

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
WEAVERTHORPE CE (VC) PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Full Governing Body
Tuesday 15th January 2019 at 5pm**

Present: Chair Femi Shellard (FS) Co-opted Governor
Janette Wilkinson (JW) Headteacher
Andy Bowden (AB) Foundation Governor
Trish Lake (TL) Foundation Governor
Tracy Wallace (TW) Parent Governor

In Attendance: Laura Waites (LW) (Clerk)

Apologies: Jono Trowsdale (JT) Co-opted Governor
Nick Carnes (NC) (VC) Parent Governor
Ellie Barker (EB) Staff Governor

Vacant: 1 x LA Governor, 1 x Co-opted governor

Minute	Detail	Action
1.0119	Welcome FS welcomed all to the meeting and gave reminder of strategic core functions. AB opened the meeting with a prayer.	
2.0119	Apologies Apologies were reported from JT (work related); NC (on holiday) and EB (sickness) all accepted. FS advised that JM has sent a letter of resignation due to new work commitments and GB agreed to accept the resignation. FS will send a response. Governors noted that he will be missed as was a valuable voice on the GB.	FS
3.0119	Declaration of interests, pecuniary or non-pecuniary. FS gave a reminder to declare interests; none raised.	
4.0119	Confidential Agenda Items FS gave a reminder of the need for confidentiality; it was agreed that the discussions on R&R be minuted as a confidential item.	
5.0119	Urgent other business None raised.	
6.0119	Minutes of the last meeting The minutes of the last meeting held on 20 November 2018 were agreed and signed by FS including the confidential minutes.	
7.0119	Matters Arising There were no matters from the minutes which were outstanding or not covered on the agenda.	
8.0119	GB Update Current governor vacancies of 1 x LA and 1 x co-opted positions were discussed. It was agreed to continue to speak to NYCC about LA governor availability and to do some publicity for the co-opted vacancies in the school newsletter including a message from FS as the Chair.	FS
9.0119	Head teachers report JW referred to the circulated HT report and highlighted the new school vision and asked GB if they approved it. JW noted that it reflects the school ethos and in the SIAMS inspection there is a check to see if the school vision runs through everything the school does.	

	<p>Q The four key words we have – are they reflected? A Not explicitly but it does reflect them implicitly e.g. thankfulness and friendship forgiveness and endurance. JW went through how the school had ensured the four words were represented in the vision. AB noted that friendship and forgiveness go together well and are from the Greek meaning as two sides of each other. JW reported that the SDP will now be developed to reflect the vision e.g. theological sessions can be linked to the four words and bible stories chosen to reflect them. SIAMs expects some linkages between biblical text and theological discussion. It was agreed that the vision be approved.</p> <p>There was a governor question on the pupil data – regarding some negatives in Y3. Is there anything the GB can do? A The school is looking at SPAG and 3 out of 5 children did not perform well so will be looking at spelling also. Will do more with Y2 to ensure they improve as well Q What about Maths? A JW explained the assessment and how the school does more at certain times but over the year the curriculum expectations are met. This is a better approach for this school. JW went through some of the pupil progress results and the work done with some pupils who had needed more support. Q Y3 stands out as different to the rest? A The rest is positive. However all but 1 are on track it is more positive than last time and the school is picking up issues sooner and addressing them due to better tracking systems. Q Does having fewer children impact the data? A Yes less pupils we have the worse the data looks if a small minority don't progress as well as expected. Q Does this reflect badly on the children who are doing well? A It is not reported nationally if there are less than 10 in a year group. JW noted this school has unusually high numbers of SEN pupils given its size which also impacts on the data.</p> <p>The GB noted that there has been coverage on the news about lack of resources in SEN and also the state of some school buildings. JW gave her experience of the difficulties involved in getting any support and the lengthy process of assessment. The GB discussed how the political situation was affecting education. It was noted that the people making decisions over budgets were not as close to the classroom as they used to be. Governors agreed to write letters of support of the school in getting assessments done for 2 pupils that JW is struggling to find support for. AB will also right in his role on behalf of the Diocese. JW has written to the EYP Director also and will provide FS/AB with some evidence to support the letters. The GB agreed to review further action needed depending on response to the letters.</p> <p>There was a discussion on financial sustainability – confidential minute 9.0119c refers.</p>	ALL
10.0119	<p>School improvement plan / Ofsted actions FS asked if governors had looked at the competency framework part 1 and 2 which are two key areas of GB focus – school improvement and resources.</p>	

