

Bridgemere CE Primary School
Governing Board EGM, Thursday 27 September 2018

Present: Mrs Bev Dolman, Mrs Emily Verow, (Chair) Mrs Sam Foyle, Mrs Kathy Percival, Mrs Sarah Willington, Rev. Rachael Griffiths.

Apologies: Mrs Elizabeth Ford, Mrs Jan Morgan Mr Richard Lewis.

The meeting opened with a prayer.

Mrs Dolman informed the board that Andy Hodgkinson has resigned.

1 Update on Academisation

The Chair informed the board that Members of RLLAT, Mrs Dolman and herself had met with Chris Penn, and the Diocesan Board of Education to put forward the application for the school to join the MAT.

The Diocese were very thorough in their questioning, and Chris Penn conveyed his thanks for all the hard work towards the successful outcome of the OFSTED Inspection.

The unofficial outcome is very positive, and the DBE will be meeting to endorse the application shortly, but the MAT will need to show that they can fully preserve the Christian Character of the School. This will need to be reflected in the constitution of the Bridgemere AC, which will require a majority foundation membership. It was stated that this application is exceptional, so it will not set a precedent.

The application will be ratified when the Diocesan Board of Education Meet on the 5 November.

Mrs Dolman has consulted local stakeholders and had a very positive response from Lady Rona Delves Broughton. Mrs Dolman and Mrs Verow also met with the Parish Council, who have also expressed a positive response.

Action: Mrs Dolman can now go ahead with a formal consultation with the parents.

2 Structure

Minority papers will attempt to uphold the Christian Characteristics of the School, and the Diocesan Board of Director, Chris Penn will be a Founding Member of RLLAT, so the Diocese will continue to have an interest. Two of Bridgemere's governors, Mr Richard Lewis and Mrs Emily Verow will move onto the Board of Directors.

The board examined the TORs and Structure of the MAT, which are still at the consultation stage, and it was agreed to make some adjustments before submitting them to the FGB at the next meeting.

The scheme of delegation was accepted with a few minor amendments. It was provisionally agreed that one less foundation governor on the Bridgemere AT would still provide a majority, with a total membership of seven members: 4 foundation, 1 Staff, 1 Parent, and Head of School.

Action: Bev Dolman will amend the constitution, and revised papers will be submitted at the next FGB.

3 Committee Structures and Governing body Roles

These documents are still open for discussion but have been approved by the governors in principle, to carry forward to FGB for approval.

Action: As he is no longer a parent at the school, it was agreed that the Chair will speak with Paul Whitehouse to discuss his future representation on the board.

Link Governors, and the committee structures will need examination, and will be considered at the next FGB.

3a Working Party

Mrs Dolman asked for a volunteer to liaise with RLLAT as a small working party. Rev Rachael Griffith agreed to do this.

4 School Development Plan/Latest Data

It was agreed to carry these over for discussion at the FGB.

5 Any Other Business

Bev Dolman reported that a tree at the front of the school is unsafe and will need to be felled. The board agreed to the costs, £1200. It was suggested that chippings could be recycled at school and the wood sold to raise funds.

Sports. The company that supplied this has been cancelled, due to personnel issues. Bev Dolman has booked North West Sports, for this term, but the board will need to follow up a new provider for next time. After half term, the school will move to indoor activities during the day with members of staff.

Other action needed:

The Chair has forms to sign.

The Board will need a governing body plan, Bev Dolman to liaise with Elizabeth Ford.

The board will need to revisit the Governor Code of Conduct, and it was pointed out the parents must put any issues in writing, rather than approaching a governor directly. This to go on the next FGB Agenda.