

Gilmorton Chandler C of E (Aided) Primary School

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Governing Body held at the school on 9 December 2014 at 6.05pm.

PRESENT

Mrs H Christie (Chair)	Mrs M Sandford (Headteacher)
Mr A Shields	Dr L Gillies
Revd E Davies	Mr J Bone
Mrs K Morgan	Mrs D Hone
Mrs D Moore	Mr N Robbins
Mrs J Smith	

In attendance: Kaylee Crumbie (Clear and Lane), Gordon Grimes (Clerk to Governors).

1	Welcome and Prayer Rev Emma Davies opened the meeting in prayer.	
2	Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Mr G Read and Mrs S Baigent. Mrs K Campbell had sent her apologies and also has resigned from the Governing Body as a Parent Governor.	
3	Declarations of Interests re agenda items Governors were asked to make a declaration of any personal interests in any of the items that were on the agenda for discussion. There were no interests declared.	
4	Academy Accounts 2013/14 Ms Crumbie issued a copy of the annual report and financial statements for the period from 22 May 2013 to 31 August 2014 to all Governors. These were the first set of accounts for the academy and had been discussed in detail at the Business Management Committee meeting. The trustees' report was on pages 2 to 7 of the document and Ms Crumbie drew Governors' attention to page 6 of the report relating to the reserves policy which was set at £35,000 being 4.3% of the total budget. It was normal for the reserve to be set at between 5% and 10% and it was anticipated that the reserve would increase in the future. Dr Gillies joined the meeting at 6.15pm. The governance statement was on pages 8 to 10, the regularity,	Copy filed herewith

	<p>propriety and compliance statement was on page 11 and the trustees responsibilities statement was on page 12 and there were no issues arising from these statements.</p> <p>Ms Crumbie outlined the details of the auditors' report and financial statements as shown on pages 13 to 19 and fully discussed the notes to the accounts on pages 20 to 33 with Governors. Details of the pension deficit were discussed and posed no risk to the school.</p> <p>The balance sheet on page 18 was fully explained to Governors and had been closely examined by members of the Business Management Committee.</p> <p>Governors agreed the accounts and these were signed by the Chair of Governors and Headteacher.</p> <p>The management letter issued by the auditors was circulated to Governors and the 7 items detailed on the appendix of weakness were fully discussed.</p> <p>Mrs Moore joined the meeting at 6.30pm.</p> <p>The auditor's recommendation were agreed and action being taken to address the issues raised was noted. The Governors will monitor progress and get regular updates.</p> <p>Governors thanked Ms Crumbie for her attendance and input at the meeting.</p> <p>Ms Crumbie left the meeting at 6.40pm.</p>	<p>Copy filed herewith</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>School Status</p> <p>The Chair outlined action currently being taken to safeguard the future of the school. The possibility of forming a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) was being explored. The vision was for a MAT with Gilmorton at the centre and creating an outstanding group of schools. This would ensure financial sustainability and let the school have control over their own destiny. The creation of a MAT would lead to financial economies of scale.</p> <p>Mrs Moore left the meeting and Mrs Morgan joined the meeting at 6.45pm.</p> <p>A meeting of local schools had taken place on 5 November 2014 and there was positive interest in forming a MAT. The other schools present at the meeting were North Kilworth, South Kilworth, Ullesthorpe and Bitteswell. There were also other schools interested who were not at the meeting. The Diocese would wish any MAT to be formed under aided articles of association.</p>	

	<p>An application for a grant to cover conversion costs would need to be agreed by Governors. The grant would be for £100,000 plus an additional £10,000 for each school in the MAT up to a limit of 5, giving a potential grant of £150,000. There would be no legally binding compulsion to proceed until the funding agreement with the EFA was signed.</p> <p>Having fully discussed all of the implications, Governors agreed to explore the process of setting up a MAT and to report back to the other schools who were also consulting their Governing Bodies. Governors gave the Headteacher authority to apply for the conversion grant.</p> <p>The Headteacher at Ullesthorpe primary school is retiring shortly and the school is in need of support. Ullesthorpe are very keen to join the prospective MAT and it had been proposed that Mrs Sandford should become Headteacher at Ullesthorpe as well as Gilmorton, initially on a temporary basis for 2 days a week from September 2015.</p> <p>Mrs Moore re-joined the meeting at 7.10pm.</p> <p>Governors fully discussed the proposal and also discussed the practical arrangements relating to cover at Gilmorton and also discussed the financial arrangements. Governors agreed the proposal that Mrs Sandford would be Headteacher at Ullesthorpe on a temporary basis for one year from September 2015. This would be dependent on the outcome of the discussions regarding the setting up of the MAT. Gilmorton will receive additional funding for this temporary appointment.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2014 were confirmed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Headteacher's Report</p> <p>The Headteacher's comprehensive report had previously been circulated to all Governors.</p> <p>The Headteacher highlighted the following additional points:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency temporary funding had now been increased to 20 hours for a looked after child who required full time support. • The Headteacher was supporting another school with leadership issues following a request from the local authority 	

	and diocese. Governors recorded their thanks to the Headteacher for her report and for the excellent work being undertaken in the school.	
9	Date and time of next meeting Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 7pm.	

The Annual General Meeting of the Academy Trust was scheduled to start at 7.30pm and it was agreed that the remainder of the business would be conducted by correspondence. The chair therefore closed the meeting at 7.30pm.

Signed _____ Chair of Governors

Date _____