

Flushing Church of England Primary School Governing Body Meeting

Thursday 23rd February 2023, 4pm at Flushing School

MINUTES

In attendance:

Andrew Stevenson (Chairing), Tamsin Lamberton, Leslie Hygate, Helen Dodd, Sue Treneer, Alison Eva & Lisa Beverley-Jones, Adam Whittle, Polly Tregaskes, Adam Whittle, Stacey Mullins, Hayley Tucker (clerking)

Meeting started at 4.02

1) Prayer

AS

2) Apologies

Robert Hurrell – The Governing Body all sending their support to Marlene and hope she feels better soon.

2) Pecuniary interest registration (verbal declaration)

None declared.

3) Items for any other business

Maths & English Reports & SEN

4) Minutes from the previous meeting attached.

Read by all in attendance & all agreed a true record of the meeting.

5) Matters arising from the previous minutes

TL – spoke to Roger Hygate re proposing increasing the school footprint. LH – Roger willing to advise and assist but will need professional to discuss with planning etc.

Point 4 – AS said he will not be prepared to step up as Chair – AS signed and gave to Hayley to file.

6) Heads update (information) attached.

Reiterated points on sway & report.

SIP Maths early reading & improving outcomes.

Read Write Inc scheme has been purchased & the English Hub will contribute towards this cost.

Behaviours etc – attendance currently at 96% - TL met with local EWO & meeting shortly with county EWO – very small handful of children with persistent absences or lateness – letters have been sent to parents. Currently no plans to fine (or suggestions of it required).

Pavilion rent has gone up to £4200 & the Village Club remains at £2640.

Village Club – wanted to charge us £5 per day for electricity to use for lunch so not ruled out as having it in the classroom is not ideal but seems a lot when we already spend with them. Any ideas welcomed. AW asked if the usage will change in the seasons, but as the lights are on and the hot cupboard it should be consistent – would save at school – HD asked if the toilet will be changed, as they are less than ideal for the children to use – TL said is a big consideration.

School council have met to increase the pupil voice we are hoping to introduce learning ambassadors – SM asked if we have considered Bullying ambassadors? TL said sounds similar to Play leaders and noted that the older and younger children do not mix in the playground but said it would be nice to have the older children nurturing the younger ones if we can find a way to make this possible.

Events – We held Number Day, St Petrocs, Harvest festival boxes all were very successful and great community events for the children to participate in. Bags 2 school next month – Christingle was a triumph and was touching to be back at the church, nativity and light parade all wonderful. Would love to do something at Easter. AS said splitting the nativity and Christingle was a great idea – LBJ said it makes it hard when your children are only in one key stage as you miss out on one or the other – likewise you have two to go to if you have them in both (all agreed they were lovely).

TA Perf managements done.

Breakfast Club & TUC – full every day, having to let parents down every day. Hard to know what to do as if we grow it, we have more staff, need extra space etc. HD asked about parent volunteers assisting with the clubs, but often parents need it because they are working – 4 members of staff already. AW asked if still having problems with the little ones – and TL advised that it is a challenge. Is a challenge getting extra staff to cover. SM suggested work experience for Year 10 & 11s. TL will look into it.

Now getting shopping from Asda for tuck, TUC and school groceries

AM coming to end of PP course – been very helpful.

My Concern purchased which is taking a while to embed but is being used and works well as a system.

Still have Ukrainian child – attendance up and down, element of flexitime, understandable but does affect numbers.

Need to reduce noise levels at the Pavilion – bought a rug and some room dividers – ideally, we need a sound cloud which would not change look of space; we are in discussions with committee.

Covid – keeping on report as still comes up.

One TA has asked to reduce her hours by 2 per week.

Jake – after much tooting and froing his end date has been agreed as Dec 23 – he is on a very good wage for the time he is spending at school. Hoping he will pass his assessment.

Maths Mastery - going well.

Brook for PSHE – looking at Jigsaw.

New website under construction (with Eschools) – very happy with it nearly there to go.

Sign at the front now changed to Tamsin Lamberton as Head Teacher.

Further expenditure – canvas cover for the pavilion balcony to stop rain getting in which can be rolled up – awaiting the committee to say yes or no.

Floorboards either need sanding or a new carpet – will make a decision later in the year.

Thank you so much to Roger to help us try to find a solution to our space – we so need a confidential space for meetings – nothing off the table – shed / lean to anything safe and warm considered. Loathed to take up external space – AE – library is such a busy and overused space on the daily. Having dinners at the Village Club would make such a difference. TL said even if we do take a little bit of the playground, it will benefit all.

Lorne Stewart in frequently snagging after the building work in the Summer.

Roof tiles on adjoining building all fixed to cost of owner.

Dishwasher leaked on floor now fixed.

