

SUTTON BENDER C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL
 40 Chestnut Road, Sutton Benger, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 4RP

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR FULL GOVERNING BODY ('FGB')
 MEETING (TERM 6) HELD ON**

Thursday 13 July, 2017
 7.00pm – 9.00pm
 AT SUTTON BENDER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Members Present	Initial	Position
James Passmore	JP	Governor (Parent) – Co-Chair of Governors
Katie Brown	KB	Governor (Foundation) – Co-Chair of Governors
Ursula Scott	US	Governor (Staff) – Executive Head
Louise Pitman-Jones	LPJ	Governor (Staff) – Associate Head
Daisy Broomfield	DB	Governor (LA) – Chair of Teaching & Learning
Joan Cocker	JC	Governor (Foundation) – Chair of Ethos
Alison Love	AL	Governor (Foundation)
Daniel Robertson*	DR	Governor (Foundation)
Tom Whittingham	TW	Governor (Foundation) – Vice Chair of Governors
Melanie Knight	MK	Governor (Parent)

Members Absent	Initial	Position

In Attendance (non-voting)	Initial	Position
Simon James	Clerk/SDJ	Clerk to the Governing Body
Traci Langford**	TL	Finance Officer
Vicki Wilson	VW	Governor (Staff) – appointment (Sept 1, 2017)

* - Left Meeting at 8.15pm
 ** - Left Meeting at 7.26pm

Distribution of Minutes to:
 Governing Body, Governors' Admin Folder FOUR (Vol II);
 Governors 'Minutes' page on School website;
 Governor Portal.

Key:
 Key Decisions and Actions agreed at this meeting in **bold**.

Governor Questions are highlighted in **blue font**.

The meeting was quorate.

FGB Chair – Mrs Katie Brown (deciding vote)

SECTION ONE
PART A – STANDARD ITEMS

[01] Opening Prayer	Action:
[01] The meeting began with a prayer led by TW.	
[02] Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for Absence	Action:
[01] KB greeted all governors to the FGB, welcoming Vicki Wilson the newly elected staff governor, and TL for agreeing to join the early part of meeting to explain in more detail the 2017 - 18 VFM budget decision.	
[03] Register of Business Interests, Code of Conduct, and Disqualification Declaration	Action:
[01] Governors present confirmed that they had no business interests to declare against any items on the agenda.	
[04] 2017-18 VFM Budget Discussion	Action:
<p><i>This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure's E3 "VFM Minutes May 17" and E5 "Notes regarding 2017/18 Budget for FGB, 13th July 17".</i></p> <p>[01] KB referred governors to May's FGB meeting minutes and the deferred discussion surrounding the VFM committee decision to approve the 2017/18 budget (Scenario 1) at their meeting on May 15, 2017. KB continued that TL had kindly agreed to join the meeting to provide a more detailed explanation of 2017-18 budget scenarios and take questions.</p> <p>[02] TL provided the governors with her background and experience as the schools finance officer, noting that this was the seventh annual budget she had prepared. TL continued that for context the schools financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March and that the school has to prepare at least a three year budget annually for submission to County, although the school submits a five year plan (noting that County are unable to provide accurate income figures beyond the FY1 and therefore income figures for years two to five are estimated).</p> <p>[03] TL continued that the majority of the schools' income is on a per pupil basis, with over 80% of its expenditure used to cover staffing costs (building costs are stable).</p> <p>Current Situation</p> <p>[04] TL stated that for background the governing body agreed for the 2015/16 budget that the school would increase from six to seven classes in September 2016, to anticipate an increase in pupil numbers due to continued village expansion and to avoid large class sizes. TL continued that this was supported by the latest <i>School Population Forecast</i> report from County that predicted the school would need to expand to seven classes by September 2019 and to eight classes by September 2022.</p> <p>[05] TL noted that in factoring in this data, and carrying a surplus of circa £63,000 from 2016/17 financial year, the preference would be to remain at seven classes (if affordable) and consequently when setting the 2017/18 budget the following staff structures were considered:</p> <p>Scenario 1 - remain at 7 classes with an additional TA/MDSA (increase to 7 TA's). Scenario 2 - remain at 7 classes without an additional TA/MDSA (remain at 6 TA's). Scenario 3 – return to 6 classes from September 2017.</p>	

[06] TL stated that all the three scenarios would continue to provide the school with a surplus to March 2018, but that scenarios 1 and 2 would be in deficit by March 2019, and scenario 3 in deficit by March 2020. TL added that with the introduction of the new "Fairer Funding Formula" in 2017-18 the school doesn't know at this point how the new arrangement will affect our income, although the primary aim is to increase funding for rural schools, and we would therefore hope that we will see some benefit.

