

Flushing Church of England Primary School Governing Body Meeting

Monday 11th May 2020 – Zoom meeting due to Covid-19 Lockdown

MINUTES

In attendance:

Mark French, Bob Hurrell, Alison Eva, Leslie Hygate, Andrew Stevenson, Stacey Mullins, Polly Tregaskes, Adam Whittle & Lisa Beverley-Jones, Sue Treneer (arrived at 11.29), Hayley Tucker (clerking)

Apologies

Helen Dodd
Meeting started at 11.09

Prayer

Given by Andrew Stevenson

1) Pecuniary interest registration (verbal/written declaration)

No new interests to register

2) Minutes from the previous meeting

All agreed they were a true record of the meeting and they were signed by Robert H.

3) Matters arising from the previous minutes

Dealt with in body of the meeting due to meeting time restrictions.

4) Finance

a) Budget Monitoring report 2019-2020

MF ran through the projected outcome – this is not set in stone due to things taking longer to process in lockdown as bursar unable to come to school. The current carry forward figure could well go up.

b) 2020-2021 Budget (draft 5), & provision 2020-21 (to approve)

This budget is being drawn up on a 'best guess' basis as there are currently so many unknowns; the draft included the projected government funding but due to Covid-19 we cannot rely on these projected figures anymore. If the Government hold their word on their funding, then we should be in a good position but no way of knowing if they can or will. The budget mostly remains the same with the exception of some staffing costs which Mark F is still looking into. FGB approved the budget.

5) Provision beyond lockdown

Mark F has drafted a statement for parents which was read by the Governors. All agreed that it reads well, and explains our position to families, making no promises which we cannot keep at this time. The need for EYFS & Year 1 to come back for developmental reasons is understandable. We must remember that we still need to have provision for the Key Worker and Vulnerable pupils in addition to inviting back any specific year groups, and we are very limited on space being such a small school. Mark suggested that we have Year 6 back in addition to the KWV pupils to start. Polly T said she would be surprised if many parents would be happy to send them back.

Everyone was happy to start with Year 6 pupils with a phased return for other years and endorse the statement which will be forwarded to parents.

The normal end of year events will not be able to take place in the usual ways and we may have to get creative; the end of year production could be recorded and edited together. We will have to see whether year 5 are able

to return in time. The prize giving and end of year service could potentially go ahead with just the year 6 families socially distancing. Andrew S advised that it is unlikely that we will be able to use the church buildings for the foreseeable looking at the guidance they have had most recently.

Polly T said it would be a shame if we are not able to hold some kind of celebration for year 6 and advised there has been discussion amongst the parents in the year group that they may organise a beach BBQ of event if it seems possible nearer the time. Mark F said it would be best if parents organised this themselves out of school.

The feedback on the home learning from parent governors was that now they have got into a structure with the new way of learning, it is working really well, although it seems harder to motivate the younger children at times. There were concerns raised about families who may not have IT available at home to work on and Mark F explained that if this is the case, they are given their iPad from school to work on (7 have gone out so far), and that looking at the return of school work (around 79%), families have mostly found a way to make it work, regularly engaging on Class Dojo or email which is positive.

6) INSET days 2020-2021 to approve

It was proposed by Mark F that we have a block of 5 inset days Jun 7th-11th 2021 as this would give families the opportunity to take the family holidays that they will likely miss out on this year due to the lockdown and quarantine restrictions.

Several governors were concerned that;

- 1) Penryn College would not match up to these inset days making it hard for any families with children there to make use of the block for a holiday (Mark F said they will not).
- 2) That it is harder for working families to find a large block of childcare when they are restricted to annual leave.

Another option was to have 4 & 5 January 2021 (after Christmas), 19 & 20 April (after Easter) and 23rd July (end of summer term).

A vote was taken, and the majority chose the second option of the dates spread across the year (6 votes to 3).

7) Sue Frater Report

The Governors had read through the report prior to the meeting and Mark F noted that by design the main points were centred around writing, especially spelling. In regard to visualisation, although more could be done, it is part of our spelling approach (the home learning plans show this), with Look, Cover, Write and Check in all classes plus word searches, puzzles, games and IT activities. We have to teach phonics and it is not easy to wean children off using this as a support. Another challenge here is that not all parents support the learning of weekly spellings at home. The aim now is to take all the reports we have had over the last 6 months and forge it into one School Development Plan.

8) Confidential

None

9) Dates of next meetings (discuss any changes)

Thursday 9th July at 4pm

10) A.O.B. agreed by Bob 24 hours before the meeting

None