

GREENFIELD & PULLOXHILL ACADEMY

ANNUAL MEETING GREENFIELD & PULLOXHILL ACADEMY 9th January 2019 7.30pm

MINUTES

Trustees Present:	Julia Burkett Alan Euinton	Gareth Ellis David Motion (Chair)
Trustees' Apologies:	The Venerable Paul Hughes	
Directors Present:	Sarah Boyle Carol Shotbolt Marcus Stott	Revd. Dave Bell Sue Smy
Directors' Apologies:	Sarah Ball	Annette McCullion
Clerk:	Wendy Shuttle	

Item		Action
1.	Welcome and Introduction David welcomed everyone and introduced the Trustees. The meeting was also attended by a member of Pulloxhill PC, four members of staff and one parent. Apologies were received from Paul Hughes, and governors (see above).	
2.	Minutes of the previous AGM Approved: the minutes from 2018 AGM were agreed.	
3.	Matters Arising There were no matters arising.	
4.	a) Presentation of the Composition of the Board of Governor at 31.8.18 David drew the meeting's attention to the circulated composition of the Board of Governors document. b) Questions Julia asked about the plan to replace the governors who have resigned. Alan explained to the trustees that Mick Platt and Simon Sadler had resigned during the year. The Personnel and Finance committees had amalgamated for two terms with Alan as Chair. Since then two new governors with finance experience, Natalie Law and Sarah Higson, have been appointed allowing the committees to separate, although Alan is still chairing both committees at present. Gareth asked about replacing James Jamieson following his resignation due to pressures of work and Alan confirmed that feelers have been put out for his replacement. Dave Bell noted that Caroline Howell had also stepped down and asked about the PCC nominated replacement. Alan explained that the academy is limited on the number of Foundation directors in relation to the total number of directors and that the Diocese, along with the PCC, would be informed of the current situation.	
5.	a) Presentation of the Financial Accounts David asked Alan to present the accounts. The summary accounts and notes to the accounts were circulated and full copies of the accounts were made available. These will also be on the academy website. Alan thanked Mrs Joanne Coleman and Mrs Wendy Shuttle for their hard work put into the audit and throughout the year.	

Alan reported that the audit went smoothly. He highlighted that the academy had targeted a breakeven budget for 2017/18 and ended the year with a £12k surplus. The total in the bank at 31/8/2017 was £374k with some committed to spending this year on building improvements. Alan noted that the grant from DfE has been reduced by £200k for 2018/19. He reported that Streets had reviewed and were happy with our risk management strategy. This year pupil numbers have increased and the Pulloxhill nursery class has opened. Alan explained that we had been in talks with the Pulloxhill Pre School for a considerable time regarding them joining the school but as they had decided not to do so they left at the end of their lease. Alan reported that the Finance Committee met with the auditors in November and went through their report with the Governors approving the Financial Statements and Report to Governors at the December meeting. Alan highlighted the Going Concern note in the Financial Statements, and the comments by the auditors that there are no regularity or systems issues, and that it is an unqualified audit opinion. Alan concluded by explaining that the academy is well managed and in a positive position.

Questions

Julia asked where the cuts were being made to cover the £200k reduction in budget. Alan explained that this was being achieved by putting years 1 and 2 back together at Pulloxhill and through the strategic management of staffing and other costs.

David asked about the reserves and Alan explained that the Finance Committee regularly reviews the reserves, allowing for two years of deficit budgets and a capital building reserve.

Alan informed trustees that although we have been pleased with Streets, we will be tendering for the external audit services in accordance with our funding agreement.

Agreed: The Trustees agreed to adopt the financial accounts.

6. Governors' Comments

Sarah Boyle provided a brief overview of the activities of the academy.

- Children at both schools continue to make very good progress and achieve well. The results reflect the cohort and some year groups have more children with SEN than others, also the smaller cohorts at Pulloxhill mean that each child equates to a higher percentage.
- Chris Lake, School Improvement Partner, has been working closely with us to focus on data and has led training for staff and governors on how we can further develop. Chris summarised as follows: at both schools children enter the Early Years Foundation Stage with widely differing attainments. All children make at least good progress through the school. By the end of KS1 a higher proportion than national average achieves Age Related Expectation and above. A significantly higher proportion of pupils achieve Greater Depth than national figures. In KS2 this progress continues. When children leave us at Year 4, very high proportions of pupils attain or exceed the expected standard and above in all subjects which is higher than in the local authority.

- Last year we worked particularly hard to strengthen children's phonics and saw a significant increase in the proportion of children meeting the expected standard in the Phonics Screening Check.
- Our children currently make very good progress and we are an outstanding academy. However, we are continually reflective and strive for greater achievements and look for areas where we can make still further improvements.
- Sarah noted that although academic achievement is important, we ensure that other subjects such as PE and music are given emphasis. We have a number of after school clubs and children learn an instrument during years 3 and 4. Children have the opportunity to take part in residential trips to Stibbington (year 3) and Germany and IOW (year 4). Alan noted how much he had seen the children's confidence grow on the trips.
- Sarah highlighted how much the values are important to school like. Alan informed trustees that the children's values and excellent behaviour had been mentioned several times whilst out on trips. Sarah went on to say how closely both schools are working with local churches involving not just the main festivals such as Christmas and Harvest but also creative prayer and Godly play sessions. Open the Book who bring bible stories to life visit both schools every week and lead a collective worship.

Julia asked about the number of children with special educational needs. Sarah explained that there a number of children with significant needs and that staff are committed to training in and out of school to meet those children's needs. Julia asked if the local authority has put in support. Sarah answered that there is limited support from the local authority and indeed have been 12 months behind in their payments of grants to support these children.

Gareth commented that he was pleased that values education was still a focus and that it was good to see children and staff at the Remembrance Service at Church. Sarah explained that our children and staff had attended a number of services in the local area.

Alan informed trustees that Chris Lake had been very helpful and complimentary about what she has seen in both schools. Alan was pleased to report that his class link visits to years 3 and 4 at both schools are a delight, that he always sees learning taking place and that the children are enthusiastic about learning. He has also noticed an improvement in handwriting which has been a focus.

David asked Sarah to convey the trustees thanks to staff for making the schools happy and purposeful places. He thanked Alan and the directors for their commitment to the academy.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th January 2020, 7.30pm at Pulloxhill School.