



STENBURY FEDERATION

Interim Executive Headteacher: Mr M Snow
Chair of Governors: Mrs D Barker



Chillerton & Rookley Primary
Main Road, Chillerton
IW PO30 3EP
Tel. 01983 721207
chillerton@stenburyfederation.co.uk

Godshill Primary
School Road, Godshill
IW PO38 3HJ
Tel. 01983 840246
godshill@stenburyfederation.co.uk

MINUTES OF THE STENBURY FEDERATION GOVERNORS MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY ON WEDNESDAY, 21st July 2021 COMMENCING AT 5.30pm.

Present:

Di Barker (DB) Chair – Local Authority Governor
Kate Green (KG) Co-opted Governor
Catriona Travers (CT) Parent Governor
Kirsty Matthews (KM) Co-opted Governor
Angela Dexter (AD) Schools Business Manager
Leigh Mannix Clerk

Mark Snow (MS) Interim Exec HT – Godshill/C&R
Neil Jackson (NJ) Vice-Chair - Co-opted Governor
Polly Smith (PS) Staff Governor
Natalie Garrett (NG) Co-opted Governor
Nicole Sturgess (NS) Co-opted Governor

Vacancies: No current vacancies

Key: **Challenge**, **Support**, **Ring-Fenced**, **Decision**, **Action**

Item	Minute	Action	By
1	8	It was requested that Governors sign the code of conduct and return to LM.	Governors
2	9	MS would like governors to follow up on the Phonics focus.	Governors
3	12	LM and DB to arrange a meeting to discuss aligning policies with monitoring roles from September	LM/DB

1 **Apologies & Welcome:**

LN sent her apologies prior to the meeting.
DB welcomed NG and KM to the governing body and informed the body that Induction training had been completed for both Governors. Governor's visits to both schools had been put on hold due to COVID, and restrictions are still in place until the new academic year.
Governors introduced themselves to NG and KM.

2 **Declaration of Interest:**

DB declared that she is also a Governor at Barton Primary School to be a link between the two Governing Bodies.
NG declared that she is involved with the Save our School group
NS declared that she is on the Youth Offending team.
It was agreed that there was nothing on the agenda that would require any of those making declarations to step away from the meeting.

3 **Order of Business:**

As agenda

4 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:**

The minutes from the meeting on 16th June 2021 were circulated ahead of the meeting.

The minutes were proposed by NJ seconded by KG with all in agreement.

5 **Matters Arising:**

I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the Governing Board Meeting.

Diane Barker

24th November 2021

Signed..... Chair

Date.....

ACTIONS

Accepted

Matters had all been completed.

6 Draft Meeting Dates:

It was reported these may be added to once all working groups (SEN, Finance & Safeguarding) had been put in place.

It was hoped to have safeguarding training on the 31st August 2021, timings to be sorted. AD reported it would be a webinar.

DB informed Governors that she had attended the updated KCSIS 2021 training.

NJ had completed safeguarding training in his role as a foster carer, although it would be good to complete the educational side of the training.

7 Finance Report:

It was reported that the schools are not spending more than they should at this time of year and the run rate is currently at 30%, which is a good place to be in 4 months in.

NJ was felt to be a difficult situation with the unknown at Chillerton & Rookley, but governors must remember not to interfere with MS's day to day running of the schools. MS and AD were doing a fantastic job with the management of the budget and DB also thanked NJ for his rigor.

Thanks went from all the Governors

NJ offered to meet with the NG and KM face to face at either of the schools, whichever was convenient to help go over the educational finances.

There is a deficit at both schools and there is no contingency for staff sickness.

Challenge

Q. For long term sickness is there insurance in place?

A. This is too expensive and is not viable to have as the schools only get a % back. There are also caveats in place for pre-existing conditions that are not covered. It is a gamble and the Federation is not the only school on the Island without insurance.

If at any point supply staff were needed then funds would be made available so there would be no detriment to the children.

Governors will monitor the wellbeing of both staff and children.

8 Code of Conduct:

It was requested that Governors sign the code of conduct and return to LM.

Action

9 Headteachers Report-Update:

MS reported that both schools had been visited by the LLP, this had been positive and the schools were making good progress.

There had been a significant amount of work for the staff during the pandemic, who have worked extremely hard during lockdown, chasing parents and supporting the children.

The curriculum is rich and varied.

Two Ofsted visits had taken place at Godshill, one virtual in March, which had been positive.

A second physical visit, had taken place a couple of weeks previously and the outcome is still confidential at this stage. MS read out the report to all Governors present.

DB thanked MS and all the staff and children.

There is a wider curriculum across both schools and the phonics has changed.

The schools are on track to be good and MS was very confident.

Subject leads are across both schools.

MS informed governors that the children are fantastic in both schools and the staff make it fun and there is enrichment for all the children. Trips had been arranged for all years and it had been lovely to see the children enjoying themselves again.

Some children had expressed anxiety before the holidays and the annual transition to high schools had not been typical this year owing to COVID.

The federation had got off lightly, but other schools had been devastated, Wroxall had to completely close.

MS reported that the staff had worked their socks off, sticking to social distancing until the end of term and MS hope they all manage to get a well-deserved break during the summer holiday.

CT thanked the staff for arranging activities for the YR6 children going above and beyond to provide

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Nancy Parker

24th November 2021

Signed..... Chair

Date.....

opportunities for them. It had been amazing and greatly appreciated.