[07] TL continued that following lengthy discussion at the VFM meeting in May, the committee agreed to remain at seven classes and to recruit an additional TA and MDSA, and therefore approved the Scenario 1 budget template to be submitted to County. TL noted however that finances are continually reviewed and discussed each term by the VFM committee - the decision will be reviewed in January 2018 with steps taken to reduce to 6 classes in September 2018, if pupils have not increased sufficiently to support the 7 classroom structure.

[08] TL opened the floor to questions.

[09] JC asked if the financials were based on current or forecast pupil numbers.

[10] TL confirmed that financials were based on actuals (assumed figure of 27 for Reception), with a true up of income undertaken following receipt of the October census and discussion at the VFM meeting in November.

[11] DB noted that in her opinion smaller age group classes were attractive to parents. JC questioned as to whether the school would be forced by County to increase its class above the required PAN.

[12] US stated that the schools PAN was 27 per class and that County could not force the school to exceed that number, with "Admissions" supporting us if required.

[13] TW noted that whilst financial solution provided for smaller class sizes, smaller classes do not mean better results. TW continued by asking TL if the extra TA would be on a permanent or temporary contract.

[14] TL stated that as with other recent recruitments, any additional TA would be employed on a temporary contract.

[15] TL noted that the figures reported here is a worst case, as she always erred on the side of caution, particularly as following the recent election there continue to be a lot of unknowns when it comes to future educational funding – this is why close monitoring is vital.

[16] JC questioned as to why the school carried a large amount of surplus?

[17] TL stated that in March 2016 we received additional funding of over £18,000 as our pupil numbers increased by more than 13 in the financial year, which boosted the reserves. As the school finances were forecast over a five year period, reserves was maintained to protect against a drop in pupil numbers and to provide funding to building projects such as the planned classroom expansion and proposed changes to the kitchen and school hall. TL continued that we could spend the surplus, noting that schools are no longer penalised by the local authority for retaining reserves.

[18] DB asked if the VFM minutes is the vehicle to provide an early indication to governors that the deficit is getting worse.

[19] TL confirmed that they were continuing, that with income flat and staff costs increasing, estimated spend for years four and five always looked dreadful - but that the finances are closely monitored and adjustments are made early, noting that the income received in the past always been better than expected.

[20] DR noted that the breakeven point is a class size of 27, and asked what point will the school [if numbers are worse than expected] look to re-evaluate the current seven class structure.

[21] TL noted her previous comments regarding the October census and the schools allowance under "Fairer Funding" – this will confirm the level of income for the next financial year. TL continued that once we have a confirmed amount of income VFM can have a robust discussion at the meeting in November in respect to the viability of a seven class structure – this will allow, if changes need to be made, enough time for recommendations to be made by VFM to the FGB, prior to Easter 2018.

[22] KB asked US what the predicted numbers on roll was for September.

[23] US confirmed that current NOR was 158.

[24] DR asked TL whether the school was any better or worse than other local primary schools.

[25] TL stated that the school was in a good position with healthy reserves and was in a better place than most, noting the schools ability to generate income from its kitchen and after-school clubs. TL reiterated that the seven class structure was attractive to parents and that whilst pupil numbers had fallen, the sensible decision would be to retain this structure, with the proviso that finances are closely monitored.

[26] JP noted that small class sizes are party due to recently taking the strategic growth decision to go to seven classes.

[27] KB noted that the school had taken uncomfortable decisions in the past regarding class restructure e.g. moving from five to six classes, but that having gone through that positive change she felt less uncomfortable in respect to this decision and the positive impact this will have on the children.

[28] US reiterated County's requirement for the school to have 180 pupils by 2022, and 212 by 2022.

[29] MK asked, in view of the changing educational landscape, whether the local authority will continue to set these requirements.

