

Minutes of the Anderton Park School Full Governing Body Meeting held on Monday 17th June 2019 1.00pm

In Attendance:

Anderton Park Primary School Governing Board								
<i>Aspirations Relationships Sparkle</i>								
Members	1.10.18	12.11.18	10.12.18	14.01.19	4.3.19	8.4.19	30.4.19	17.06.19
Bushra Tabasum (Chair)	P	P	Apologies	Apologies	P	P	P	Apologies
Sarah Hewitt-Clarkson (HT)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Angela Jeffries	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Saidah Sultana	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Claire Evans (DHT)	P	P	P	Apologies	Apologies	P	P	P
Nahim Mahmood	P	Absence	Apologies	P	P	P	P	P
Sue Middleton (Vice Chair)	P	P	P	P	P	Apologies	P	P
Khurram Bashir	P	P	Absence	P	P	P	P	P
Christine Francis	Apologies	Apologies	P	Apologies	Resigned	Resigned	Resigned	Resigned
Rukhsana Hussain						P	Apologies	P
Malcom McArevey						P	Apologies	P

Sandra Taylor (Clerk)

Gerardine Lawson-Lotarew (Senior Governance Clerk)

Kathy McDonough, BCC School Support Officer, (KMD)

FGB 15/19 Welcome, Introduction and Acceptance of Apologies

The Chair had sent her apologies to the meeting and these were accepted. It was agreed Sue Middleton (Vice Chair) would Chair the meeting. The Chair reminded everyone of the procedure and protocol for the meeting and asked that the timings were adhered to. The Chair requested that on a point of order if Governors wished to ask a question they should raise their hand to avoid multiple conversations. Governors were asked to remain polite and courteous at all times and address the meeting in a proper manner and enable the Board to move forward in a positive spirit and to facilitate a controlled meeting.

All present introduced themselves.

FGB 16/19 Declarations of Interest

APS FGB 17.06.19

[SHADED TEXT DENOTES GOVERNOR QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGE]

Chairs Initials:

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The Chair enquired whether any member present had a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda. None were declared.

FGB 17/19 Chair's Matters

There were no Head/Chair urgent actions to report.

FGB 18/19 Agreement of Other Business

The Agenda was considered at this point and the Head Teacher confirmed she would present a verbal report and item 10 would be transferred to the next meeting with an allocation of 30 minutes. The Head Teacher gave a brief overview of the three headings in relation to the new OFSTED headings. The Chair highlighted the need to ensure the Head Teacher and the staff were supported by the GB and the GB should would need an end of year report and an agreed statement. Following discussions, it was

Agreed that Item 10 – Intent, Implementation and Impact would be deferred to the next meeting on 15th July 2019.

ACTION: CLERK

A member requested that the Redundancy Committee was added to the agenda under item 14.

FGB 19/19 Minutes and Matters Arising of the Previous Meeting held on 8th April 2019 and EOGB Meeting 30.04.19

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th April 2019 had previously been distributed and questions/comments were requested on a page by page basis. The following items were noted:

FGB 04/19 - 4.2 – Correspondence – Page 2 – The information requested regarding Tahir Alam would be addressed in the Head Teacher's Report later on the Agenda.

FGB 08/19 – Safeguarding – Page 4 - Governors were reminded of the importance of Safeguarding Training and this was a statutory requirement for all Governors to undertake once a year. Training was provided in school every term, with whole school training in September and other sessions for those who could not attend. Anyone wanting to undertake any training should contact Angela Jeffries. It was

Agreed that

A list would be kept of all Governors training.

ACTION: AJ

FGB 14/19 – AOB – Page 6 – It was noted that workshops had taken place in school surrounding the issues in the area with knife crime, gang culture and drugs and attendance had been poor. MM had links within various organisations who would come into school to talk to staff, parents and children regarding these issues, although it was noted funding had been ended for much of this work. After some discussion it was

Agreed that

MM would liaise with the Head Teacher to arrange meetings with the school Senior Leadership Team and Governors and then decide how to engage parents.

ACTION: MM & Head Teacher

The Confidential Minutes from the Extra Ordinary Governing Body Meeting on 30th April 2019 were tabled by the clerk. These minutes were read and checked for accuracy.

It was noted that there needed to be clarity at the end of each meeting as to what actions are required as it was unclear who the letter was to be sent to and how much information was to be included. The letter was sent from the Chair of Governors to all parents.

