

RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Resources Committee held at 5:00 pm at the school on Monday, 16th October 2017.

PRESENT

Ms D Johns, Mr M Neild, Mr J Page, Mr A Pruchniewicz and Ms J Thompson.

In Attendance

Mr D Rhodes (Minute Clerk)
Ms B Brooks (Deputy Head)
Mr R Robinson (Observer)
Ms J Tate (National Leader in Education)
Mr S Walsh (Business Manager)

64. **ELECTION OF CHAIR**

The Clerk took the chair in order to seek nominations for Committee Chair.

RESOLVED: That Mr G Denison be elected Chair for a 12-month period of office.

65. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr G Denison. It was agreed that in his absence, Mr A Pruchniewicz take the Chair for this meeting.

66. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 MAY 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2017 had been distributed to Governors prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2017 be signed as a true and correct record, subject to the following amendments.

Minute 59 – Section 1:2016/17 Final Outturn:

The figures to be removed from the 2nd paragraph which should now end. . .”all of which contributed to the deficit carry over into 2017/18”.

Minute 59 – Section 4: Summary

The figures to be removed from the first paragraph, which should now read. . . “Governors had been provided with a clear picture of the overall budget, and the projected deficit for April 2018”.

67. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

68. **BUDGET 2017/18**

Steve Walsh (School Business Manager) submitted his written report in relation to the 2017 fiscal year and the projected final outturn.

The data was presented in three formats including a Summary, LA layout and a detailed school formatted spreadsheet, all covering the same data, but with differing layouts and detail.

Particular reference was made to the deficit, and the progress made in cutting costs during the year to date. Of note was the difficulties associated with the "Bandings" of pupils and the requirement that appropriate funding was provided.

Q. Is the Local Authority mindful to assist with the clearance of the current budget deficit?

A. The chair had spoken to the appropriate officers at the LA and other matters, in relation to the Head Teacher, required resolution prior to addressing the financial position.

Q. With regard to the banding of pupils, how can the school ensure that the correct banding is allocated?

A. It has been difficult ensure the correct bandings, particularly when children are allocated at the last minute. Furthermore, there are financial concerns following budgeting errors by the LA and the time it takes between the draft care plans and the final provision. The school also needs to seek backdated funds where applicable.

Q. The staffing costs are a contributory factor in the budget. Are many staff on the higher end of their pay scale?

A. Yes, this has been recognised, however in terms of staff hours and planning, all requests for less hours have been agreed and opportunities for savings have been seized, including aspects of job roles, changes in training and negating the use of supply teachers from expensive agencies.

The Business Manager was thanked for his report, and congratulated on all the elements therein to redress previous budget issues.

69. STAFFING

It was reported that there had been one administration position resignation.

70. PREMISES

(a) Car Park

The School Business Manager tabled his written report on proposals to redesign the car park to accommodate the increasing number of busses conveying pupils to and from school.

The estimate for the work was provided, and this would be met from the Devolved Formula Capital Funding, thus not impacting on the school budget.

Illustrations were provided of the current situation where 16 buses attend in 2 waves, the proposal would accommodate all the buses in a single wave.

A detailed plan illustrating changes and proposed work was provided.

Q. Have the Fire Authority been consulted on the change?

A. Not as yet, but full consultations will be undertaken, with all stakeholders including Pinnacle

Q. Will an ambulance be able to gain access, should buses be parked up?

A. There should be enough room, nonetheless if a bus was likely to cause an obstruction, it would be moved.

Q. When is the work likely to go ahead?

A. The Work was planned for February half term.

Q. Will this benefit the children?

A. Yes, in terms of a shorter time on the bus providing both physical and mental benefits. All staff will be involved to ensure smooth operation of pupils arriving and leaving school.

RESOLVED: That the Car Park scheme be approved in accordance with the costs outlined in the report, and that the project be paid for from the Devolved Formula Capital Funding

(b) Pinnacle Inspections

Q. Governors sought clarification on routine inspections by the Property Management company (Pinnacle). Were they proactive in surveys and carrying out repairs?

A. It was reported that Pinnacle did routine inspections, however the key responsibility lay with the staff and school to bring items of concern to Pinnacle via the agreed procedure. The procure was functioning well and if a maintenance issue went directly to the caretaker he would, in turn, alert the School Business Manager.

71. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Resources Committee be held at 5.00 pm on Tuesday, 13th February 2018.

72. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELTED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That no part of the agenda, minutes (as amended) or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the school, in accordance with the freedom of information act.

The Meeting closed at 6.00 pm.



Chair

13/2/18

Date

