



Black Firs Primary School

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STRATEGY MEETING

at 4.30pm on Thursday, 12th January 2017

Present: Andrew Brown, David Whitewright, Martin Casserley, Daphne Wright, Toby Hassall, Jen Harrison, Roland Domleo, Lee Stone, Alex Thompson (Clerk)

Apologies: Paul Horrocks

Item	Notes	Actions
1.	<p>Apologies, Additional AOB Items & Declaration of Pecuniary Interest</p> <p>AB welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted and accepted by Governors. There were no additional AOB items raised.</p> <p>Governors were asked to declare any pecuniary interest or conflict of interest in connection with the business to be discussed during the meeting. None were declared.</p>	
2.	<p>Previous Minutes & Matters Arising</p> <p>Minutes were approved as an accurate record and seconded.</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refenestration: Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) bid has been re-submitted. Due to hear outcome of application in March. Parking: The majority of parents are adhering to the no-stopping signs. New carpark has received positive feedback, particularly the designated disabled space which is being utilised daily by a parent who has a child in a wheelchair. 	
3.	<p>Termly/Annual Tasks</p> <p>All policies are up-to-date and are accessible via the website. MC asked governors to read a new policy titled 'personal device usage in school' and provide any comments/feedback. After being asked the question, MC confirmed that there is no CmaT policy that addresses this. AB asked AT to email all governors asking them to read the policy and provide feedback/comments by 20.1.17.</p>	<p>AT: Email governors re policy</p>
4.	<p>Review of current 3-5 year plan</p> <p>MC provided an update:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of the new netball court £50k & playground resurfacing £15k. Line marking for artificial pitch will take place once there is an improvement in the weather. Hall refenestration & fire doors – covered earlier in the agenda. Curriculum Development Action Plan for 2016/17 has been uploaded on to SharePoint and provides additional detail. MC asked governors to review the document and provide any comments prior to the next meeting. 	<p>All: Review curriculum development plan prior to April meeting</p>



5.	<p>Review the documentation supplied by CE Council with regard to building development</p> <p>MC shared the information provided to Partnership by Cheshire East and discussed the impact this will have on BFS. All documents are also on SharePoint. MC explained the data provided by the LA was incorrect. They had not taken into account that the school is now 3-11 years, and this therefore needs re-assessing. This has been requested.</p> <p>MC shared that the local authority has stated there is enough space for the school to expand. They have visited the site and identified green space that can be built on. At a recent meeting, MC challenged the planning officer regarding available S106 money but was informed that as the local housing currently being built went to appeal there is no S106 funds available from the development. Governors responded that it wasn't just a land issue but that there has clearly been no consideration to other factors, such as the fact that the current hall cannot accommodate any more pupils. Governors agreed they have a responsibility for the current children at the school the quality of the provision. By increasing numbers this would be diluted therefore they proposed that the maximum pupil number should remain as 315.</p> <p>AT was asked to invite Mark Bayley from CE to the General Purposes Committee meeting on 2nd February. Governors agreed it would be beneficial for Mark to have a site tour and pre-meeting with MC on the same day.</p>	<p>AT: Invite MB to General Purposes on 2.2.16</p>
6.	<p>The Future for Black Firs</p> <p>The group discussed the school and the current situation. MC informed governors that 8 of the primary school Headteachers met on Tuesday to discuss a primary MAT. Half of the schools are ready to commit now and are submitting an application form to the DfE to apply for the growth fund. A further meeting has been arranged for heads & governors on 26th January. MC extended the invite to all governors and asked them to contact him if interested in attending. Browne Jacobson solicitors are also attending as they have extensive experience in different types of MAT conversions. <i>(TH left meeting at 5.55pm).</i></p> <p>MC provided an overview of the impending finance changes and reductions proposed for CE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CE education budget being cut by £11M • Primary school's lump sum cut from £115k to £110k • Large amount of funding being directed to areas of deprivation; CE doesn't have a high level of deprivation • In the first 2 years, the funding will be based 50% on the new formula and 50% on the historical formula • Consultation is open until March and all schools are being encouraged to get involved • CE has formed a primary focus group to discuss the proposed funding formula. They are meeting on Tuesday 17th January. The outcomes of the meeting will be shared with all schools • The impact for BFS is 2.7% cut in the first instance with a possible 10.8% cut by 2020 <p>On a more positive note, MC informed governors that BFS self-generated 27% of the budget last year. However, this is not guaranteed year on year and has always been funding to pay for additional resource etc, not to balance the budget. Governors asked to be kept apprised of the situation following the primary focus group meeting next week.</p> <p>With regards to forward planning governors agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To continue with the rolling refurbishment programme of £3k per teaching area as it is important that children are in an appealing learning environment • To continue with the rolling programme for new screens/technology for as long as it is 	<p>All: Contact MC if you would like to attend MAT mtg on 26.1.17</p> <p>MC: Continue with rolling programmes as directed &</p>

	<p>required and benefits the children. MC confirmed the cost per screen is approximately £2k</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New netball court and resurfacing of the playground. Although procedures have been followed and the cost is less than the amount that requires CmaT approval, governors agreed that MC should inform CmaT out of courtesy and transparency. 	inform CmaT re changes to outdoor areas
6.	<p>AOB None identified. <i>(Meeting ended at 6.25pm)</i></p>	
	<p>Date & Time of Next Meeting The next Strategy Meeting is on 27th April at 4.30pm in the Staff Room.</p>	All: For information

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