[30] KB confirmed that the local authority will continue to have responsibility in respect to "admissions".

[31] US added that whilst this may be true, the school currently had no idea where government funding will come from in the future.

[32] JC asked that in respect to the new build who had provided the circa £100,000.

[33] TL confirmed that £67,000 was S106 (received due to the building of new housing in the village) and £45,000 under our recent LCVAP bid.

[34] US stated that this was a clear indication that County expected pupil numbers to rise, as they would not have sanctioned £67,000 for building expansion if number were expected to fall.

<p>[35] KB thanked TL for giving up her time to attend the FGB and answers questions form the governing body.</p> <p><i>TL left meeting at 7.26pm</i></p>	
<p>[05] Governing Body Membership</p> <p>Membership Changes</p> <p>[01] KB confirmed the resignation of Rebecca Dennis in May 2017.</p> <p>[02] LPJ confirmed that VW had been elected as the new staff governor, and will begin her term of office from September 1, 2017. LJP continued that in her position as Associate Headteacher, and by virtue of office, she and US will jointly hold the office of "Headteacher" for the purposes of the governing body.</p> <p>[03] KB confirmed that she would be resigning from the position of co-chair at the FGB in September, although she will continue as a foundation governor and retain the position of chair of the Staffing Committee.</p> <p>[04] SDJ confirmed that with confirmation of this decision, he will initiate the Co-Chair nomination process, in order that a new co-chair can be elected at the FGB in September [ACTION POINT].</p> <p>[05] KB took this opportunity to thank, on behalf of the governing body, DR for the support he had given to the school and wished you all the very best for the future, noting that this would be his last FGB - his resignation as foundation governor, would be effective July 21.</p> <p>[06] DR stated that he had been a pleasure working with the governing body, and wished them well for the future.</p> <p>[07] JP noted continued interest from Mr Matthew Randall and Mr James Hirst, to becoming school governors, and that he would follow up in the Autumn.</p> <p>[08] JC noted she had spoken to Mr Ben Carter, at length, although no formal request had been received.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>[06] Ratification of the Minutes of Previous FGB Meeting</p> <p><i>This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure E01 'Approved Meeting Minutes from the FGB Meeting held on May 25, 2017'.</i></p> <p>[01] The Governing Body accepted the meeting minutes of the FGB held on May 25, 2017 as a true and accurate record, and this was signed by the Co-Chairs of Governors (RESOLVED).</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Clerk (website)</p>
<p>[07] Governing Body Committee Structure and Governance</p> <p>Membership Changes</p> <p>[01] KB referred to Minute 05.03 and her decision to retain chair of the Staffing Committee, noting that she would be stepping down as a member of the VFM committee.</p> <p>Scheme of Delegation – Annual review</p> <p>[02] SDJ explained that the Scheme of Delegation required its annual review and that he would be issuing an email to all committee chairs over the next month for them to read parts applicable to them, and provide notice of any changes prior to September 1, in order for the Scheme to be updated and the 2017/18 version ratified at the FGB on September 28 [ACTION POINT].</p> <p><i>Clerks Update – Clerks email issued to committee chairs (@06.06 Mon 17/07/2017) requesting formal review and notice of changes by Sept 1, 2017.</i></p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>CLOSED</p>

Instrument of Government – Annual Review

This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure E02 'Approved Meeting Minutes from the FGB Meeting held on May 25, 2017'.

[03] SDJ stated that an annual review of the Instrument of Government is required, (current version executed on July 6, 2015), and that he would be issuing an email to all governors over the next month for them to review this document, particularly Clause 4, and provide notice of any changes required by September 1, 2017, in order for the 2017/18 version to be ratified at the FGB on September 28, 2017 [ACTION POINT].

[04] SDJ noted that where the governing body seeks changes to the Instrument, both Diocesan and Local Authority approval will be required prior to any subsequent adoption.

Clerks Update – Clerks email issued to all governors (@06.31 Mon 17/07/2017) requesting formal review and notice of changes by Sept 1, 2017.

Appointment of Health and Safety Governor

[05] KB asked US for an update in respect to the appointment of a Health and Safety Governor.

