

Flushing Church of England Primary School Governing Body Meeting

Thursday 11 May 2023, 4pm at Flushing School

MINUTES

In attendance:

Robert Hurrell (Chairing), Tamsin Lamberton, Leslie Hygate, Helen Dodd, Sue Treneer, Alison Eva, Polly Tregaskes, Hayley Tucker (clerking)

Meeting started at 4.02

1) Prayer

Leslie Hygate started the meeting with a prayer

2) Apologies

Andrew Stevenson

Lisa Beverley-Jones

Stacey Mullins

2) Pecuniary interest registration (verbal declaration)

None declared.

3) Items for any other business

Strike Day legality - HD

4) Minutes from the previous meeting attached.

Stacey Mullins missing from attendees – Hayley added

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

5) Matters arising from the previous minutes

FRA (Fire Risk Assessment) Audit happened over Easter – no H&S issues raised just a couple of minor anomalies – need to decommission emergency lights as fire extinguishers are hugely over done and because all need servicing & the more we have the more it costs. It was raised that there is an overuse of extension leads and possibility to increase the number of sockets. Investigating this.

Backlog maintenance some issues but will get back with quotes – no serious problems.

HD queried her comment re teachers salaries pushing us over budget – we had discussed that as the salaries have increased but have budgeted for this increase, possibility of £40k deficit next year and £90k the year after but we are hoping the government will increase the formula funding (or all schools may have to close as we cannot afford).

6) Heads update (information) attached.

TL ran through report.

Attendance around 90% which is a government average so no concerns. Last lot of EWO letters that went home caused a little unrest from parents who received them so we will hold off again til the end of summer term when the % will hopefully have increased and there will be no need to send more. No real concerns around attendance, there are reasons for all persistence absence.

Breaktimes still staggered as it feels less cramped – the village club for lunch is a better option. Gate being moved to between the toilet which will safeguard the children. The £5 a day charge for the village club feels less huge now as the possibility of having space and quiet is appealing. HD raised whether anything is happening to the VC toilets which TL is plugging away at.

Raised so much money through FOFS and School Council – currently fund raising for Sasha Would've Loved It.

Go Active now doing sports which the children love. Children are winning sports matches for the first time which is amazing.

AM completed Pupil Premium CPD and has led staff meeting – main focus to get Pupil Premium pupils sorted.

My Concern up and running – need to log in with Flushing emails – will reset passwords for Govenors to be able to access the system.

Soundssystem on its way for future events

Ukrainian pupil still at Flushing School – still refusing to speak English. Mum still does not know how long they will be here. County EWO sent links as when children return to Ukraine if they do not follow the Ukrainian curriculum they will not be allowed to go back to school so sent links to a Saturday School for the family. Attendance sporadic but sympathetic with her due to situation.

New pupil started in Year 2 but there is no room currently for the other two children in the family in their year groups.

Been a little Covid ripple this term but nothing to be concerned about.

MF Reduced hours NVDB increased accordingly.

Apprentice still unsure of his finish date as College keep moving the goal posts.

LS has handed in her resignation – moving back to the Midlands with her family. Have advertised her job.

SP is pregnant and is due in October – Need to consider who will cover her. HD suggested Gina. Had two supply TAs which gave us hope that other enthusiastic people are out there. Will cross this bridge in Sept.

Jigsaw have given us a free trial until September – this is great for PSHE & consent and great for Sex Ed – LH queried how much it will cost - TL advised £600 approx per year.

Website now up and running. Delighted but lots of info has dropped off in the move – will endeavour to reinstate ASAP

Backlog maintenance visit suggested Lino as a good replacement solution with the flooring. Wood and lino have plus and minus points. New chairs need to be replaced (and potentially tables), as it will not harm new flooring. All like the wood. Awaiting quotes to make more decisions.

Potential £120k over 2 to 3 years and clearly not had much spent for a considerable amount of time.

AE queried what is happening with the handy man – Chris Martin from the village advised that he was keen to do odd jobs but we have not seen or heard from him, despite messaging several times.

Penryn Music & MFL provision. Penryn now say they can only teach on a Monday which we cannot do – we have asked them not to continue with this provision as we cannot make this work – KS2 teachers all happy to

increase their hours so may have to do a mini interview. AE would be more qualified to do French. If we cease to have music provision we have to consider that we need more instruments and will need somewhere to store them.

Swimming costs are increasing astronomically – want to increase parent contributions to £3.50 from £3.00 (some schools charging £5). We are considering not sending KS1, may send only the children who cannot swim. Pool want to do ten day intensive other than every week – perusing options.

Roll remains around the same at 94 with nursery

Strikes – TL chose a different model each time to minimise impact on children and families. The first one we invited key worker, vulnerable, SEN children in, but no nursery pupils and had all bar 7 pupils in.

Next time the staff were not sure whether they would or would not strike so we had no choice but to close the school (all staff except one came in) – we had a very productive day doing staff training and sorting classrooms.

Next date we closed the class only where the teacher was striking.

Not sure it is the end – cannot justify closing the school again if most of the staff are coming in as the impact on the school community is huge.

HD raised could we use other resources to cover the teachers – can the governors be used? TL was legally allowed to ask the teachers if they intended to strike but the teachers did not have to tell us if they would. We have the children at heart to ensure that we can safeguard the children. The two days we closed it was because we honestly did not know if the teachers were in to provide a normal school day. AE said that giving parents notice to need childcare was the least we could do. LH said she does not want Tamsin or the school to be in this position. Although we support the right to strike the children have to be put first. Although we can legally cover the class of a striking teacher it will cost the school in supply and it compromises the relationships of the staff potentially. LH said think we have made the best of a bad situation and we will keep having to make a decision based on the best info we have on the day.

One referral to MARU this term – doesn't happen often. Social worker was very reassuring and took it off our hands for now.

Training & Monitoring both run through.

Creative Collaborative – Helen been on the programme all year. Still not 100% sure what the programme is about, but hoping it will be a positive creative impact.

Lots of trips this term. Library trips were amazing.

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

Bursar really happy with how we have spent at the end of year

All happy with finance report

8) Staffing Update

See above re LS, NVDB, MF & SP

9) Standing items – Health and Safety & Safeguarding

FRA visit discussed above

Maru referral also covered.

10) Governor Inclusion / Training

SIAMS training for Leslie & Tamsin booked

Still need intro courses for some govs

May have to do safer recruitment training for AE

Chase LH reappointment

Need to get new parent gov on board next term.

11) The Friends of Flushing School

No representative to give report but they have done some great events recently and raised a lot of money.

12) Any other business

None

13) Confidential

None

14) Confirm date and time of the next meeting.

Thurs 6th July @ 4pm