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**Minutes of a Hybrid Meeting of the Full Governing Body
Thursday 7th July 2022 at 7pm**

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>Present: Caroline Armitage (CA) (Parent) Hal Drakesmith (HD) (Foundation) (until approx. 8.00 pm) Freda Hughes (FH)(Foundation) Simon Jones (SJ) (Co-opted) (Acting Chair) Matthew Lindars (ML) (Staff) Tara Lynch (TL) (Parent) (until approx. 8.15 pm and again from approx. 8.45 pm) Carinne Piekema (CP) (Foundation) Rosalind Owen (RO) Head Teacher Barbara Smith (BS) (Foundation)</p> <p>In attendance: Judy East (JE) LA Clerk, Emma Martin (EM) (Associate Member)</p>	
1.	<p>Welcome, Apologies and Quorum SJ welcomed all to a hybrid meeting, with some Governors attending in school and others on-line.</p> <p>The following apologies for absence were received: Elaine Bardwell (EB) (Foundation), Chris Brewer (CB) (Local Authority), Lynden Guiver (LG) (Foundation), Lydia Robinson (LR) (Foundation), George Southcombe (GS) (Foundation).</p> <p>The meeting was quorate.</p>	
2.	<p>Declarations of Urgent Business None.</p>	
3.	<p>Declarations of Business/Pecuniary Interests There were no declarations of interest. The Register is on the Website.</p>	
4.	<p>Governance Business</p>	

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Signed Date

	<p>Noted this is BS's last meeting as she is standing down at the end of term, so there will be a Foundation governor vacancy. BS was thanked for her service to the school. CB may stand down as an LA governor in October and will be standing down as chair of the Curriculum committee. SJ will stand down as chair of the Resources Committee. At the October meeting a new chair of governors will need to be appointed from within the governing body (SJ will not be standing). It is possible to appoint an external chair if there is a governor vacancy, but this can be risky. CP suggested that joint chairs could share the role.</p>	
5.	<p>Minutes of Meeting held on 25th May 2022 Minutes of 25th May 2022 were approved.</p>	
6.	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of 25th May 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Governor vacancies</u>: SJ noted that in October we will need a new chair, vice-chair, chair of resources committee and chair of curriculum committee (see also 4 above and 20 below). • <u>SEN officer</u>: RO has recently started working with a different SEN officer and so far things seem positive. • <u>Strategy</u>: c/f until December meeting when there will be a new chair in place. • <u>Link subject for CA</u>: link governors and subjects will be decided at October meeting • <u>Governor Visits</u>: agreed to consider these in October. 	<p>Future agenda items</p>
7.	<p>Headteacher's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Admissions</u> – 4 Ukrainian children have started and school is waiting for funding to be sorted out. Pupil numbers are healthy going into the new year. • <u>Staffing</u> – A Y1 Teacher, Anne Maddock, has been recruited to replace KS, who resigned in May. AM is a mature ECT but has a lot of experience in early years and was easily the best candidate. Next year four classes will be taught by full time teachers and 2 staffed by 4-day a week teachers. JW has started maternity leave, planning to return in June 2023 and KH will start maternity leave in October. • <u>Trips/Events</u> – The PTA are planning big social and fundraising event for the end of term. Y5 will be going to Hill End Camp next week. The Y5 and Y6 production of Scheherazade was very successful. Resources Committee agreed they would not ask parents to pay for events except on a voluntary basis given the current financial situation. • <u>Collective Worship, church links and SIAMS</u> – The children have completed values banners. The banners were on display in Dorchester Abbey during the Festival of Voices and are now on display in the school hall. • <u>Parents and Communication</u> – Reports are due to go out next week. Parents have started to come in to Friday's assemblies. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Assessment</u> – see separate report in the papers for this meeting. Y6 results are in and compare well with 2019. Results for Y4 multiplication check were not as high as expected. Early Learning Goals were as expected, but Y1 Phonics were low and were affected by the class having had three teachers over the year. KS1 SATs results in Y2 and were lower than anticipated. The younger children have been disproportionately affected by disruption caused by Covid as well as teacher absence. • <u>Safeguarding</u> – An external safeguarding review was carried out last Friday and RO met with LR after the review. The Ofsted inspection has flagged up an emphasis on record-keeping. SJ reminded governors that they need to do safeguarding training. RO does KCSIE training and can arrange a governor session next term. Governors can also book a place on an LA safeguarding course. • <u>Special Needs</u> –Annual reviews for children with an EHCP have taken place. There have been additional visits and meetings for children moving on to secondary school who need extra support. • <u>External Scrutiny</u> – RO met with Karen Metcalfe, the diocesan adviser, and they discussed the OFSTED report. • <u>PTA</u> – The fireworks display is planned for 4 November. • <u>Health & Safety</u> – Work arising from the inspection is underway. 	RO/All governors
8.	Pupil Progress and Attainment Covered in (7) above.	
9.	SIAMS SIAMS inspections are running behind. The list of schools due to be inspected in 2022/23 will be published shortly and school will know then if there will be an inspection next year.	
10.	School Improvement Plan 2021/2 Nearly all items are now either green (achieved) or yellow (under way).	
11.	SIP 2022/23 & Action Plan To be discussed next term. CP had emailed her Ofsted preparation notes to RO .	Future agenda item
12.	New Marston Pre-School From September none of the current Pre-School committee members will have a child in Pre-School. No new committee members have come forward, so the current committee have asked school if they will consider taking over Pre-School. Resources committee have discussed the financial and practical implications in detail: their report is among the papers for tonight's meeting. There are two options and the latter one, where Pre-School becomes a governor run (S27) provision, is the least risky and most suitable. Governors noted the following facts:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-school is currently not a viable business but has the potential to be so – there is capacity to take in more children and extend the hours. • If school took over it would be responsible for safeguarding, SEN, admissions, policies, and other administration. • School would need to buy in more administrative hours to do this and as Pre-School currently has an administrator with relevant experience it might be sensible to take that person on. • All Pre-School staff would be employed by school on their current terms and conditions, as required by TUPE. There would not be any redundancies. <p>ML described how things would work in practice, with the wall between Reception and Pre-School opened up (the CWC was designed for this possibility) and the layout redesigned to provide single areas of continuous provision.</p> <p>FH asked about admissions: Pre-School and school admissions would be separate and a place in Pre-School would be no guarantee of a place in school.</p> <p>Governors agreed that taking over responsibility for Pre-School would be a complex and time-consuming process, but the benefits would outweigh the challenges.</p> <p>RO felt that school could take on Pre-School because it is sound financially and school will benefit from the expertise of Pre-School staff.</p> <p>Governors needed to vote on this, but TL and HD had both left the meeting so the quorum was in doubt. TL was contacted, rejoined the meeting, and was in agreement (HD was also contacted and agreed).</p> <p>Governors' unanimous decision was that St Michael's should take on New Marston Pre-School.</p>	
13.	<p>White Paper – Academisation</p> <p>A government white paper published in March proposes that all schools should either be in a multi-academy trust (MAT), or have plans to join one, by 2030. A paper from the Diocese states that schools should remember that each MAT sets its own visions and values and Church schools need to be sure that any trust they join has values which align with their own.</p> <p>RO pointed out that, as a school with a healthy budget, we are an attractive prospect for a MAT and our funds could be redirected.</p> <p>SJ felt that Foundation Governors should lead on this and suggested perhaps learning more about the diocesan view and which MATs would be appropriate.</p>	

