

109. A.R.S.P. (ANNUAL REVIEW OF SCHOOLS PERFORMANCE)

LAMPS was visited by an Inspector/Advisor who carried out the A.R.S.P.! (circulated prior to the meeting). He has a set agenda and talks to DGB - the report is considered to be 'Very Good', which in official terms is about as good as it gets!

110. SCHOOL EXTENSION

As the governors are aware DGB submitted a bid last Christmas, using the Surveyors Elliott & Edwards survey and costings. This was accepted by the Suitability Fund due, it was felt to the strength of the bid using Ofsted quotes to support and enhance. DGB was advised not to take any further action until he had met with the representative from the County Council. A meeting was arranged between DGB, County Council Rep. and Capita. Whilst waiting for Capita DGB asked whether LAMPS would be able to use Elliott and Edwards, but was advised that because Capita had a 7-year contract with Cumbria County Council, this would only be allowed if school was funding more than 50% of the build. Capita had still not arrived. The County Council Rep. finally tracked down the Capita Rep. in Kendal, a loud voice could be heard from the office as disapproval was expressed! LAMPS were then informed that Elliott & Edwards had won themselves this contract by default!

DGB and TD have met with Elliott & Edwards twice and the following course of action will be taken. First a buildings survey has to be carried out to show feasibility, then planning permission must be sought, followed by putting the contract out to tender for 3 quotes. This is all under the brief of Elliott & Edwards. It is estimated that building will start around November. School will have to work around the builders, using the back of the school and work should be finished in approximately 3 months.

111. BUDGET 2004-05

The budget has been submitted and accepted, the only query raised was why there was no provision for school dinners.

112. STAFF SALARY STRUCTURE from 01.09.04

see Confidential Items

113. SCHOOLS 150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

A Victorian picnic will be taking place on the Green on July 1st. The PTA is to organise an authentic picnic. A governor enquired whether permission had been sought from the Parish Council to use the Green. The PTA would be advised of the need to write requesting permission.

ACTION C PARTRIDGE

The little ones would be in costume in the morning and have a Victorian Classroom experience, while Class 3 would play Victorian Games on the Green etc. The PTA will be presenting all the children with a commemorative mug. A governor said he would try and attend to take some pictures which can be converted to 'sepia effect' on the computer. TG is producing displays of old photos and artefacts.

114. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES

CP circulated the draft Terms of Reference for the Building & Resources Committee for approval. These were PROPOSED by D. BARLOW and SECONDED by V. SMITH. After discussion, alterations and amendments were made to the School & Community Committee and the Staffing & Curriculum Committee; these were PROPOSED by C HUMPHREYS and SECONDED by A GRACE. All governors agreed.

115. GOVERNOR VISITS UPDATE

A Grace had been into Class 2 for the 'Barnaby Bear' goes to Scarborough session. He had travelled in a car and stayed in a caravan, the children used maps and locations; the child who actually took him explained all about what he had done and where he had visited. AG thought it is a very good lesson and the children had really enjoyed it, deciding also on things to pack in their suitcases etc. AG had also listened to some children reading.

P Bishop had given Class 3 a school boys perception of what it was like to live through the D Day landings - as mentioned in the HT Report. PB stated that the children were very interested in the topic asking many questions. Mrs. Smith also reported that she had done an assembly on the same topic and the children were still interested asking more questions.

116. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

No alterations since last time.

117. SWOT ANALYSIS 2004-05

A pro-forma had been circulated with the agenda to help with this exercise. It was decided to carry out the analysis on a group basis and detailed discussions took place. Strengths were listed as Training, Extra Responsibilities, Governor Visits; Opportunities - Training, Governor Visits; Weakness - lengthy terms of office of some governors, a substantial amount of governors have an education bias; Threats - Complacency. However after discussion it was seen as a strength that there were varying lengths of service amongst the governors a mixture of experience and fresh ideas were seen as positive. Also the balance of governors would appear to be healthy as out of the 7 governors based in education, 1 is retired, 3 are from secondary/adult backgrounds, and 3 have had other careers prior to working in education. Complacency could be seen as a 'Threat', but it was felt that new initiatives were always being introduced, and the governing body were always looking to move forward in one area or another. To conclude although more governors are attending training courses since last years SWOT analysis identified this as an area of weakness, it was still felt that improvements could be made - such as disappointment is some of the course material available. The in-house training sessions were seen as particularly valuable (DGB has requested one regarding Disability Discrimination), and DGB mentioned a new training initiative 'Investors in People' which he would raise in A.O.B.

