



NORTH KIDLINGTON SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Gary Kemp
Chair of Governors: Mr. A. Leake

Mission Statement
North Kidlington School inspires and develops every individual to enjoy, achieve and succeed

Minutes of the full Governing Board meeting held on Tuesday, 2nd May, 2017 at 7.00 p.m. in the Community Room.

Present

Tony Leake	Chair	Co-Opted
Gary Kemp		Head Teacher
Ann Ling		Staff
Frances Miller		Co-Opted
Mike Ling		Co-Opted
Alastair Hosier		Co-Opted
Alaric Rose		Parent
Keri Dallimore-Gray		Co-Opted
Lucy Grimshaw		Parent
Jackie Garlick	Vice Chair	Co-Opted
James Purveur		Co-Opted

In attendance – Christabel Ashby – Associate Member and Nina Manning – Finance Officer.

Declaration of interest – there were none declared.

Confirmation of quorum – quorum met.

Tony explained that Nina was taking the minutes at the meeting in Vie’s absence.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Sally Abbey, Brenda Williams, Robert Selway and Danielle Walker. These were accepted.

2. Minutes of last meeting – 21 March 2017

The minutes were amended to correct the spelling of the new Deputy Head Teacher in Agenda item 4 – name to read Emilie Fidler. There was also an incorrect spelling for the word principles (also Agenda item 4).

3. Matters Arising

AP1 – Raise on Line not included on agenda for this meeting. This is due to the budget being main focus of the meeting. Also, there is a new way of delivering data being introduced, so there may be more information by the next meeting. Gary will forward Data Dashboard and Raise on Line information to Tony ready for the next meeting. **AP1**

AP2 – Lucy has collated the results from the Parent Questionnaire. Results will be discussed tonight.

Signed Date

AP3 – Tony confirmed that the SDP will be discussed at the next Strategy Group meeting (11 May), and the following full GB meeting. **AP2**

AP4 – A working party to be set up in September to deal with Academy Status.

4. Budget 2017/18 approval – paperwork previously circulated

Tony said that the budget was presented to and considered by the Finance & Premises committee, who carefully scrutinised and challenged its content.

Mike gave an overview of the budget forecast position for 2017/18, and explained that despite a healthy carry forward balance (which was higher than predicted and put us in a better position than expected), our expenditure is greater than our income in each of the next 3 years.

Governors queried the reduced Pupil Premium income in years 2 and 3 and were informed that it is now harder for children to qualify for Pupil Premium, and as a result when year 6 eligible children leave, that funding is not being replaced with younger eligible children further down the school.

Governors enquired about possible impact of the new school funding on our finances. Gary said that we don't know at the moment, and he has seen 3 different reports showing 3 different outcomes – so we will have to wait for more information.

Governors asked if sufficient funds were available considering that energy costs are predicted to increase in the next few years. Mike explained that Oxfordshire County Council negotiates with the energy suppliers and we should be protected in the short term.

Governors asked why the class budgets have been reduced. Gary explained that it is to allow the annual 'bulk' stationery and equipment orders to be made from one cost centre (Key Stage 1 or 2). Class budgets have not actually reduced, but the portion used for basic items has been reallocated to make ordering re-distributed to one place (this makes it easier for Nina when doing the large orders, and also shows class teachers exactly what they have for the year to spend on additional resources).

Tony said that although Brenda could not attend the meeting, she commented about the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy which is a charge we now have to pay each month and are most unlikely to be in a position to benefit from. She also wanted to highlight the severity of problems regarding future funding ... and the need to fight!

Tony had read a report in school news that delegates at the NAHT conference in response to real term budget cuts had passed a motion that all options should be considered regarding budgets including allowing schools to run a deficit budget. Clearly the concerns continue and may impact on our budget deliberations next year.

The governors approved this budget and recommended it for submission to the Local Authority.

Governors asked for their thanks to be noted for the work Gary and Nina had put into preparing the budget.

Signed Date

5. Parent Questionnaire Feedback – paperwork previously circulated

Lucy has collated the returns and the results have been circulated. There were 120 responses, an increase since last year. Please note that this information is confidential, due to the file containing names.

The overall average score of parents indicating Strongly Agree/Agree to all the questions is 93%, which is very good. There were many positive comments made too, which is very encouraging.

One parent disagreed with a question, but then did not follow it up with a comment – which makes it impossible to address.

Governors agreed that the results of the survey reflect the school's status, and where we stand in the community. Parents who have moved their children to North Kidlington School are very happy, and this is a message that parents are hearing as well as the teachers.

James suggested that it would be useful if class teachers passed on positive comments when they receive them, as it is a boost to morale. Gary said that parents often write comments on the reply slips for reports, which are seen by the class teacher and Head teacher.

Gary has prepared a response to parents from himself and Tony. This will be sent out once Tony has had a chance to read through it. Gary to send response to Tony **AP3**

Tony said that school staff should be congratulated on the feedback from the Parent Questionnaire.

6. Safeguarding

Gary highlighted that there are still members of the governing body who have not done their generalist safeguarding training, despite being reminded. If you have not yet done the training, please do so as soon as possible and provide a copy of your certificate to Lynn. **AP4**

Gary and Sarah have recently completed WRAP training, and all teaching staff have done FGM training online.

7. Academy Status

Working party will be set up in September. To remain as an agenda item until then. **AP5**

8. Health & Safety

Gary said that we have our annual Health & Safety audit on 17 May. Gary/Nina will liaise with Alaric (Health & Safety governor) to arrange a convenient time for him to look through the folders. **AP6**

Signed Date

9. Additional Comments

Gary provided details of current school attendance figures:

Whole school attendance – 96.4%

Current Free School Meals attendance – 69.9%

SEN attendance – 95.88%

EAL attendance – 95.3%

Ethnicity – 85.6%

Persistent absentees – 16 pupils (5.5%)

EAL/Ethnic pupil attendance is affected by extended holidays or visits to country of origin to visit family. Most requests for leave of absence from these groups are to visit ill grandparents. Year 1 has the worst attendance, and has highest Ethnicity/EAL.

Holiday requests due to economic pressure are quite low.

There has been a focus on attendance in the newsletter, and parents are increasingly aware of how much children miss when they are away.

Attendance Ted has been a very powerful tool, and has proved very popular.

The Foundation Stage class is over subscribed for September, with 6 on the waiting list.

We are currently advertising for FSU Maternity Cover (Sarah O’Leary leaving in the summer).

Alaric reported that the Parish Council is in discussion with Banbury Town Council and Bicester Town Council to decriminalise the parking on various roads, including Benmead Road. This could have a positive impact for school and residents.

Alaric has been in discussion with the Parish Council to request the green space on the corner of Wise Avenue be turned into a memorial garden for a former member of North Kidlington School who was killed in the Falkland’s Conflict. If approved, this should also stop some bad parking.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.

The next full GB meeting will be held on 13th June, 2017

AP1 - Gary forward Data Dashboard and Raise on Line to Tony

AP2 - Agenda SDP to be discussed at Strategy Group meeting and full GB meeting in June.

AP3 - Gary send copy of Parent Questionnaire response to Tony for approval

AP4 - Those governors who have not yet completed Safeguarding Training to do so as soon as possible. Contact Lynn with any queries.

AP5 – A working party to be set up in September 2017 to deal with Academy Status.

AP6 - Gary/Nina to contact Alaric for Health & Safety review.

2nd May, 2017

Signed Date