

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF DEAN VALLEY
COMMUNITY SCHOOL HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON 25 JANUARY 2007.**

Present: Mr D Picken (Chair)
Mrs R Brown
Mrs A de Sousa
Mrs J Vessey
Mrs J Thorpe
Mrs J Massey
Miss A Greenwood
Mrs H Cann

In attendance: Mr J Morley (Clerk to the Governors)

PART ONE

1. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED:
that the apologies for absence received from Mr B Loveday and Mr M Stanley be accepted.

2. MEMBERSHIP

The following changes to the membership of the governing body were reported:

Cllr Sockett had resigned immediately before the meeting. Mr Stanley had indicated his intention to resign during the Summer term.

The Chair reported on his efforts to secure a Community Governor. Four attempts had come to nothing but Arthur Wakefield and Jean Ransley were potential candidates.

RESOLVED:

- a) that the Chair speak to Cllr Sockett to understand the reasons for her resignation and to encourage its withdrawal.
- b) that the election of a Parent Governor take place early in the Autumn term, in order to include parents of reception-year pupils.
- c) to ask Mrs Ransley to return to the Governing Body.

[Mrs de Sousa joined the meeting.]

3. PART ONE MINUTES

RESOLVED:

that the part one minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2006 be confirmed as a correct record, save for the following, and signed by the Chair:

Mrs Garnett had been a Parent Governor.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) (item 7a) Mrs Vessey had been elected Chair of the Marketing Committee. Mrs de Sousa had been elected Chair of the Curriculum Committee
- b) (item 7c) RESOLVED:
 - (i) that the terms of reference of Committees other than Finance be approved unaltered
 - (ii) that the Finance Committee's terms of reference be approved at the next Full Governing Body meeting.
- c) (item 7e) the Governors had confirmed their willingness
- d) (item 14) the list and policies were available in the school office
- e) (item 15) RESOLVED:

that the declarations be completed
- f) (AOB, C) the Headteacher and Mr Loveday would obtain approval of the SEF from the necessary number of Governors
- g) (AOB, D) the situation had been satisfactorily managed as needed; there was no need to buy seats or cushions.

5. PART ONE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Minutes of Curriculum, Marketing and Personnel Committee meetings were to be approved by members before submission to the Full Governing Body. Oral reports were made.

6. HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

Part One of the Headteacher's Report contained the following matters:

- Staffing
- Courses attended
- Pupils
- School Council
- Special Needs
- Behaviour
- School Development Plan
- Curriculum
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Target setting
- Marketing
- Community
- Education Improvement Partnership
- Finance
- Eco-audit

- PTA
- Sports
- After school club
- Visits/visitors

Mrs Vessey expressed the wish to contribute to the Eco audit and subsequent developments.

A Garden Club was suggested, of which Janie Parish would be a good leader.

The School Development Plan had been drafted by the Headteacher following a meeting of all governors. The wind turbine was discussed in particular: it would not be economically justified but would make a statement to pupils and community.

RESOLVED:

- a) that part one of the Headteacher's Report be received with thanks
- b) that the School Development Plan be approved
- c) that the Mission statement be approved
- d) that the Vision Statement be approved.

7. FOOTPRINTS NURSERY (the agenda item is incorrectly headed)

Several meetings with Footprints had taken place. A planning submission had been prepared, showing 2 sectional buildings at the front of the site (the only available location). The LA had offered a 10-year lease, which Footprints was willing to accept. The formal approval by the Governors of the planning submission remains UNRESOLVED.

The chair will endeavour to resolve this item prior to the next full meeting.

8. SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

The Chair compared the School's KS2 year-to-year performance with local schools' and the national average. At L4, the School had declined slightly while others had all improved; at L5, all had improved slightly; taking the average at all points, the School had declined slightly while others had all improved; the School's KS1-KS2 value-added score was 100.3, i.e. above the national average.

The Chair demonstrated the Pupil Achievement Tracker (PAT) application, using (unnamed) individuals' data and measuring progress from KS1 to KS2, in comparison with the national average. The application would become the primary means of assessing performance throughout.

The PAT analysis revealed that the School's value-added score was above the national average in writing and reading, close to average in English and science and below average in maths (which may be explained by the particular cohort).

(The Headteacher's report contained details of action taken and to be taken in the light of the above results.)

RESOLVED:

that the implementation of PAT to include pupil information for the years 3, 4 and 5 and subsequent analysis to be overseen by the Curriculum Committee.

9. EXTENDED SERVICES

Deferred to the Autumn 2007 meeting.

10. DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES REPORT

The Director of Children's Services Report for the Spring Term 2007 contained the following matters:

1. Development of Education Improvement Partnerships
2. Extended services in and around schools
3. Primary School Improvement Partners update
4. Community Leadership conferences
5. Disability Discrimination Act including disability equality policy
6. Teachers' and headteachers' performance management
7. Performance management of School support staff
8. Transforming Learning Communities update
9. Individual Pupil Funding Agreements
10. 14-19 update
11. Matrix of Complaints Procedures for school-based staff
12. Budget prospects 2007/8
13. Financial Management Standard in Schools
14. Annual consultation on admission arrangements
15. Consultation on discretionary school transport
16. Education and Inspections Act 2006 – consultation
17. School governance

RESOLVED:

- a) that the report be received
- b) (item 1) that the Headteacher circulate the current and future editions of the Education Improvement Partnership newsletter (the current issue was circulated after the meeting).
- c) (item 5) that the LA guidance be awaited
- d) (item 6) that this item be remitted to the School Change Team
- e) (item 11) that the Headteacher collate related policies and references in the handbook.

11. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT STANDARD IN SCHOOLS

The governing body considered arrangements for meeting the requirements of the Standard. The Headteacher reported that she had attended a training course and obtained necessary documentation.

12. ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

The governing body reviewed the annual consultation document on admission arrangements and published admission numbers.

RESOLVED

that: the Chair and Headteacher agree a response, objecting to the increase in PAN at Adlington and Rainow schools.

(The Headteacher subsequently submitted a response by email.)

13. SCHOOL POLICIES

The following Policies were received for review:

Geography
History
Charging
Governors' Fund

RESOLVED:

- a) that the Geography, History and Charging (the latter with amendments) policies be approved and adopted with immediate effect
- b) that the Governors' Fund policy be considered at the next Full Governing Body meeting.

14. GOVERNOR DEVELOPMENT

Details of the 2006/7 courses had not been received.

15. GOVERNOR EXPENSES

Deferred to the next Full Governing Body meeting.

16. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED:

- a) that the Summer Term 2007 full governing body meeting be held at the school on Thursday 14 June at 5.30 p.m.

----- Chair

----- Dated

DV FGB Approved