Hot cupboard kept blowing a fuse – now sorted.

Inappropriate internet searches – Recently a few images got through the firewall – all iPads taken away for 3 weeks. SWGFL & Microcomms came in and they upped the filters – will now be doing spot checks. Ads within pages now the only issue. Now no free play on iPads, will just be used to learn.

Sports – a LOT from Penryn. Do a great sports programme. Flushing are doing really well and the pupils are getting a lot out of it.

Easter Service on last week of half term – 31st ok with AS.

Parents Evening 21st & 23rd March – mixed response to location, some liked being in the Village Club, some prefer the classrooms.

Residential booked for Dolphins at Manor Ashbury in Okehampton.

Roll static – 2 left as moved.

Staffing static – hoping to rejig the hours to accommodate the TA who wants to reduce their hours by 2.

SEN static.

Youth Speaks – Year 6 formalised debate – we qualified in the first round at the University Campus but in the second round didn't get through but did so well, all so happy to get a £15 book token.

Songfest is next week, and we are sensing pupils from the Dolphin Class.

All classes going to Falmouth Library and Art Gallery to support focus.

7) Policies to review – Health & Safety, Attendance, Tackling Extremism & Radicalisation

H&S – Change Cornwall County Council and County Hall – approved by all.

Attendance – All happy to approve.

Tackling Extremism & Radicalisation – All approved

8) Finance – Budget Monitoring Report (information) to follow.

AS – from revenue perspective – looks as though we may be slightly over – TL confirmed that it is likely that there will be overspend this year. Nothing frivolous being considered and all being spent on areas where belts have been tight for a while; HD said increase in Teachers Salaries has made an overspend.

Capital ok – looking forward may have a deficit of £25k which will eat into the reserves which have been carried forward for some time.

Discussion around swimming cost – coach increased in cost astronomically – will consider increasing parental contributions

Need to keep a tight eye on the reserves; as long as the funding per pupil stays consistent, we should be ok, but the cost of living has had an impact. AS said, many of the governors have been here for a long time, many years of which have been on a financial knife edge; all keen to keep the budget healthy and safe.

HD – queried the proposed economy on music & French lessons – we pay a large amount to Penryn for music & French – it is a great enrichment and is very specialised but at a large cost – can it be done in house? If Ofsted came and chose their subjects, would they be able to come in, can they evidence the work. LH thought it was covering PPA, which it was at one time but not anymore. AE said a big chunk of learning time is spent on these two subjects and it is worth looking at options. TL asked if it is deskilling our own teachers, and highlighted that we might have to purchase, and store, instruments which could be a big expense. Only gave us a couple of days to say if we will continue with Penryn. AE would like to get French into Starfish

AS asked about reforming committees post Covid as Flushing is a small school and there is potential to 'look at things twice' if being considered by Committee and FGB thus more time taken up in meetings; all agreed things are working well as is with FGB meetings only.

9) Standing items – Health and Safety & Safeguarding

Governor visits – TL created a draft monitoring schedule has asked governors to say when they can come in to do their visits, it is a working document.

ST most needed to come in for H&S before Richard Greenwood. Happy to come in whenever.

No Health & Safety or Safeguarding matters to consider.

10) FRA meeting (verbal report)

Postponed

11) The Friends of Flushing School (verbal report)

Christingle – went to Village Club after and raised £350 with mince pies, raffle and games run by Year 6.

Emma Walker did a wreath making evening and a real cross section of people came from outside of the school community - £35 per person and £360 raised. People loved it and will run again.

FOFs supported the panto at FOH and with raffle.

Had a meeting last week and still low on numbers but are hoping to do an Easter event.

Happy to run a preloved uniform sale every term.

Summer Social on the beach with BBQ and event etc.

Need to have something to work towards to raise enthusiasm – wish list required from TL.

Hoodies, trip subsidies, resources or anything that will help the children with their learning etc.

Really need TUC resources but it is hard to find the right thing when such a big cross section of children and ages. But this would be really helpful, den making kits etc.

AE suggested food tech equipment and tools would be wonderful.

12) Any other business

Maths report – already sent to governors to read prior to meeting – no queries.

AE read through her Literacy report.

- Read Write Inc resources and training purchased, Phonics meeting this week with parents.
- Scholastic book fair raised £600 which gave us £300 of books to purchase for school.
- Training and Development - Reading fluency training delivered by Dandelion Learning to ZM & AE which highlighted key ideas.
- SW & EA also attended literacy meeting.
- Dandelion learning zoom for whole staff which was very useful.

All Governors would like to wish Bob and Marlene all the best and look forward to seeing them soon.

13) Confidential

None

14) Confirm date and time of the next meeting.

Thursday 11th May 4pm at Flushing School