MS reported he was looking forward to the sleepover, due to take place on Thursday 22nd July.

Hopefully in the new academic year parents will be able to once again come back into the schools, but this will be guided by government.

MS had accompanied the children from Chillerton & Rookley on their trip to Legoland and it had been great fun.

KM wanted to thank MS and staff for taking and looking after the children, as a parent there had been anxiety to send her child to the mainland, but he had been well taken care of and giving them a great time.

DB wanted to thank MS and the team for going above and beyond for the children, so they did not miss out.

The SIP had been completed before the inspection, but will now be adapted with a big focus on Phonics.

MS would like governors to follow up on the Phonics focus.

Timetables for September are being prepared with cover across both schools. Godshill will two apprentice TA, one had been with the school since April and is very good. The second will be joining the team in September.

KB had been to Chillerton & Rookley to see the YR5's and will be supporting them in September.

Challenge

Q. Will Ofsted want to see YR6, Reception and YR1 at Godshill if Chilleton & Rookley are inspected?

A. Yes they would as they are on role at Chillerton & Rookley.

MS had been informed that Ofsted are currently four terms behind, so Chillerton & Rookley may escape.

Challenge

Q. Why are Reception, YR1 and YR6 at Godshill?

A. There are not enough children in each of these classes and it will help the year 6 children in the lead up to SAT's and the resources needed. There had only been one application for Reception at Chillerton & Rookley and only one child in YR1. No other children had applied. A decision had to be made for them to have the right education.

Challenge

Q. With the school being open another year, could children who have previously left be returned to Chillerton & Rookley.

A. Most of the children had moved school well before there had been a threat of closure took place. Heads cannot influence parental choice and it is up to the parent where they send their children. It is a challenge.

The LA would be meeting with Governors in the summer holidays.

SEND report

NS mentioned that she been in to meet with LW, the SENDCO, who is doing a fantastic job, but there were concerns around complex needs and the budget.

Send to go onto the agenda.

NG to talk to DG/LW regarding sensory help and agencies to work in the schools and supporting families. An open day would be good to enable parents to talk to professionals on an informal basis. NS would be happy to attend such an open day in her role on the Youth Offending team.

It was reported that Barton had been chosen as one of the Hub team

10 School Improvement Plan:

Discussed in Item 9.

11 Governor Matters:

- a) MS, DB and Brian Pope, education officer, had met with Councillor Andre, via a virtual meeting. Councillor Andre had not met or spoken to Governors since taking up her appointment. Councillor Andre had sent a letter to DB and wanted to pass on her apologies to Governors and staff. DB read out the letter of apology to those present. Her words and actions had been leaked

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24th November 2021

Signed..... Chair

Date.....

PS left
the
meetin
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6:30pm

Action

to the press and she agreed that it had been unacceptable. The Governors were informed at 4.35pm on the 21st May 2021. Prior to this a letter had already been sent out to parents, Governors were not aware at this point that the consultation had been halted. Councillor Andre assured Governors that she had now been briefed and had commissioned a report on Chillerton & Rookley Primary School, which will help inform decisions by council. The meeting was necessary and to receive an apology. The local councillor Suzie Ellis is up to date with the process. MS felt that Councillor Andre would be working together now with transparency and honesty, and was glad for the apology, with future news being released properly. CT was also glad regarding the apology and felt it had been unusual to have them admit they were in the wrong and was hopeful with a new relationship with her. The class structure for 2021/2022 had been sent to parents at Chillerton & Rookley and Godshill. **Challenge Q. Has an indication been given to a timetable or next steps?** A. No nothing has been given, politics seem to be slow and the Governors will find out when it is convenient to the Council.

- b) A Safeguarding visit had been undertaken.
- c) Nothing to report under this item.
- d) National college Course undertaken by DB. KCSIE 2021 training – there are changes to the paper and the Governors role has more responsibility in ensuring staff are reading the right guidance. DB, PS and NS also attended the Strategic Leadership & Planning course. New Governor Induction training, by NG and KM.
- e) Nothing to report under this item.
- f) Nothing to report under this item.
- g) There will be a full Health & Safety check in October 2021 and an action plan will follow this.
- h) Safeguarding-a SCR check was undertaken by KG and DB, this takes place every half term. There will be new staff to check in September.

12 Policies for Review:

The following policies were presented to the meeting:

- o Admission Policy
- o Domestic Abuse Policy (LA)
- o Elective Home Education Policy (LA)
- o Flexible Working Policy (LA)
- o Governor Visit Policy
- o Guidelines for Trans Employees Policy (LA)
- o Work Place Wellbeing Policy (LA)

LM and DB to arrange a meeting to discuss aligning policies with monitoring roles from September.

There was one amendment to the Domestic Abuse Policy, to remove Wroxall logo, these were then agreed by Governors proposed by NJ and seconded by KG.

Action

13 Correspondence:

There was no correspondence to report.

14 Impact of the meeting

DB. Following the Ofsted judgement there is evidence and validation of improvement by staff, leaders, pupils and Governors, who have all worked extremely hard. Thanks to all for the challenges and support in both schools.

Plants had been sent as a thank you from all the Governors to the previous clerk and Governor A Creed.

15 Date of the Next Meeting:

5:30pm Wednesday, 29th September 2021

KG offered to mentor both NG and KM. NJ offered to meet with NG and KM to discuss finances. KG asked if they could send details over Whatsapp.

Governors was glad that there would now be a full complement of Governors.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.10pm.

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