed that the expectations are for most pupils to be at the expected level or above unless there are valid explanations. In response to a query by SF about the quality of the teaching, AW commented on the school-to-school support that is being provided by Bourn Primary Academy, which has included demonstrations of exemplar lessons, joint work scrutiny and joint staff meetings. He also mentioned that the resources for the new KS1 literacy programme, ReadWriteInc, had been ordered and that the on-line resource, Mathletics, would be trialled by the pupils in Years 5 and 6 after the Easter holidays. It was reported that the SIAMS inspection had taken place and that AW and Debbie Morris (RE Teacher) had begun to focus on the suggested areas of improvement. SF thanked AW and DM for their endeavours, on behalf of the LGB, and she also took the opportunity to express her gratitude to AW for arranging for the school to be re-decorated so quickly. It was also revealed that the recent parent survey had been very positive and that the behaviour scheme would be implemented beyond the classrooms.

6. Clerk for LGB committee meetings

KR confirmed her commitment to perform the role of the Clerk until at least the end of the summer term.

7. Marketing

It was reported that articles had been published in GAMUT and in the Parish Council newsletter and that Heidi Allen had not yet confirmed her availability regarding the opening of the new building. Following a discussion about the negative historical material relating to the school on the internet, including the 'inadequate' Ofsted report, AF volunteered to contact Right Move to investigate whether it might be possible for it to be removed.

Action: AF

8. LGB training

During the course of a discussion about LGB training, PW reported that DMAT do not offer termly Governor briefings, but observed that the Governors had undertaken safeguarding training and that the other most important priorities were interpreting data and raising attainment.

9. Policies

It was reported that, following its conversion to Academy status, all the school's policies had amended and updated and that the marking policy would be completed in conjunction with the staff w/c 20 March. It was noted that the dates needed to be amended. Gratitude was extended to NT and AW.

10. Playground update

AF revealed that she had obtained quotes for some playground equipment, including a shelter for the pupils in KS2, which could be constructed within a week, and it was agreed that it would be prudent to seek financial assistance from the Trustees.

11. Governor visits

The Governors commented on the focus of their recent visits, including the SIAMS inspection and book reviews. NT and MR mentioned that they had found it beneficial to visit Bourn Primary and AF added that she would also like to make arrangements to visit this school. On the basis of his discussion with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the FGB at Bourn Primary, MR suggested the possibility of organising LGB meetings during the school day. SF observed that progress is being made with regard to positive behaviour, which is being embedded throughout the school. She also mentioned that she proposed to scrutinise the Single Central Record and welcomed the assistance of JDR.

12. Ofsted/Raising Achievement Plan

NT reported that the following Ofsted recommendations had been discussed during the Governors' committee meetings: safeguarding, implementing systems and procedures to evaluate the performance of the school, and finding ways to restore relationships with parents.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

 8/5/17.