

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE, RESOURCES AND STAFFING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2021; COMMENCING AT 5.15 P.M. AT WHITESTONE INFANT SCHOOL, MAGYAR CRESCENT, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

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Present : Mrs. N. Green, Mr. C. Atkins, Mr. M. Hartopp, Mr. P. Johnson, Mr. D. Robinson, Mrs. P. Jones, Mrs. R. Warwick, Mr. P. Stokes, Mrs. F. Chadaway, Dr. S. Hill and Mrs. M. Burdett.

In Attendance : Miss. J. Ivers (Deputy Head), Mrs. L. Knox (School Business Manager), and Miss. G. Matt (Clerk).

In The Chair – Mr. P. Johnson.

1. Welcome and Apologies.

The Chair, Mr. Johnson welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new governors.

The governors stood for a minutes silence in remembrance of Arthur, a six-year-old boy abused and killed by his parents, although the Safeguarding case was with the Social Services. Arthur, rest in peace.

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr. S. Shaw.

2. Election of Chair.

In the Chair – The Clerk.

Mr. Johnson, proposed by Mr. Hartopp, seconded by Mr. Atkins and agreed by the governors. There being no further nominations, Mr. Johnson was elected to chair the FRS committee for the academic year 2021/2022.

In the Chair – Mr. Johnson.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were read, agreed and signed by the chair.

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were amended to read “Item No. 6 - 2020/2021 current annual balance £3,925 and carry forward £79,329” and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were read, agreed and signed by the chair.

There were no matters arising that would not be raised later in the meeting.

4. Declaration of Interest.

Mr. Atkins declared an interest in items relating to Chetwynd Junior School, Etone College and the NGA.

Mr. Johnson declared an interest in items relating to Stockingford Academy and Nursery Hill Primary School.

Mrs. Burdett declared an interested in items relating to Holy Spirit MAT.

At this point Mrs. Warwick entered the meeting at 5.30 p.m.

#### 5. Finance Officers Report.

Summary Financial Officer Report To Governors Autumn Term dated 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 had been previously circulated. Copy with original minutes.

Pupil Premium funding is now based on 35 pupils and not 26 pupils as previously calculated. Funding for these extra 9 pupils would be received later.

There are four vacant pupil places at Whitestone.

A TA is supporting a pupil 1:1 with an EHCP package; some of the cost has been met from additional high level needs block funding, the amount is yet to be confirmed.

The staff pay increase awards are included in this report.

The Covid Recovery Grant remains unknown; this would be received in the Spring term 2022.

PE and Sports Premium Grant for 2021/2022 is £17,790 and part of this funding would be spent on a castle, an item of PE equipment.

Staff have received training in PE development, including gymnastics. Covid has had an impact on pupil's fitness. PE gives pupils confidence, team working and communicating skills. Whitestone runs school holiday clubs. Sport competitions take place within classes. Whitestone has held a Football Festival (pre Covid).

The purchase of the castle at £20,000 is going ahead. The "Friends of Whitestone" this year have given £5,000 towards its purchase and another £5,000 will follow in 2022.

**Governors thanked FOW for their generous donation toward the castle purchase.**

**Governors stated that this money would be spent on the present Whitestone pupils to give them opportunities throughout the school to enrich their education.**

Mrs. Green reported that it was collaboration time for all pupils and that she would report back.

The pirate ship purchased thirteen years ago, worked out at spending £17 on each pupil. The top of the pirate ship is in good condition and pupils would be able to use it in another format in planned future activities

**Governors enquired as to the PE baseline assessments this academic year.**

Mrs. Green replied that she did not have the data to hand, but would forward the evidence to governors when available. Pupils undertake baseline assessment at the beginning and end of the academic year to monitor progress.

**A governor stated that there was no PP funding showing for the incoming Reception of £20,000. This would be received later on in this academic year.**

The high increases in future energy costs are unknown. Mrs. Knox had looked into this regarding the budget. However, the energy companies are reluctant to provide any fixed prices and details of the future increased costs. The gas bills are lower than £400 a month.

Mrs. Knox had made further enquires with Cactus Energy regarding the cost of obtaining solar panels, as part of the LA green policy. However, no one at the LA would sign the documents off. It is the decision of the LA, who is the landlord.

**Mr. Johnson offered to take this matter up with the LA.**

The solar panels would be placed on the school's roof and Cactus Energy supplying the solar panels would undertake any maintenance work when requested. Electricity made and not used by Whitestone would be sold back to them.

**6. Current Budget – update.**

£1,752 to replace the canopy in the playground.  
£300 for Single Central Tracker.

**7. Pupil Premium – update.**

The Pupil Premium Statement must now be presented in the DFE format, which Whitestone had undertaken. It is a statutory requirement that this document is on the school's website.

It is a three-year strategy and it is updated every year; it is based on 24 PP pupils, although we have 35 PP pupils.

We must explain the challenges and how the money would be used to overcome these. Intended outcomes to “narrow the gap” and the reasons behind the undertakings. In Writing, RWI (Read, Write, Inc) is used as a support tool as an investment for pupil improvement. We aim to improve school attendance.

**A governor enquired is the funding received every three years.**

Mrs. Green replied that we receive yearly funding.

**Governors enquired would things now be undertaken differently over the next three years than in the past.**

Mrs. Green replied that pupils do not follow a model pattern, each will learn at their own speed and we need to look at individual barriers & identify impactful actions in response.

**Governors discussed how they would talk through this document with Ofsted without giving reference to Covid and whilst showing PP attainment trends. It is consolidated work.**

Mrs. Green reported that pupils would get extra support where required to pass Phonics. National average data to date remains unknown; there have been no national results since 2019. We have undertaken internal moderation in Reception and in Year 2. No external moderation has taken place with other schools, so there is no comparison.

PP Governors Crib Sheet. Budget 2021/2022. Total £49,252. Governors will see impact at meetings and with documents on Governorhub to read for further information, prior to Ofsted Inspection.

**Governors enquired had the abacuses (rekenreks) ordered in summer arrived yet.**

Mrs. Knox replied no, but the order should be at Whitestone within the next week.

8. Sports Premium – update.

Mrs. Green reported that the sports baseline was good in Reception. The target is physical fitness and this is to be included in the lunch club activities. MDS are encouraged to motivate pupils to undertake sports activities at dinnertime.

At playtime, The Welly Walk is undertaken. Overtime, there has been an introduction of new sports, including golf, hockey, archery and curling. Mrs. Green stated the aim is to keep enriching sports for pupils based on Covid Risk assessment.

9. Pay Committee Update.

Mr. Atkins gave an update on the pay committee meeting held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021. This committee meets twice a year. Items discussed teacher’s pay awards. Pay Policy had arrived today. MDS are proving difficult to recruit.

On the recommendation of the pay committee, the governors agreed to the staff threshold pay awards.

**ACTION On the recommendation of the pay committee, the governors agreed to the staff threshold pay awards.**

10. Policies.

Pupil Premium Policy, Charging Policy, Pay Policy and Teachers Pay Awards Policy.

The above policies had been previously circulated.

After a discussion, the governors agreed the above policies that were then signed off and dated by the chair.

**ACTION The governors agreed the Pupil Premium Policy, Charging Policy, Pay Policy and Teachers Pay Award Policy that were then signed off and dated by the chair.**

11. Any Other Business.

The Clerk has emailed the Governor Information from the LA.

At this point Mrs. Green, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Knox left the meeting at 6.30 p.m.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS SEE SEPARATE SHEET.

12. Dates of next meetings.

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022; from 5.30 p.m. until 6.30 p.m.

Date ..... Signed .....

(Chair)