	<p>FS went through the key areas of the competency framework for these areas and it was noted that the GB could be more rigorous in review of the data but noted the need to be careful in drilling down too much due to the small size of the cohorts.</p> <p>FR provides financial data and GB needs to consider if it is getting what it needs to be able to make effective decisions. The general feeling was that FR gives the right level of data and the GB has all it needs but all were asked to think if they need anything else.</p> <p>External accountability and strategic leadership were also discussed. For example, does the GB rely too much on the HT and could it contribute more? JW noted it was good to do certain things such as the vision with staff first and then consult governors.</p> <p>JW went through how the vision will be used in the school as a whole school approach. The GB will think about how it can do more collaborative working and support the HT including how they can work with partners and stakeholders.</p> <p>It was agreed that governors read sections 1 and 2 of the competency framework again to see if there was anything else they can do. Future meetings will also consider how the GB can demonstrate using the framework in the work of the GB. It was also agreed that governors attend the next parents evening to promote the role of the governing body and GB involvement.</p>	ALL
11.0119	<p>SEF</p> <p>JW referred to the self-assessment document in which she has rated the school as good overall. Teaching and learning was assessed as outstanding but other areas had been revised to good - for example outcomes were revised to good based on previous year SATs results; the school is anticipating that progress will improve. The nursery area, attendance and some equipment also need to be improved; JW is confident this will reach outstanding once things have been put in place.</p> <p>Q Are you being too harsh in the assessment?</p> <p>A No it is realistic but there are plans in place to improve</p>	
12.0119	<p>Embracing change in rural small schools</p> <p>FS referred to a report circulated with the meeting papers for reading by governors. This gives the Diocese view for rural small schools. Whilst there is less focus on academisation there is still a focus on collaborative use of resources.</p>	
13.0119	<p>Policies</p> <p>The GB considered and approved the following policies: Child Protection policy RRR Policy and timetable</p>	
14.0119	<p>Governor visits</p> <p>AB does regular worship and assembly sessions in school FS has been in to do reading although is less frequent due to other commitments TL continues to come in to do reading and also attended a school visit to the pantomime and reported that the pupil behaviour was outstanding and reflects the emphasis on fairness which the school teaches.</p>	
15.0119	<p>Communications</p> <p>The newsletter is to cover GB vacancies and the role of the GB The warbler to cover GB vacancies for next 2 months</p>	
16.0119	<p>H&S</p> <p>No issues. H&S officer has been to the school and found some minor issues which have been addressed</p>	

17.0119	Governor Training FS gave a reminder to governors to review their training needs. TL looking at the safeguarding training.	ALL TL
18.0119	Governor Monitoring Visits FS and TL continue to do guided reading and AB is in school regularly to do the worship sessions.	
19.0119	Matters agreed for consideration under item 6 above None raised	
20.0119	How has this meeting impacted on the welfare and progress of our pupils? Letters from GB will impact on pupil welfare if / when get some results	
21.0119	Meeting Dates TW/FS/TL/AB to attend parents eventing on 18 February 3.30pm-6.30pm FGB meetings are held on Tuesdays at 5pm and future dates are: 19 th March (FIN), 21 st May (SI), 25 th June (FIN)	TW/FS/ TL/AB
22.0119	Close AB closed meeting with a prayer.	