

**Meeting of Strategy & Resources Committee
25th February 2014
School Library
4.30pm**

MINUTES

Governor Members Present: Mick Baker, Richard Bradford (from 4.34pm), Reg Hook, Alan Sanders (Chair), Marilena Ward

Officers Present: Teresa Carter (Clerk), Ros Stephen

In Attendance: Richard Baker, Derek Swindells, Mark Wood

<u>Agenda item</u>	<u>Action</u>
1	
1 Introductions	
a) Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence received from Anne Barker. Vanessa Hollingworth was absent without apologies having been received. Mark Wood advised that he was attending as part of the shadow leadership team and provided positive feedback on the scheme.	
b) Declarations of Interest None	
c) Review of Agenda and Requests for Any Other Business No amendments to agenda	
2	
2 Last meeting Dated 11th November 2013	
a) Approval of Minutes The Strategy and Resources Committee reviewed and approved five pages of minutes from the meeting held on 11 th November 2013. The Chair signed them as confirmation of their accuracy.	
b) Matters Arising Not Included Elsewhere on Agenda	
• Several dedicated catering task groups had been set up to involve students, staff, parents and governors in the planning process.	
• The ICT development plan including the roll out of iPads had been presented to the Full Governing Body previously. The committee were advised of the proposed time frame for the use of iPads throughout the school to support teaching.	
4.34pm - Richard Bradford arrived at the meeting.	
3	
3 Main Strategic Items	
a) Reserves and unrestricted funding A suitable person to assist with bid writing had been identified. The Business Manager having met with them felt that whilst the school had been successful with bids written in house some expert help would be useful particularly in light of static budget share.	
b) Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP) The committee were advised that a revised plan was about to go to planning. This involved a smaller pitch, which would not require a reconfiguration of the road or affect the elm trees. An acoustic study had indicated that some boarding may be needed and consultants were working on this aspect of the plan. A response on the planning was not expected	

Signature.....Date.....

until April and if successful would lead to a bid to the premiership in May. Governors asked about potential users of the ATP and were advised that it would be available for community use from 6pm to 9pm and at weekends. There was one known condition set by the premiership, which was that users of the ATP would need to include at least one chartered club.

c) Catering

The finance for the extended dining and social space had been agreed in principle over a seven year period. A contract had been entered into subject to planning and finance approval. Governors acknowledged the pressure on the Business Manager of dealing with two big capital projects at the same time over an extended period.

4 Other Governance and Regular Items

a) Indicative Budget 2014/15

A summary of the breakdown budget allocations for 2014/15 compared with 2013/14 had been provided in advance. The Business Manager highlighted the main variations and the underlying reasons for them. It was noted that the overall indicative budget was £37,379 less than the previous year, which concerned governors. Governors asked whether additional funds would be allocated for any admissions following the appeals process and were advised that the Local Authority were under no obligation to do so, though it had done so in 2013/14.

b) Services to Schools 2014/15

The services to schools schedule for 2014/15 was tabled and it was noted that the school bought into fewer services from the local authority. The relatively spend on human resources support was seen as representing good value.

c) Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS)

The Committee Chair presented the proposed SFVS return for 2014. The committee had been involved previously in review of sections and were satisfied with the accuracy of the return. The recommendation to set a strategy to increase reserves was supported by governors.

ACTION - The SFVS return as presented will be proposed to the Full Governing Body for approval prior to submission to the Full Governing Body for approval. AS

d) Financial Report

The Business Manager presented the financial projections for 2013/14 compared the actual spend to 31st January 2014 and the final outturn position for 2012/13. Detailed explanations of several income and expenditure lines where there were variances against budget were given. Governors were pleased to note the overall projected position of a balanced budget.

5 Consent Agenda

No items

6 Policies and Other Documents for Approval

a) Governors Allowances Policy

The committee considered the governors allowances policy and there was a discussion on the types of expenses that might be incurred by the Governing Body. Two amendments including the addition of one word and the involvement of the Business Manager in the approval process were recommended.

ACTION - Subject to the two amendments as discussed the Governors Allowances Policy would be proposed to the Full Governing Body for approval. TC/AS

7 **Any Other Business**

a) **PFI**

The committee were advised that the Local Authority were keen to ensure that all deductions and variations costs would be settled by the end of the year. The restrictions of the PFI contract continued to be a concern for the committee and there was brief discussion regarding the impact of PFI contracts on schools converting to academy status. Meetings with the PFI contractor and the Local Authority were continuing to resolve the ongoing difficulties of the contract in practice.

Meeting ended at 5.44pm

Date of next meeting - 16th June 2014

Actions Arising from the Strategy and Resources Committee Meeting

Action Agreed	By Who	By When
The SFVS return as presented will be proposed to the Full Governing Body for approval prior to submission to the Full Governing Body for approval.	AS	Next FGB meeting
Subject to the two amendments as discussed the Governors Allowances Policy would be proposed to the Full Governing Body for approval	TC/AS	Next FGB meeting