[06] US stated that currently no governor had come forward to take on the role but that SDJ had agreed, until a governor was in position, to assist with the tasks under the role of a "Health and Safety Person", although this would be reviewed on a termly basis.

[07] SDJ confirmed that it is not a legal requirement to appoint a health and safety governor, although it was good practice for a VA controlled governing body to nominate one of its governors to have health and safety responsibilities, i.e. a 'champion' governor, to monitoring h&s, prioritising risk actions, reporting on health and safety performance to the FGB, and ratifying the health and safety policy. SDJ continued that in the absence of one Headteacher (and governing body) may choose to nominate a Health and Safety 'Person' to assist with the above tasks.

[08] KB thanked US and SDJ and suggested that this topic be revisited in the Autumn term. KB continued that we should maybe consider advertising for this particular skill set, under a co-opted or associate membership arrangement.

Clerks Update – Confirmation that a place on Wiltshire County's Health and Safety for Governors Course to be held in Devizes on November 16, 2017 has been secured.

Appointment of Link TA Governor

[09] LPJ stated that this had been raised by her at the last meeting following a meeting with TA's, but that no progress had been made thus far. LPJ confirmed however that (in discussion with VW), it would not be appropriate for VW to be assigned to this role.

[10] Meeting agreed after discussion that it was acceptable for a governor at the school to be assigned this role, and with MK noting her interest the governing body accepted her offer – **MK assigned to the role of Link TA Governor.**

"Link" Governors

[11] LPJ noted that following resignations from the governing body that certain subjects were missing Link Governors, noting that the Early Years Link Governor would be now vacant following DR's departure.

CLOSED

<p>[12] LJP agreed to issue the current link governor list, indicating vacancies, and for governors to come forward and assign themselves to a subject [ACTION POINT].</p> <p>[13] MK noted that she was happy to take a lead in these roles but as a new governor it would be good to have some mentoring on what is involved.</p> <p>[14] KB noted that new governors will be provided with as much guidance as they require, and can shadow an existing link governor on one of their visits if they would like to do so.</p>	<p>A01 [LPJ]</p>
<p>[08] Reports from Committees</p>	<p>Action:</p>
<p>Value for Money Committee</p> <p><i>This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure E03 'VFM Committee Meeting Minutes May 15, 2017'.</i></p> <p>[01] JP asked governors for any question in respect to the latest set of VFM minutes. None. JP noted that concern raised at the FGB in May had been discussed under Item 04.</p> <p>Staffing Committee</p> <p>[02] KB stated that she is looking to arrange a short staffing catch up meeting w/c July 17, 2017.</p> <p>[03] KB noted that recruitment for the replacement year 5 had concluded and that Mr Ben Lawrence, who had taught at the school previously, had been employed under a 12 month temporary contract.</p> <p>T&L Committee</p> <p><i>This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure E05 'T&L Approved Meeting Minutes June 29, 2017'.</i></p> <p>[04] DB noted highlights from the latest set of minutes including Oaksey Link Governor visits to Sutton Bengier and the recent Early Years visit by DR and the comprehensive report produced – schools are sharing formats.</p> <p>[05] US noted that at a recent Oaksey FGB it was mentioned that whilst Oaksey governors are visiting the School, Oaksey have as yet not received any governors from Sutton Bengier. Meeting acknowledged that committee chairs need to be proactive and arrange Oaksey visits where appropriate.</p> <p>Foundation / Ethos Committee</p> <p><i>This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure E04 'Diocesan Paper on Governance in Church Schools'.</i></p> <p>[06] TW noted that the Foundation governors had met in early June and had discussed a number of topics including the Diocesan policy on foundation governors in CE schools, hoping that it would help sharpen our focus on our continuing role to preserve and develop the Christian character and ethos of the school.</p> <p>[07] TW stated that the meeting also discussed the challenge of recruiting replacement foundation governors, concluding there was no easier answer. TW continued that the meeting had discussed possible activities which may help in recruitment such as the creation of a foundation governor profile template which would set out duties and responsibilities (helping to remove any doubts as to the extent of the role) and for the School to help bring parents and the local community to the Church by using for events and the display pupil work e.g. art exhibitions.</p>	

