



Worcestershire County Council

The Governing Body of Pebworth & Blackminster Schools Federation

Full Governing Board (FGB) – 17 April 2023 Minutes

Attendees

Governors: Phil Jones (PJ) - Chair, Anne Jones (AJ), Linda McQuone (LMc), Dan Rimell (DR) and Nicky Lannine (NL)

Business Manager - Fiona Bolton (FB)

Clerk – Janet Ellis (JE)

1. Welcome / Apologies / Declarations of interest

PJ opened the meeting and welcomed the new Parent Governor Nicky Lannine. He then stated that an Extraordinary meeting of the Resources committee (XRC) will take this evening to sign off the 2023/24 budgets and as the FGB meeting was not quorate no decisions would be made by FGB, which meant the Behaviour Policy would be deferred to the next FGB meeting.

Apologies from Lorna Button (accepted), Elizabeth Spencer (accepted), David Stokes (accepted), Neil Champs (accepted), and Elena De Paris (accepted). No apologies received from Izabela Cooper; PJ agreed to speak with Mrs Cooper regarding this matter.

No declarations of interest were stated.

Action

PJ Speak to Mrs Cooper re attendance at FGB

End April

2. Confirmation of minutes

2.1 The normal and confidential minutes from the FGB meeting on 9th March 2023 were confirmed and signed by PJ as Chair.

2.2 Matters arising from minutes

Normal minutes

Parent Governor – vacancy filled

Ofsted training – taking place on Wednesday 19 April from 5-7pm in the meeting room.

Information on the wider curriculum – c/fwd to June FGB Heads Report.

School resource management advisers programme – FB confirmed that the final report had been issued to the school and there were no major changes to the draft report.

Schools Financial Value Standard – FB noted this had been submitted by the deadline and PJ commented that he had completed further investigation regarding third party transactions due to his wife tutoring at Blackminster (BMS) and stated that he had scripted an appendix to the Finance Policy as a result.

FGB – the next meeting was changed to 15th June at 5pm as PJ was unable to now make the 22 June date.

Length of school day at BMS – the FGB noted the varied comments and opinions received from stakeholders and PJ asked if the school were confident all concerns had been addressed as they did not want to lose any pupils as a result of any change. NL noted that there appeared to be strong feelings from parents especially regarding the decrease in social time and pupils possibly skipping lunch if the proposed change was implemented.

LMc commented that concerns regarding buses, lunchtime clubs and canteen services could all be addressed but there would be a decrease in social time if the change went ahead; she agreed to discuss the concerns from FGB with the senior leadership team, so that a decision could be made at the next FGB meeting.

DR noted his concern with losing pupils but also stated that he had seen a successful reduction of a lunchtime to 50 minutes and not impact pupil numbers.

Confidential minutes

Items on the agenda as a result of Matters Arising.

Actions

LMc	Length of school day at BMS – discuss with SLT	April
LMc	Include info re wider curriculum on Heads report	8 June
JE	Length of school day at BMS item on 15 June FGB agenda	Complete

3. Sunflowers Nursery

See confidential minutes

4. De-brief from Local Authority meeting

See confidential minutes

5. Budget 23/24

See Extraordinary Resource Committee minutes

6. Chromebook proposal

PJ thanked FB for all her hard work on the new ICT strategy which had been produced, noting this scheduled a Chromebook roll-out in September 2024 and a focus on infrastructure until then. DR stated that there may be substantial grants available to help with infrastructure projects and agreed to forward details to FB. FB reassured the FGB that the 23/24 budget included the information from the ICT strategy paper.

Action

DR	Forward infrastructure grant details to FB	April
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7. School Development Plans (SDP's)

There were no further comments on these since the March FGB meeting.

8. Special Educational Needs and disability (SENd) update

LMc noted that the school were advertising for a new SENd co-ordinator to work across the Federation and interviews were currently being scheduled; she agreed to send details of the interviews to JE so Governors could volunteer to attend these interviews (and those for a new teacher).

Actions

LMc	Forward interview details to JE	April
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9. Behaviour policy

Deferred to 15 June FGB meeting.

10. Parent questionnaire

The FGB discussed the previously issued results and no immediate queries were raised.

11. Visits

FGB discussed the date for the next visit focus week and w.c 22 May was decided, PJ urged Governors to liaise with LMc to plan their visits which would be focussed on 'Meeting the needs of SENd and vulnerable pupils', which featured heavily in the SDP's of both schools.

Action

FGB Organise Summer visits for w.c 22 May

ASAP

12. Pebworth – proposal to alter length of school day

FGB discussed the likely national requirement to lengthen the school day and agreed that Pebworth could begin the 'consultation' process with stakeholders.

Action

LMc Inform Mr Champs of this outcome

19 April

13. AOB

PJ asked NL which committee she may like to join and it was agreed she would attend the Performance committee meetings.

Next meetings

Performance committee - Thursday 11 May at 4pm

Resources committee - Thursday 11 May at 5.15pm

Pay Committee (AJ/PJ/DR) – Thursday 15 June at 4.30pm

FGB – Thursday 15 June at 5pm