



'Learning to love God, one another and ourselves'
Governing Board of Bembridge CE Primary School
Meeting held on Friday 24 May 2019 at 3.30 pm
Held at Bembridge CE Primary School

Attendees

Alan Morris (Chair)	Co-opted Governor
Sandra Grocock	Headteacher
Amanda Bloor	Ex-Officio Governor
Clemma Yardley	Staff Governor
Sarika Braithwaite	Parent Governor
Mike Gidley	Foundation Governor
Anna Wood	Foundation Governor
Deb Abell	Clerk to Governors
Steve Reading	School Business Manager

1. Apologies Accepted

Gordon Kendall	Co-opted Governor
Pauline Stirling	Co-opted governor
Jo Seward	Parent Governor

1b Pecuniary Interests

No pecuniary interests were disclosed for this meeting.

2 Finance

The chair apologised that the main meeting had been cancelled at short notice and thanked governors for attending the meeting to agree the budget.

Finance papers had been circulated and governors were asked if they had any questions for the School Business Manager (SBM).

Governor raised that there had been some movement in the budget over the year and asked for reassurance that this was not likely to happen this year as there was even less room for error. SBM felt that this was less likely as there was a better understanding throughout the school of the financial pressures with better controls on spending. There is better management of supply teaching with the use of teaching assistants when it is appropriate.

Headteacher pointed out there is bound to be some unexpected expenditure and gave as an example the setting up of the beach school.

Governor queried that the MSA budget was £6k overspent and photocopying £5k over budget. SBM advised that the photocopying was a ledger code issue and included administrative supplies. In respect of MSAs this also included the staff used in the After School Club. There was initially no commitment in the budget for the After School Club as it had been expected the pre-school would be running this.

Two teaching assistants had left and savings had been made by not recruiting replacements. This has created additional pressures when additional individual support has been needed

within the classroom. Whilst employing sufficient and good staff has always been a priority of the governing board, if any further TAs leave, it will still be necessary to consider how or if they are replaced. The chair and vice-chair have briefed the staff on the school's financial situation and they were very receptive.

It is known there is due to be an education spending review in the autumn and, as it is known that this is a national problem for schools, it is hoped that additional funding will be available to relieve the pressure. On the Island there is the problem of falling rolls and particular pressure on smaller schools with arrangements being made to amalgamate schools in the West Wight.

The PTA has been very successful in raising funds via cake sales and a discussion took place on opportunities for some of this money to be used in a different way to support the school as a whole. It was not thought that many parents are aware of the financial pressures on the school.

£1500 has been raised since the school has started charging for after school clubs with no objections raised by any parents. Schools have an obligation to offer wraparound care and providing this can make a difference between parents choosing whether or not to send their children to a school. It was therefore felt important to offer this for another year.

The budget will be further reviewed at the end of September.

It was proposed by Amanda Bloor and seconded by Anna Wood that the budget be accepted and submitted to the Local Authority. This was carried unanimously.

The energy contracts will shortly be due for renewal and the SBM will be looking at getting the best value for money from these contracts.

There is a substantial amount of capital funding which needs to be spent by the beginning of August. There has been an on-going problem with some of the classrooms being extremely hot and various ideas have been considered to rectify this. It was agreed that some of the available capital should be spent on automatic roof vent openers and for special paint to reduce the heat going into the classrooms.

3. Safeguarding Audit

The safeguarding governor has been involved with the safeguarding audit and the action plan. This has now been submitted to the Local Safeguarding Children Board. An independent safeguarding audit is to be carried out and will involve parents, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy DSL, Administrators and the caretaker. This may mean there will be further actions coming from this.

Governor asked about DASH forms and Headteacher advised that these tended to be more prevalent in high schools.

Safer recruitment will be considered at the next FGB.

It was agreed that the Safeguarding Audit be accepted – proposed Alan Morris and seconded by Sarika Braithwaite.

11 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 1 July – 3.30 pm

GOVERNOR MEETING DATES FOR 2019/20	
Autumn Term	Tuesday 3 September – Friday 20 December (1/9/19– Staff only)
1st Governors’ Meeting	Monday 14 October 2019 (Executive – Monday 30 September)
Half Term	Monday 21 October – Friday 1 November
2nd Governors’ Meeting	Monday 25 November 2019 (Executive – Monday 11 November 2019)
Spring Term	Monday 6 January 2020 – Friday 3 April 2020
3rd Governors’ Meeting	Monday 3 February 2020 (Executive – Monday 20 January 2020)
Half Term	Monday 17 February 2020– Friday 21 February 2020
4th Governors’ Meeting	Monday 16 March 2020 (Executive – Monday 2 March 2020)
Summer Term	Monday 20 April – Tuesday 23 July 2020
5th Governors’ meeting	Monday 11 May 2020 (budget agreement) (Executive – 27 April 2020)
Half Term	Monday 25 May 2020 – Friday 29 May 2020 (Bank Holiday Monday 4 May)
6th Governors’ meeting	Monday 29 June 2020 (Executive – Monday 15 June 2020)