118. SCHOOLS COUNCIL

Nothing to report - the Council has not met since last meeting.

119. BETTER WAYS TO SCHOOL

Good News! - after submitting the LAMPS Travel Plan the school has been awarded £3750 + £5 per child (approx. £4K) to spend on safety initiatives of its choice no strings attached. Therefore the governors need to decide how best to spend the money - maybe improved 'signing', traffic calming surface outside the school etc. A brief discussion took place and it was pointed out that there was no sign warning drivers that they were approaching a school. All governors agreed that ideas and quotes were to be pursued. AG advised that she had passed the safety jacket brochure to Janine Gray for discussion at the next P.T.A. meeting.

120. GOVERNOR TRAINING

AG had attended the training session on Accountability on 24.05.04. This focused mainly on the Governors Report to Parents and the Prospectus (soon to be replaced by the School Profile). AG informed that the LAMPS Prospectus was highlighted as being full of practical information, common sense issues and was a good working document, rather than all packaging and no content.

AG is also attending the New Governors Course on 22.06.04.

The Link Governor informed that there were no more courses for the remainder of the academic year.

DGB informed that he was waiting to hear about the in-house training session he had requested on Disability Discrimination.

121. TEACHING ASSISTANTS REPORT

There is no official report as the TA's meet only once per term. A variety of courses have been attended and recently they have been using an on-line assessment tool - 'Goal', to help with children working towards their SATS. TG feels that possibly more ICT training is required, but is finding it difficult to locate a relevant course at present. TG to inform DB of training required and he will put something together.

ACTION TG, DB

122. A.O.B.

1. D Barlow has recently attended a course called 'Investors in People' and is very keen to work towards accreditation. LAMPS already does a lot of training for students, in-house staff etc, and after looking at the package which is all about enabling people he is very keen to follow it through (this will also tie in with the School Improvement Plan, and one of DGB's own targets for Performance Management). The Inspector Advisor running the course knew all about LAMPS and said usually it takes 5 terms but our school could probably do it in 3! DGB explained that it involves other members of staff and governors, and that it would keep the school growing from the Head Teacher to the dinner ladies. The only impact will be on the teachers, there are certain things that have to be done e.g. 5 course days, run an audit of the school and then there will be an assessment at the end. After a query from a governor DGB explained that it was a school based Investors in People and the assessors are independent, when the school is accredited it will be revalidated every 3 years, when it moves on to another phase. A discussion took place and all governors agreed to pursue this course of action.
PROPOSED: S. Fleming, SECONDED: D. Bigland.

2. DB informed the governors that in May he had taken a party of 70 children from Year 7 UVHS to Winmarleigh Hall, near Garstang for a residential visit. The venue offers a mixture of ICT training in 4 to 5 computer rooms and outdoor activities and was found to be excellent. DB would like to take a party from Year 6 LAMPS on a taster day, but before he puts the proposal to the head at UVHS needs to ascertain the opinions of the governors. A governor enquired whether the facility was suitable for Year 6 children, DB explained that it was aimed primarily at children from Years 5, 6 and his Year 7's were at the upper age limit. All governors agreed this would be something the children would very much enjoy and benefit from. DB will put his proposal forward and inform the governors of the outcome in due course. It was decided that the best time of year would be post SATS, DB also informed that full risk assessments had been undertaken.
ACTION D BIGLAND

3. The Clerk drew the attention of the governors to an article in the TES Briefing Summer 2004 regarding Crisis Management and asked whether it was something the governors wished to discuss. DGB informed that the LAMPS has a document 'Emergencies and your School' - Emergency Planning Guidance for Headteachers. CP to copy and circulate to the governors and include as an agenda item for the next meeting.
ACTION C PARTRIDGE

4. The Clerk requested permission to order the new copy of the ISCG's Manual for Governing Bodies and their Clerks at a cost of £15.00, advising that it had been a useful working tool in the past. Permission granted! PROPOSED: S FLEMING,
SECONDED: C HUMPHREYS.
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5. A governor informed that a great many children of all ages were now sitting on the roof of the shaded seating area in the new park, and that it was bending under the weight at times. This obviously creates a real hazard to both those on top if it should collapse, not to mention anyone sitting underneath. After discussion it was agreed that DGB would inform pupils in assembly that if the play equipment was misused then it would be removed, he would also inform them that he had asked parents to take the names of any offenders.
- ACTION D BARLOW

123. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

STAFF SALARY STRUCTURE from 01.09.04 - see addendum

124. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th September, 2004 at 1900hrs at LAMPS.

The meeting closed at 20:40hrs