Following a Governor question it was confirmed that Karen Davies had completed all actions stated.

It was noted that the meeting had been very well recorded and following the numbering sequence change it was

Agreed that

The clerk would send the revised minutes to the Vice-Chair for signing and keeping in school.

ACTION: Clerk

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[SHADED TEXT DENOTES GOVERNOR QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGE]

All copies of the confidential minutes of 30th April 2019 were collected back in by the clerk.

FGB 20/19 Governor Visits

RH reported that she had visited the school the previous week and met with the Site Manager. Following the site walk it was noted that the school looked amazing. RH agreed to complete the Governor Visit form for the next meeting.

FGB 21/19 Governor Training

It was noted that the Governor Improvement Plan would be re-visited. Governors should make arrangements with AJ to attend any of the training opportunities offered by Birmingham City Council. It was emphasised new Governors must attend the Governor Induction Session and then look at the other training opportunities available. The courses were offered at number of venues and times to cater for most people.

Governor Hub through SIPS Education was discussed and it was

Agreed that

The information would be sent to the Head Teacher

ACTION: Clerk

FGB 22/19 Health & Safety Report Update

The Head Teacher reported the Lockdown Procedure was still a work in progress. A practice session had been carried out in school with the children e.g. if there was a dog loose on the playground and what to do. Members discussed a number of scenarios and options for inclusion in the procedure, but there were too many different scenarios to establish a single action. The Head Teacher reported air horns had been purchased to alert staff and social media communication would be monitored. There was an issue with the place of safety in the event of an evacuation. To signal the threat had passed a member of the Leadership Team would go into each class.

Following a Governor question it was noted there was CCTV at the entrance and exits to the school but not inside the school. The CCTV system had been upgraded, picture and sound quality was now improved. It was also noted the system was not monitored but did record so that if there was an incident it could be reviewed. The police had also installed CCTV in Dennis Road and Stoney Lane.

The Evacuation Procedure was discussed and it was

Agreed that

Contact would be made with the TA Barracks and Moseley Infant School to see if there was accommodation in the event of a place of safety being required for the 700 children and 100 staff.

ACTION: Head Teacher

FGB 23/19 Head Teacher Verbal Report

The Head Teacher's report was circulated in advance of the meeting. The following items were discussed:

High Court Injunction

The Head Teacher began by thanking staff at the school and in particular Claire Evans and the Leadership Team for their support. The Head Teacher reported on the background to the Injunction and details of incidents on Friday 17th May 2019, Sunday 19th May 2019, Monday 20th May 2019 and Friday 24th May 2019 were given.

On Friday 17th May 2019 around 60-70 people came from the Mosque to the entrance of the school protesting. The School were not aware of who they were.

On Sunday 19th May 2019 some parents and supporters were decorating the school gates with messages of love. A group of men with masks and balaclavas approached the school and threw eggs at the parents and supporters. Homophobic insults were shouted at them and at residents living on Dennis Road. A Governor asked which Mosque they came from and it was thought to be the Dennis Road Mosque. The police were called and came in a riot van as they had received a large number of criminal damage reports. A Governor asked how it was known and it was stated that one of the protestors had filmed the incident. A Governor asked if anyone had been arrested and it was confirmed that no one had been arrested as yet.

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[SHADED TEXT DENOTES GOVERNOR QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGE]

On Monday 20th May 2019 the Lead protestors had informed parents that the school was closed. They blocked pavements and made racist comments, intimidating parents taking their children to school.

On Friday 24th May 2019 some protesters were outside the school gates distributing leaflets regarding a national protest. The atmosphere was deteriorating and the school contacted BCC for advice. Their advice was taken to close the school early on that day to ensure safeguarding the children.

The Head Teacher said the incidents had escalated and there had been serious issues surrounding safeguarding the children. This had led to the Emergency Injunction being put in place and a subsequent hearing in Birmingham which upheld the 6 conditions of the injunction. There will be a full trial in July. It was noted the school had received support from across the world.

Following a Governor question it was noted that the case was evidenced based and had been seen by the High Court in London. CE informed Governors that warning letters had been sent to parents regarding their behaviour. Following a Governor question it was noted that the school had statements from parents and those involved had received warning letters and some had been banned from the site.

Following a Governor Question discussion took place regarding the allegations and the evidence the school had. The school confirmed that there was a formal process and the Birmingham City Council procedures were being followed.

