

Chesterton Community College
Minutes of the Full Governing Body FGB Meeting
11th May 2016

Present: Simon Peyton Jones (SPJ) (Chair), Helen Arnold, Michaela Eschbach, Lucy Lewis, Shelly Lockwood, Roger Mann, Oonagh Monkhouse, Eva Pepper, Peter Rodgers, Mary Sanders, Masum Shaikh, Luke Tumner, Jim Warwick, Jo Borroughes, Kath Hutchinson, Colleen Lehane, Lucy Scott (LS) (Head), Clare Hargraves (CH), Mark Little (ML), Rolf Purvis, Tom Spencer, Peter Watts and Donna Young.

This meeting was quorate 17 Governors out of 18 present. Quorum is a minimum of 9 Governors.

SPJ welcomed Graham Burns (GB) from Stoneking to the meeting.

1. **Multi Academy Trust:** Graham Burns went through the Articles of Association of Cambridgeshire Educational Trust which had been sent to Governors in advance of the meeting. GB fed back in lengthy detail the structure process and what processes are involved to become a MAT. Governors challenged and questioned GB throughout the discussion to which GB responded to give a more detailed understanding of what was being asked. After an in-depth discussion, Governors felt that they fully understood what was being shared with them the committee all agreed and approved the principal of the structure. SPJ thanked GB for attending. LS asked Governors to let her know of any further information that they feel they would like passed on to GB.
1. **Apologies:** Shahida Rahman
2. **Declaration of Interests:** Eva Pepper declared that she was a trustee of the Cambridge Youth Opera.
3. **Declaration of Business Interests:** None.
4. **Minutes of the last Meeting (10.02.15):** These were agreed and signed as a true record by the chair.

5. **Matters arising:** ML sent round safeguarding letter to parents. KH to send out glossary of Terms and Acronyms and Staff Governors before next FGB meeting. All other actions were completed.
6. **Policies for Ratification: Medical Needs Policy** – This was agreed by the committee.
7. **School Budget and Restructuring**

SPJ gave the committee an update on the restructuring process and where we are in the process so far. Simon added that this had been a very difficult process and he felt that it had been handled in a very sensitive way. The committee recognised that this would be difficult going forward but added that it's about being creative with fewer people.

ML gave a budget update outlining the key areas to Governors. Currently we are showing a deficit of £144k. ML went on to explain how we are going to try and overcome this current deficit and what plans are in place to help us achieve it. One option going forward is to delay some projects at the sports centre, this was spoke about in great depth at both the Resources and Sports Centre committee meeting to which all parties were in agreement. It was agreed that projects would just be delayed and phased in and by no means stopped altogether. Governors added how they recognise how valuable the Sports Centre is to the school.

Governors questioned ML as to why we are in such deep deficit. ML responded and stated that it was due to a variety factors including: the Language Schools are no longer using our premises which is losing us £55k; and payroll costs, especially impact of maternity cover, and early appointment of NQTs costing in the region of £40k.

SPJ added that going forward we should consider keeping a contingency reserve of, for example, £55K, so that we are less vulnerable to unforeseen changes during the year. JW added that this has been done through consultation with our auditors. ML said that the situation has been managed appropriately.

8. **Safeguarding Report:** This will added to the next agenda for Shahida to feed back to the committee.

Clerk to add to next agenda.

9. **Head Teachers Report:** The Head Teachers report was circulated to governors in advance of the meeting. The areas that were covered were Restructuring, Year 11 Preparation, Life after Levels, High Performance Learning and the MAT process.

LS also added that ML had resigned as Director of Finance and Resources and that he will be with us for one day a week on a consultancy basis. New appointment Martin Russell will start with us at the end of May. LS thanked Mark for all his hard work.

10. **Ofsted Update:** LS fed back to the committee regarding the latest visit from Dane Joan McVitie, who leads the Cambridgeshire School Improvement Board and Rosemary Prince who works for the Regional Schools Commissioner. This was a very positive visit, which involved a tour of the school and meeting with some students. Both visitors were very impressed with what they saw at Chesterton.

11. **Pupil Premium Update:** It was discussed that CH could provide some Data workshop training session for Governors so that they have a clearer understanding of how the system works. Governors seemed really positive about this and discussed the possibility of maybe a workshop before FGB meeting.

Action: CH to look into providing a workshop and arrange a date.

12. **AOB**

Jim Warwick was appointed by the committee to become a Member of the Academy.

Governors discussed the naming of the future MAT to which after some discussion decided on the name Cambridgeshire Educational Trust. The committee were all in agreement.

SPJ thanked ML for all his hard work.

This meeting closed at 9.40pm.