<p>[08] TW noted that foundation governors had attended collective worship with DR at the last assembly with JC and TW scheduled to attend in the Autumn/Winter.</p> <p>[09] TW concluded that a brief discussion had taken place in respect to academisation, and that it was hoped the school (in partnership with the Hobbes Alliance) was progressing the necessary actions.</p> <p>[10] JC asked governors for any question in respect to the latest set of Ethos minutes. None.</p> <p>[11] US noted that at the last Ethos meeting a discussion had taken place regarding the School's "values" and in view of the large number, to reduce them from 18 to 12 'core' values - which would allow each pupil to meet every value three times in their primary school career.</p> <p>[12] The meeting had a general discussion on Christian values versus British values (noting that this was a point often raised in an Ofsted visit). US noted that the SEF discuss and identify these individual values.</p>	
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PART B – GOVERNOR BODY TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

[09] Governor Training and Development	Action:
<p>[01] KB encouraged all governors to look into attending external and online training courses where they felt a particular skill set required additional learning, noting that the Clerks weekly newsletter advertised forthcoming governor training events and workshops.</p> <p>[02] DB noted that the SEN course she attended recently, through County, was excellent in terms of content and management.</p>	

PART C – ACCOUNTABILITY AND MONITORING

[10] Headteacher's Written Report & SATS Results 2017	Action:
<p>Headteacher's Written Report</p> <p><i>This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure E06 'Headteacher's Report (Term 5 & 6, 2017)'.</i></p> <p>[01] US presented the Headteacher's written report, noting initially the projected NOR for September of 158 – current NOR 157. Next year the increased PAN of 27 will be in force.</p> <p>A. Attendance</p> <p>[02] US stated that attendance had improved slightly from last year to 96.6%, although well within Ofsted's 94% marker.</p> <p>[03] Meeting had a general discussion on lateness, and recent parent misunderstandings (via the school reports) on what constitutes an unauthorised absence. US/LPJ agreed to explain the schools policy on lateness in the Autumn newsletter [ACTION POINT].</p> <p>[04] JP noted that in respect to attendance many school were now publicising number of learning days lost.</p> <p>B. School Improvement</p>	<p>A02 [US/LPJ]</p>

[05] Meeting had a general discussion on SIDP targets in conjunction with the final progress data (below):

Total number of children – 131 Number of children identified in brackets	Reading	Writing	Maths
Better than expected progress	36% (47)	43% (56)	40% (53)
Expected progress	61% (80)	55% (73)	58% (76)
Less than expected progress	3% (4)	2% (2)	2% (2)

[06] US noted that “less than expected progress” cohort will be targeted with focused interventions for these children. US confirmed that all new children are being baselined on entry, within the first week.

[07] TW asked what the targets are for next year.

[08] LPJ stated that a primary target is to provide targeted support to the ‘developing’ children in maths and Writing in order to close the gap between them and their peers.

[09] US noted that the focus of the next TD day will be on staff’s use of mastery skills and challenge for MA children, as learning observations show some lack of staff confidence as to what challenge, rather than extension, look like.

C. Quality of teaching

[10] LPJ noted with Ofsted’s focus on middle leadership, that we continue to develop the use and effectiveness of our learning partners, through collaboration with Oaksey, and lesson observations, led by Denise Bray (Oaksey) and LPJ, have taken place alongside the ‘Learning Partners Project’.

[11] LPJ noted that positive feedback had been received and that the project is proving extremely valuable.

[12] US stated that the SIA report (external evaluation) in May had highlighted the benefit of the project, and the excellent leadership role of the Associate Headteacher’s.

[13] TW asked whether he could be sent a blank copy of the project visit template.

[14] US stated that she would forward a copy on to him [ACTION POINT].

A03 [US]

D. Pupils personal development, behaviour and safety and welfare

[15] LPJ stated that MDSA’s had reported that following the ‘two week’ zero tolerance approach due to poor behaviour at playtimes, far more harmonious play had been witnessed.

[16] JP asked a general question in respect to where US rated the school at this time.

[17] US noted that schools are being told that they need to have two significant ‘plus’s’ on progress data before a school can be considered as outstanding. US continued that the School does not have this (currently) and therefore our SEF is stating that we are good with some outstanding features.

[18] JP asked if we are validating this data across other schools, maybe our collaborative partners, as it would be sensible to do so.

[19] LPJ stated that we had not done so as yet.