The Impact on Wellbeing of staff, Children and Parents

The Head Teacher informed Governors that the staff had been incredible and very strong. The Leadership Team had tried to absorb the impact on other staff and children. There was a counselling service available in school and various wellbeing initiatives had been offered. The Therapist commented how on edge of their limitations the staff were. There were also pastoral staff in school helping the children. There had been workshops in school with two Muslim staff running these to help parents, the first of which was poorly attended but the second workshop attracted 15 people. The Head Teacher reported the school had a 'great' Eid celebration.

Support

The Head Teacher thanked Birmingham City Council for their tremendous support, offering weekly meetings at the Council House. Support had been received from all over the world during this dreadful time.

Involvement of Governors

The Head Teacher thanked RH for her support coming in to school every day, SS for her safeguarding work and SM for her continued support. The Head Teacher noted that some Governors had not made any offers of support to the school and this worried the Head Teacher. The Head Teacher said this was an unprecedented situation and it was the responsibility of governors to support the well-being of the Head Teacher.

Claire and Head Teacher Wellbeing

The Head Teacher informed Governors CE and SM had been very supportive and reiterated this situation was unprecedented and required leadership and support.

Statutory Testing

This item would be included on the Agenda for 15th July 2019.

ACTION: Clerk

DfE Prohibition Direction

The Head Teacher reminded Governors of the request from the previous meeting and referred to the DfE Prohibition Direction previously circulated.

Questions were invited from all Governors regarding the Head Teacher's report and the following questions were raised:

1. **How many children were missing for EID celebrations?** – In response it was confirmed there were around 40% missing on Tuesday and 40% missing on Wednesday, with only a few children having both days.

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[SHADED TEXT DENOTES GOVERNOR QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGE]

2. **How many children were missing from school due to the protests?** – In response it was noted there were around 50% (300) children not in school, but this was the day after the attack and some parents felt their children were not safe. It was unclear how many were protesting and how many felt unsafe.
3. SS reported she had been in school and sat in the staff room chatting with staff. She commented how great the staff resilience was and how happy the children were when they are in school. A message had been received commending the school staff for continuing to teach the children not to hate. Thanks was given to SHC and CE for ensuring the main priority was the children. **The Head Teacher asked KM to pass thanks to Birmingham City Council for their continued support.**
ACTION: KM
4. SS reported to Governors there was a workshop on Sunday 30th June 2019 at 2.00pm for parents. Police Officers would also be present to address any issues in the community.
5. KB asked the Head Teacher to contact him if there was anything he could do as he had previously stated he could be available. **He had expected a phone call from the Head Teacher** and in response the Head Teacher noted that Governors need to be pro-active.

The Head Teacher asked everyone if they had any association with Tahir Alam and each governor was asked individually with the following comments made:

- SHC had never met TA although she had given evidence at the Peter Clarke Trial.
- SM had never met TA
- SS had never met TA
- AJ had never met TA
- RH had never met TA
- KM knew of TA as he was a member of his Mosque and may come across him once a year at the AGM.
- CE had never met TA
- MM had never met TA
- NM had come across TA in his community but stated it was irrelevant to this situation.

The statement from Governors for tweeting, publication on the website and in the Newsletter was discussed and it was

Agreed that the statement should read as follows:

‘The Governors of Anderton Park are united in their support of the Headteacher and the school, standing hand in hand for the promotion of equality, kindness and of respectful treatment of all people and those with protected characteristics. As always, we encourage you to talk to school should you have any questions. We have so many lovely things going on at school and we are proud of the part everyone plays so that all children can flourish. - The Governors at Anderton Park’.

There being no further questions, the Head Teacher was thanked for her report.

CE asked any members who had not had their photograph taken for the website to have it taken that day.

FGB 24/19 Intent, Implementation, Impact

This item had been previously agreed to carry forward as an Agenda item for the next meeting.

FGB 25/19 Policies

The School Lockdown Policy was being reviewed as mentioned in the Health & Safety Report.

FGB 26/19 Information Items

The Clerk gave information regarding the changes to the Governors handbook and had included the link for Governors.

FGB 25/19 Any Other Business

The Management of Change Committee agreed to meet on Monday 15th July 2019 at 12.00pm prior to the Governing Body meeting.

FGB 28/19 Date of Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Full Governing Board would take place on Monday 15th July 2019 at 1.00pm

There being no further questions or comments, the Chair thanked members for their contributions and closed the meeting at 3.06pm.

Signed.....(Chair)

Date.....