	<p>RO said academisation would create an additional layer of bureaucracy.</p> <p>Things may change again, but governors need to be aware of this white paper.</p>	
14.	<p>Policy and Guideline documents c/f to the October meeting</p>	
15.	<p>Safeguarding The external safeguarding review has been completed. Governor training needs to be up-to-date and recorded.</p>	
16.	<p>Health & Safety Health & Safety was covered at Resources committee. A fire extinguisher survey has been done and two extinguishers were replaced.</p>	
17.	<p>Governor learning & Development Governor Services training courses are listed on governor hub. School pays a subscription so courses are free for governors.</p>	
18.	<p>Governor Visits LR had submitted a report of an online safeguarding meeting with RO and had visited school in person yesterday, when she met with KD and was briefed by RO.</p>	
19.	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>(i) <u>Community & Safeguarding</u> - 8th June 2022</p> <p>(ii) <u>Resources</u> – 29th June 2022</p> <p>Minutes of both meetings were received and noted. Resources noted that the budget is largely on track.</p>	
20.	<p>Other Business</p> <p>(i) <u>Governor Vacancies</u>: CP offered to approach a parent about the foundation vacancy. There needs to be more diversity on the governing body, but this can be harder in the case of foundation governors, who are appointed by the Diocese. SJ will step down in May 2023 so there will also be a co-opted vacancy. TL's term of office as a parent governor ends in November.</p>	CP
21.	<p>Correspondence None.</p>	
22.	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p>	

<p>SJ is unable to make the next meeting, arranged for 29 September, so it was rescheduled to Wednesday 12 October, at 7pm, and will take place in person, in school.</p> <p>Dates for other 2022/23 meetings are as follows:</p> <p>8 December 2 February 23 March 20 April (Budget) 25 May 6 July</p> <p>All meetings start at 7 pm.</p>	
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The meeting closed at 8.50 pm