DR left meeting at 8.15pm

[20] TW noted that whilst internal and external validation is important, referring to an early conversation, it is not all about numbers, and that staff and governors are here to ensure that the school delivers a good quality education to all pupils and to provide an environment where children can learn curiosity, resilience and tenacity.

[21] LPJ noted that these qualities which are related to the super learning powers programme are highlighted to parents via report slips.

[22] TW thanked LPJ, noting that it would be good to see examples. TW continued that the evidence of such standards must not only be available to Ofsted, and external reviewers, but also to parents who must see that as well as the school providing results in the form of data/SAT's results, independent learning qualities [standards] are not falling. TW questioned the need for further discussion to understand how all these pieces fit together.

[23] US agreed to progress and arrange any follow-up through email [ACTION POINT].

Individual SAT Results (2017)

This meeting minute should be read in conjunction with Enclosure E07 'Sutton Benger CE Primary School Results – Summer 2017'.

[24] US presented enclosure E7 which presented the schools Early Years, Year 1 Phonics Screening and KS 2 SAT's results, noting that this data was currently deemed confidential and had not been ratified.

Highlights:

Early Years (% of Reception pupils assessed at a Good level of development)

Sutton Benger – 77%
National Average (2016) – 66%

Year 1 Phonics Screening (% of pupils meeting the expected standard)

Sutton Benger – 83% (2016 – 86%)
National Average (2016) – 81%

SATs Results KS2 (School Combined % total in reading, writing and maths)

Sutton Benger – 61%
National Average (2017) – 61%

Average scaled score for reading

Sutton Benger: 103
National Figure: 104

Average scaled score for maths

Sutton Benger: 102
National Figure: 104

Average scaled score for grammar, punctuation and spelling:

Sutton Benger: 104
National Figure: 106

[25] LPJ confirmed that she had meet with all teachers (and subject leaders) to talk through the results, so that all were aware – receiving some positive feedback.

A04 [US]

<p>[26] DB noted that the KS1 Maths result was disappointing, with only three of twenty one children or 9.3% achieving a greater depth.</p> <p>[27] US acknowledged, noting that across the school Maths results were low, and that this would be area we need to work on.</p> <p>SAT's Results – KS2</p> <p>[28] US noted the high percentage of SEN children in the cohort, with 6 (26%) children on the SEN register, which made a big dent in the results. US stated that in respect to that 6, one of the children had joined the school at the beginning of Year 6, three of the children were working at very low levels, despite internal and extensive external support.</p> <p>[29] DB asked if the school was able to quantify progress throughout the pupil's time at the school.</p> <p>[30] LPJ confirmed that they had looked back at KS1 results, and that that data showed six achieving the then level 1 standard, with seven failing to meet.</p> <p>[31] Meeting discussed the early need for interventions, with US stating that we now have comprehensive monitoring (and hand-over) processes in place for pupils, with prompt interventions targeting early years.</p> <p>[32] LPJ stated that with Jill Kelsey in a full time SENCO role, the school is identifying much earlier on (was Year 4, now Year 3) the need for specific intervention, e.g. clear improvement in Maths from the specific Maths interventions in Year 3.</p> <p>[33] US/LPJ stated that the school had formally appealed against one of the pupil's scores, as it was felt that the marking was overly harsh.</p> <p>[34] US/LPJ stated that overall they were happy with the KS2 result, and that it matched the predictions from teacher assessments.</p> <p>[35] US stated that overall she was pleased with the results, which was a marked improvement not just in Year 6, but throughout the school.</p>	
<p>[11] Ratification / Notification of School Policies</p>	<p>Action:</p>
<p>[01] SDJ confirmed that there were no policies for ratification/notification.</p> <p>[02] KB thanked US/LPJ for all their hard work in getting the policy situation under control, noting that at this time 95% of policies are live with only 3 policies under review/draft.</p>	

PART D – OTHER

<p>[12] Governor Development Plan / Academisation Update</p>	<p>Action:</p>
<p>Governor Development Plan</p> <p>[01] JP asked that this item be deferred to the September meeting.</p> <p>Academisation / Hobbes Alliance ('HA') Update</p> <p>[02] KB confirmed that the next meeting between HA and DBAT was scheduled to take place on July 17, 2017.</p>	

[03] US referring to Item 07(E) of May's FGB meeting minutes confirmed that DBAT had agreed to meet with HA on that date and that a set of tabled questions had already been sent to DBAT in advance. US continued that the primary purpose of the meeting was to secure answers to a number of outstanding questions, in particular in respect to HA's autonomy under a 'Hub' and financial management – she was hopeful of a productive meeting, noting that the COO of DBAT and its lead educational adviser were scheduled to attend.

