

THE GOVERNING BODY OF DENBY DALE FIRST & NURSERY SCHOOL

Minutes of the meeting of the Governing Body held at 7.30 pm at the School on Monday, 8 February 2016.

PRESENT

Mr M Eaton, Mr P J Belsey, Mrs J Cody, Mrs A Elliott, Ms G Hood, Ms K Howgill, Mrs R Liu, Mrs E Moore, Mrs S A Spark, Mrs P Stringer, Mrs L Taylor, Mrs D Watkins, Mrs C Wright

In Attendance

Mr K Rothwell (Minute Clerk)

470 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no apologies for absence or declarations of interest.

471 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following items were notified to be brought under Any Other Business:

- ◆ Information Items
- ◆ Car Park
- ◆ Associate Governor

472 REPRESENTATION

The following matters of representation were noted:

Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>With Effect From</u>
Mr G Coleman	Co-opted	3.01.16

Outstanding DBS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>
Ms G Hood	LA

Ms Hood's DBS had now been confirmed.

Authority Note – At this stage the DBS was still outstanding.

473 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2015

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2015 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

474 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

475 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

There was nothing to report.

476 HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT AND GOVERNORS' QUESTIONS

Options for Academisation. An information pack was given out, including:

- a) Media reports on David Cameron "I want every school to become an academy" and a Sunday Times report "All schools to become academies by 2020"
- b) Illustrative Coasting Regulations
- c) Press reports on Kirklees Budget cuts.
- d) Proposals for forming a Multi-academy trust by St Aidans CE First school, Scissett CE First school and Skelmanthorpe First and Nursery school.
- e) Shelley Partnership: Commission report November 2015
- f) Next Steps: Who's in, who's out?
 - o Prioritisation
 - o Shared Leadership
 - o Resource implications
 - o Intensive design process Jan/Feb 2016
 - o Strategic action plan by March 2016

The Head Teacher outlined some of the implications of the information:

Coasting schools could be forced to become an academy under the sponsorship of an existing MA trust.

Q. Is Scissett Middle school vulnerable as a coasting school?

A. It could be.

Our Options

1. Stay as we are.
2. Join a local MA trust
 - a) Scissett First/St Aidans/ Skelmanthorpe First
 - b) Kirkburton Middle school & Scissett Middle School
 - c) Shelley College an established MA trust.
3. Join a larger MA trust, e.g. the Co-op, not local.
4. Use services offered by a few different trusts

Where any Church school is involved, a Church school must be the lead school in the trust.

All Pyramid meetings had been well attended.

Governors agreed that the best interests of the school and its pupils were the prime considerations and that we must be able to trust the other parties involved.

RESOLVED: To invite representatives of the 3 local MA trusts to give presentations to a meeting of the governing body.

It was envisaged that each trust would have an hour for presentation and questions. Following the meeting the governors could then discuss the possibilities identified.

It was agreed that the Head Teacher, Mr Belsey and a staff governor would meet to formulate our concerns and questions for the 3 MA trusts. These would be circulated to all governors before half-term. Governors should send their comments to the Head Teacher by the end of half-term.

ACTION. The Head Teacher to contact the 3 MA trusts and invite them to the proposed meeting.

477 TO AGREE TO HOLD A PARENT FORUM TO ASCERTAIN INTEREST IN CREATING A PARENT COUNCIL

Mrs Wright outlined the ideas behind a parent Forum/Council. It was suggested that a meeting be held ,inviting parents to see if there is any interest.

Q. Why have a Parent Council/Forum when there is the PTA?

A. PTA is fundraising only.

Q. Why have a Forum/Council?

A. To seek ways for the parents and school to work together.

Q. Why is it necessary when there are Parent governors?

A. Governors' role is a strategic one.

Q. What links will there be to the governing body?

A. Parents who are governors.

Q. What is difference between a Forum and a Council?

**A. Forum - body of parents, no fixed membership.
Council. More formal, defined membership.**

Q. Why is the timing right now?

A. It is now a year since the major changes in school, we need to look at future developments.

Governors discussed the proposals at length.

RESOLVED: That an Introductory meeting be held at 6.30pm on Thursday 10 March, to last no longer than an hour.

The Head Teacher would open the meeting with a few remarks but would not be involved further. After the initial meeting at the school, other venues, such as the new village library or the Pie Hall would be used.

478 REPORT ON PYRAMID SITUATION

This item had been covered in Minute 477.

479 SUPPORTING PUPILS AT SCHOOL WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Governors noted receipt of the statutory guidance on supporting pupils at school with medical conditions.

The Head Teacher confirmed that appropriate care plans were in place for pupils who required them. These were updated regularly in accordance with current Policies.

480 GOVERNOR TRAINING AND GOVERNOR VISITS

Mrs Liu and Mr Belsey had held an assessment meeting with the Head Teacher on 13 January 2016.

The Chair had attended the Special Mentions Assembly.

Mrs Moore had visited school for a Health and Safety discussion.

481 KIRKLEES LEARNING PARTNER VISIT

The meeting with the KLP had been very positive.

482 ANY OTHER BUSINESS(a) Information Items

The following items of information were noted:

Annual Service Buyback for 2016/2017 – a signed summary sheet to be returned by 4 March 2016.

Cashless Council - Changes will come into effect from 31 March 2016. Governors discussed the implications for the school. The school now has some credit cards.

Facebook for School Governors - Governors are invited to join the Facebook group for Kirklees School Governors.

Kirklees Business Solution Website - Details of the new website.

One Hub - Details of the document store for Kirklees Business Solutions.

(b) Car Park

The Chair had taken Car park duty one day. One parent had been difficult when the regulations were enforced. Other governors were invited to do Car Park duty to get a real appreciation of the problems.

(c) Mrs Heptinstall, although no longer a governor, was still interested in using her long experience working in the Nursery school in the Marketing Group.

RESOLVED: That Mrs C Heptinstall be appointed as an Associate Governor to work in the Marketing Group.

Governors recorded their appreciation of the help with the website and leaflets that Paula Gillespie was giving.

483 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the next meetings of the Governing Body be held at 7.00 pm at the School on:

Monday, 14 March 2016
Wednesday, 11 May 2016
Monday, 4 July 2016

484 AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS - SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That no part of these minutes, agenda or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the School.

