

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY
HELD AT LINDAL & MARTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
ON MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2008

Present: D Barlow; M Brown; J Dalziel; T Dalziel; S Fleming;
A Postlethwaite; V Smith; S Richards; G White.
C Humphreys (from 7.30pm)

T Dalziel took the Chair.

19. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from A Grace and P Bishop.

20. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 22ND SEPTEMBER 2008

All Governors agreed that they were a true and correct record of the meeting.

21. MATTERS ARISING

3.122. Still no response from Highways Agency regarding road markings outside school (first communications back in May 2007).

54. School Council – Has now been elected.

55.8 With regard to the road markings and speed limits currently outside the school. A letter dated 4th October was read out from Mr Smith (Clerk, Lindal & Marton Parish Council) stating that he was sorry that we had again had to write in connection with road markings outside the school and had been assured by Capita that the matter is “in hand”.

D Barlow stated that “in hand” frankly wasn’t good enough as we had now been waiting since May 2007 for an answer. He said that it is unacceptable that we still have a 30mph speed limit running past the school when some of our neighbouring villages have “swanky” flashing signs alerting motorists of their speed and a majority also have a 20mph speed limit running through villages when they don’t even have a school. He said that enough was enough but would try for one last time to contact Gary Thomas from Capita for an answer before approaching Northwest’s Evening Mail. As he felt that the Evening Mail would take more interest in our children’s safety than Capita obviously have, and wondered if they would like to run an article.

ACTION

DB

ACTION

6. Headteacher's Report – Item (e) School Improvement Partner

Margaret McCulloch (our new S.I.P) would be visiting again sometime in November and would need to see target settings. Targets to be set and approved by Governors.

ALL

7. FMSIS

The FMSIS self-evaluation has been completed and submitted.

11. Better Ways to School

Matters arising Items 77.3.122 & 77.55 & 3.55.8
This matter has been covered at Item 55.8 (Matters Arising) above

22. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair requested that Governors declare any vested interest in any Agenda item, or, any amendment to their recorded 'Declaration of Interest'.

None received.

23. GOVERNOR ELECTIONS

There following Governor election is due to take place:

M Brown – Parent Representative (Term of Office Expiry Date 22.11.08)

Governor Support to be contacted to start election process. However, M Brown has stated her willingness to continue in the role if no candidates are forthcoming.

SR

24. HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

Copy of above circulated to all present and D Barlow read through it.

25. COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The local authority has sent out two procedures to adopt (Complaints Procedure & Grievance Procedure). D Barlow stated that these documents are there to protect members of staff and are therefore non-negotiable.

PROPOSED: A Postlethwaite **SECONDED:** T Dalziel

26. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Procedure to be adopted. (Item previously covered in [25] above.

27. H.T. APPOINTMENT

See Confidential Items

28. FMSIS

A financial audit of LAMPS is to take place before 31st March 2009 and Governors on the Finance Sub Committee are to meet to discuss financial overviews etc. D Barlow confirmed that he had sent off self-evaluation forms to the Finance Department of OFSTED in readiness.

D Barlow stated that this was all taking up such a lot of time when he had already spent 7 hours working on it and then 4 hours spent by S Foote inputting the information.

D Barlow stated the following: "I think it is an imposition on a small school given the state of the current financial crisis that they should be looking closely at our financial systems when they should be looking at the banking systems that use 'dodgy' Icelandic Banks and inspect Local Authorities who currently have approximately £20m sitting in Icelandic Bank Accounts."

29. FINANCIAL REPORT / BUDGET UPDATE

Financial Report

See Confidential Items.

Budget Update

The Provisional Budget for 2008-2009 had been submitted on 9th June 2008.

30. S.E.F.

D Barlow to update.

DB

31. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This was discussed and decided to carry over to September 2009.

32. BETTER WAYS TO SCHOOL

Previously covered in Matters Arising – Item 21.3.122 & 21.55.8

33. GOVERNOR VISITS – UPDATE

There were the following Governor visits:

- M Brown - Teaching of Recorders.
- P Bishop - visited to listen to pupils' reading.
- A Postlethwaite - came to visit along with our new Vicar (Rev. Gary Tubbs)

34. GOVERNOR TRAINING

A Postlethwaite stated that he is to attend Governor Update Course.

S Fleming mentioned that she had received training at her school by Barry Hymer on the subject of “Gifted & Talented Kids”. She said that she had found the training very interesting with the emphasis being on the effort from children. Mr Hymer believes that a child who is praised constantly for good work will eventually stop trying, so said that we need to concentrate on their efforts instead.

35. TEACHING ASSISTANTS’ REPORT

Nothing to report.

Under this item, D Barlow wanted to state what a good job he felt our Teaching Assistants do on a day-to-day basis; always on-hand and knowing exactly how to deal with any situation. He also wanted to mention how well Reception Children had already settled in, calmed down, and that they are “a lovely bunch of kids”.

36. SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council have met and they have decided to arrange fund raising for “Children-in-Need”:

- Wearing Odd Socks for the day raising £1.00 per pupil.
- Covering a giant “Pudsey Bear” with any donated loose change.

It was also felt that it would be a good idea to ask the School Council for a set of questions that could be given to Candidates for our new Headteacher. It was also felt that it would be nice if members from the School Council could also show Applicants around the school when they visit.

37. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

See Confidential Items.

38. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

See Addendum.

39. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 26th January, 2009; commencing at 7.00pm at LAMPS.

The Meeting closed at 8.40pm.