

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GOVERNORS OF MOULTON SCHOOL
HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2009 AT 7.00 PM**

PRESENT: Mr G Otley (Chair), Mrs A Jeffrey (Vice-Chair), Messrs S Barrick, R Chapman, Mrs A Dabbs, Messrs, J Hancock, M Henderson, R Hollis, T Jones, Ms R Lucas, Mrs F Polnyj, Mr S Uden.

41/09 APOLOGIES

Ms J Brake, Cllr D Cribbin, Mrs L Proctor, Cllr Mrs J Shephard, Dr M Walley.

42/09 NOTIFICATION OF AOB

None.

43/09 DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS

None.

44/09 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 5 NOVEMBER

The minutes were approved.

45/09 MATTERS ARISING

None.

46/09 INSPECTION REPORT

This had been previously circulated to governors.

Mr Jones said that he saw the report as a very positive endorsement of the work done over the last two years and that the school is moving forward. He felt that the report was fair and gave an accurate picture of where the school is at the present time.

He dealt with the issues raised, explained the changes since 2007 and answered questions. He also emphasised that the school needs to improve the quality of teaching and learning and that staff now want to move on. Mr Jones hoped that the school would be classified as 'good' in three years time.

Mr Otley expressed his disappointment that the Governing Body had been assessed as 'satisfactory'. Governors have an important role to play and he wondered how they could help to raise standards. He felt that the governor programme of monitoring and evaluation should help and that governors need to engage more frequently with the school during the school day.

47/09 SIP ANNUAL REVIEW AND TARGET SETTING MEETING

This report had been previously circulated and Mr Otley drew governors' attention to Section 10 – Statutory Targets.

48/09 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum

Mrs Jeffrey reported on the meeting of 11 November.

Items included - terms of reference; student voice review and action plan; community cohesion action plan; policy reviews of teaching and learning, marking and SMSC; SEF and curriculum developments.

Mr Jones explained in more detail the possible removal of the compulsory element of languages in the curriculum, changes to the structure of the working day and the possibility of commencing GCSE courses in Year 9.

Finance

Ms Lucas reported on the meeting of 25 November.

Items included – terms of reference; financial summary and virements; aged debtor report; consistent financial reporting; LSC audit of sixth form data; policies; reports on the MSC user group and health and safety committee; financial benchmarking; three year financial planning; educational visits; transfer of deeds following foundation status.

Ms Lucas reported that there could be an overspend of £80,000 on salaries and Mr Jones explained why this may happen.

A virement of £30,991 was approved.

Photography Policy – approved.

Governing Body Financial Delegation Decision Planner – approved.

Governing Body Delegation Decision Planner – approved.

Countywide hot meals service – Mr Jones had received a letter informing him that refurbishment of the kitchens would not now take place until summer 2012. Mr Jones said that he would need to contact the LA because, at present, no facilities were in place to supply school meals from September 2010 and Moulton may need to retain T(n)S.

Governors agreed that, unless the LA guaranteed that refurbishment would take place in 2010, the school would remain with the current caterers.

Pay Policy

Mr Otley reported on the meeting of 18 November.

This had covered - terms of reference; performance management, pay policy and pay progression.

A governors' committee had conducted the performance management review of the headteacher, had agreed that objectives had been met and had recommended that Mr Jones should progress to the next incremental point. This decision was approved by the full governing body.

Science College

Mr Otley also reported on the meeting of 21 October.

This had covered – reviews of science, maths, school plan and community plan 2008-09; Science College SSAT audit, three year plan 2009-12.

It was pointed out that the decision on re-designation would now be taken by the school's School Improvement Partner. Mr Jones felt that this was a significant downgrading of the process, but would be advantageous to the school.

Staff and Students

Mr Chapman reported on the meeting of 2 November.

Items covered – provision of school nursing service; policy reviews of behaviour for learning, child protection procedures and anti bullying; SEF; reports on exclusions and attendance which had been graded as 'good'.

The three policies were adopted by the full governing body.

Mr Jones explained a Year 9 student had been permanently excluded following a meeting of the governors' discipline committee which neither the parents nor the student had attended. The parents had subsequently appealed and the school's decision had been overturned. However, the student would not be returning to the school.

Mr Jones pointed out that there were lessons to be learned from this and all governors should receive exclusion training including the headteacher and senior staff.

The LA could run an in-house session at a cost of £250 and it was agreed to arrange this for an evening during the spring term.

The school has a service level agreement with the LA and Mr Otley urged governors to take up any available training.

49/09 AUDITED ACCOUNTS – for information

School Fund

Moulton School Services

Moulton School Trust

50/09 INDIVIDUAL GOVERNOR ROLES

These were confirmed and copy would be sent to Governor Services.

51/09 COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

This had been previously circulated to governors.

Mr Hollis felt that the school should adopt a broad approach and recommended one or two amendments to the policy.

Aims

Delete ‘To allow an experience of the “sacred” and an awareness of the presence of God.’

Delete ‘Provide shared experiences of worship in singing, prayer and stillness.’

Legal Status of Collective Worship

Re-phrase points 1 and 2 to reflect a broader approach.

The policy was approved with these amendments.

52/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 25 March 2010 at 7.00 pm.

Thursday, 29 April 2010 at 7.00 pm – Exclusion training for all governors.