[04] TW noted that this was good news, but asked if governors could be updated on how the meeting went and what proposal/s HA (and the individual schools Headteacher's/Chair of Governors) were going to make to its governing bodies following the meeting.

[05] KB stated that feedback will be provided to all governors by the end of term outlining the key meeting discussion and any agreed way forward.

[06] DB stated that it would be good for governors to understand if there had been any tangible outcomes agreed at the meeting.

[07] JP noted that the meeting cannot make any fundamental decisions without the approval of individual governing bodies, but where any agreement has been reached to the terms of a DBAT academisation, it can agree next steps.

[08] JP thanked governors for their patience during this long process, accepting that there had been many conversations and meetings but that it hoped that this meeting will finally nail down outstanding issues and clarify the role of HA within any DBAT established hub.

[09] MK asked JP what he meant by this.

[10] JP stated that HA have always been keen to explore how HA would help shape a hub and play a part in its development, so we need to understand if HA will be provided with a certain level of autonomy to shape or whether we will just be told by DBAT.

[11] KB noted how the Headteacher at Christian Malford Primary (a school within a DBAT Hub) had only positive comments to make with respect to the Diocese and the concrete support they have received from them over the last six months.

[12] KB continued that momentum is steadily growing and that those people who were initially reluctant to the idea of the schools joining a DBAT hub were now coming to the same view, having witnessed the amount of due diligence HA had undertaken to date.

[13] TW noted that it he was pleased that progress was being made and that it will sharpen focus for discussion next term, but reiterated that it was imperative that governors are updated on how the meeting went and what had been agreed.

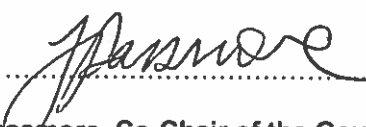
[14] US agreed, noting that the meeting will hopefully provide the parties with the ability and willingness to construct a meaningful solution.

[15] AL agreed, noting that DBAT was equally willing to learn from HA and build a workable solution. AL continued that with constructive feedback from Christian Malford and St Peters in Chippenham she could only see the move as positive, although concerned she was continuing to hear negative comments here.

<p>[16] JP thanked AL, but noted many governors in the past had experienced first hand a large amount of negativity and that therefore continue to be cautious, rather than negative in their feedback, that said governing bodies have come to a realisation that this is a good option – albeit that some outstanding points need to been clarified.</p> <p>[17] KB agreed, noting that this round the table discussion will hopefully settle outstanding issues, and that we will provide a synopsis to governors of the meeting. JP noted that this will be a discussion point at the next FGB in September 2017.</p> <p>[18] JP/US agreed to provide a summary of the meeting to governors [ACTION POINT].</p> <p>[19] JP thanked the governors for the robust discussion, and for their hard work throughout the year. JP continued that it had been a pleasure working with all the board and that he looked forward to meeting up again in September.</p>	<p>A05 [JP/US]</p>
<p>[08] Dates and Times of Future Meetings</p>	<p>Action:</p>
<p>[1] Confirmation that the next meeting will be on September 28, 2017 (7.00pm)(Term 1).</p> <p>2017/18 FGB Schedule</p> <p>Term 2 – November 23, 2017 Term 3 – January 25, 2018 Term 4 – March 22, 2018 Term 5 – May 24, 2018 (6.00pm) Term 6 – July 12, 2018</p>	
<p>[09] Schools Confidential Section</p>	<p>Action:</p>
<p>None</p>	

Meeting adjourned at 8.55pm.

Signed for and on behalf of
THE GOVERNING BODY OF SUTTON BENDER C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Signature 

James Passmore, Co-Chair of the Governors

Date 28/9/17

Signature 

Katie Brown, Co-Chair of the Governors

Date 28/09/17

