



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY
held at the school on
MONDAY 21st MARCH 2016

Constitution, membership and attendance

LA – 1	COOPTED – 8		PARENT - 2	STAFF – 2
Ms Kim Small	Mrs Jenny Gresson - Chair	Mr Daryl Close	Ms Sophie Daniells	Mrs Margaret Barrington – Head Teacher (<i>ex officio</i>)
	Mr Darren Beaver	Mr Erik Boesten – Jt Vice Chair	VACANCY	Ms Debi Mavers
	Mr Andy Elmer	Mrs Kerry Lilienfeld		
	Ms Nadine Jones	Mrs Cath Tanner – Jt Vice Chair		

Also attended: Associate Members: Ms Anna McKenna, Ms Shona Pitcher
Bold = absent Clerk: Mrs Ursula Partridge

Item		ACTION
73	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	Apologies had been received and were accepted from Darren Beaver, Daryl Close, Sophie Daniells and Andy Elmer.	
74	DECLARATION OF BUSINESS INTERESTS relating to items on this Agenda	
	None were declared.	
75	OBSERVERS – none	
76	BUDGET	
	The Chair introduced the item which had been gone through by the Resources & Finance Committee at its meeting the previous week. The HT presented the Budget for the financial year 2016/17. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES	
77	AOB	
77.1	Ofsted Inspection CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE	
77.2.1	Ofsted debrief: CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE	
77.2.2	Parental questionnaire The Chair suggested it would be useful to unpick issues raised at parent forums. Whilst recognised as minority views (4 out of 57 received or 4 out of whole school community) the anonymity of responses meant it was difficult to address concerns personally. Normally the HT's experience was that parents did not raise the issues directly.	
77.2.2.1	Influence of Christianity in assemblies and the HT advised that the school's policy was in line with current legislation and reflected the British values guidance. The Chair advised there was also the option for parents to withdraw their child from assemblies but this option had not been taken up and that there was a good mix of content.	
77.2.2.2	Ratio of adults/TAs in classes too low. Governors recognised the school could better communicate use of TAs in class to parents.	
77.2.2.3	Too many changes in staff. SLT and the HT confirmed recommendation that letters be sent to all	

	parents detailing information about changes was already done including the type of post the teacher was moving on to. The Chair advised the LA had already identified that staff retention was a borough-wide problem in Kingston due to the high cost of house prices. Governors involved in provision of staff exit interviews reported that all but one had been positive about the school.								
77.2.3	School Council: SLT advised that an animated discussion had been had with the reps at School Council meeting following inspection. In respect of the Ofsted comment: looking for more children to identify Maths or English as their favourite subjects. When asked what Inspectors had asked them about – and the children remembered lots, in response to this question children had responded with art, sport and DT (design technology). Pupils explained why they had not said Maths or English because they did these subjects every day, these other subjects were different. The HT also pointed out the comment that children needed to be pushed because they did not get stuck. But that failed to acknowledge children knew what to do when they got stuck.								
77.3	Going forward: The Chair suggested that when unpicked the negative issues raised in parental questionnaire be further addressed with parents via the parent forum. The HT reported that a staff meeting had already been held and Year Group action plans were being put together to work on the challenges identified. The HT asked her thanks to Governors for their support during the whole process be recorded. The Chair explained that the Inspection had been well timed. The school was ready and understood from published reports that the school had been the first inspected in Kingston under new framework. Apart from re-testing, the HT advised the school was also the first not to be downgraded. It had been a snapshot and was very paperwork (data) and meeting driven. Very few facilities at the school were looked at and very few classes seen or children spoken with.								
77.4	Staff Change: CONFIDENTIAL MINUTE								
77.5	Academisation The Chair and HT had received letters from Nick Whitfield (Director of Children Services for Kingston) regarding academy plans. Further communications were anticipated immediately after Easter holiday. There was discussion about various options including LA Social Enterprise (and schools within would not have to convert to academy). The HT acknowledged the support provided by LA during the Ofsted Inspection (provided old data required) and also AfC SIP through the SPA(RK) (Schools Performance Alliance Richmond and Kingston) and had written and thanked them. Deputy Headteachers (Shona Pitcher, Anna McKenna and Gemma Sergejev) were involved in sharing good practice with other schools in the borough. There was much that worked well and it would be good to keep. The Chair acknowledged there was the political agenda being promoted but that there were a number of years to investigate the best option for the school to take. Having attended conferences and general presentations on Academies/MATS it could be worth having someone in to speak to the Governing Body to discuss alternative options in more specific detail and what it means for our school. ACTION a) HT to provide details of currently available academy options for circulation to governors. It was agreed to see what future correspondence from Nick Whitfield contained.	MB/Clerk							
CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS 76 and 77.1, 2 and 4									
MEETING closed at 8.45pm									
Dates of Next Meetings Summer term:									
C&C	25 th April 2016	FGB	9 th May 2016	R&F	6 th June 2016				
	20 th June 2016		4 th July 2016						

Signed/Initialled (Chair of Governors): Date:

Summary of Actions Arising

ACTION	MINUTES FROM FGB MEETING 21 st MARCH 2016	WHEN BY
MB/Clerk	77.5 AOB/Academisation: HT to provide details of currently available academy options to Clerk for circulation to governors.	asap

PUBLIC

Signed/Initialled (Chair of Governors): Date: