

69.1 DGB had written a letter to parents and also to the Evening Mail. He read from a letter he had received from the Editor, stating that the responses he had received from his stance on this issue were far from consistent. After further consultations with the Primary Heads Association and colleagues from other newspapers, he would come back to us. All governors agreed they failed to see how responses could be inconsistent, when the P.H.A. issued a directive that no children's surnames should be published. Watch this space!

77. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair requested that governors declare any vested interest in any Agenda item, or any amendment to their recorded 'Declaration of Interests'. None declared.

C. Humphreys arrived 19:15hrs.

78. GOVERNOR ELECTIONS

The Clerk informed that LAMPS has a full complement of governors, but that there was a vacancy on the School & Community Committee and vacancies for the Foundation Subjects of: ICT, Design & Technology, Art & Craft. A discussion took place: all governors agreed M. Brown to be on the School & Community Committee, A. Grace to be governor for Art & Craft, a new post of Foundation Stage governor for M. Brown. It was also suggested that S. Fleming become the governor for ICT and M. Brown take over her role as R.E. Governor; this to be discussed with her when/if she arrives. ACTION: SF/MB/ALL
This still leaves a vacancy for Design & Technology to be filled at a later date.

79. HEAD TEACHERS REPORT

A copy was circulated to all present and DGB read through it. Regarding 'Special Needs' meeting on Thursday 28th April 2005 15:30hrs, it was agreed P. Bishop to attend.

80. FINANCIAL REPORT/BUDGET UPDATE REPORT OF BUILDING & RESOURCE COMMITTEE

CH informed that the B & R Committee had held a meeting two weeks ago on Friday afternoon to go through the preliminary budget. (DGB informed that he was now finally in possession of the actual budget). Each item was looked at individually and the finances were deemed to be very healthy, looking as though there would be a substantial surplus at the end of next year. It was recognised that some of this money would be needed to cover the costs of P.P.A., and that also some of the computers were well past their sell-by dates! It was also pointed out that Supply costs were very low in relation to salaries, reflecting excellent staff attendance.

DGB then explained that the Budget was divided into 3 sections: Section 52 Formula Funding was £190,882, the Standards Fund (for developing training in schools and ICT etc.) was £19,202 and the School Standards Grant (for raising standards in schools) was £11,000, giving a total of over £220K. This of course has to be checked as it has only just been received, but at first sight it would appear to be good news! DGB intends to draw up the draft/provisional budget on Thursday a.m. to be circulated next week, therefore a meeting needs to be held in April to approve the preliminary budget for submission to County. It was suggested that this take place following the Disability Discrimination training session on Monday 18th April, 2005.

ACTION: ALL

81. REVIEW ANNUAL PANDA

A copy of the relevant pages had been circulated with the agenda. The pertinent facts were highlighted and all governors agreed it was a very pleasing report, although somewhat 'user unfriendly'!

82. REVIEW SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY

The current policy had been sent to P Bishop (Special Needs Governor), to review and draw to the attention of the governing body any areas of concern. PB reported that he was pleased to see that S.E.N. and the Gifted & Talented had now been separated out as two separate entities. Although there were some areas of repetition in the policy PB deemed there were no areas of concern and that the policy was sound. All governors agreed, PROPOSED: P BISHOP, SECONDED: T DALZIEL.

83. REVIEW PAY POLICY

This to be deferred to the next meeting after further research into a more up-to-date model.
ACTION: C PARTRIDGE

84. ANNUAL PARENTS MEETING

CP informed the governors that a letter and reply slip had been sent to all parents clearly stating the criteria under which the governing body is obliged to hold an Annual Parents meeting. A total of 15 replies were received, only one of which requested a meeting be held.

A governor enquired whether it was necessary to write a letter informing the person requesting the meeting of the outcome; CP quoted from the reply slip, 'I understand that if the parents of fewer than 15 registered pupils respond, then this discharges the governing body from their obligation to hold such a meeting'. All governors agreed that it was not necessary to write a letter of explanation.

85. EVERY CHILD MATTERS

A summary of DfES Guidance had been issued with the agenda. DGB explained that this is a government initiative to try and ensure that all children are healthy, safe, enjoy, achieve, able to make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being as listed in the summary. Also a key change is more 'joined-up' thinking and communication between the various bodies that come into contact with children, i.e. Social Services, Education, Health Services, so that no children can 'slip through the net'. This coincides with the new multi-agency, Special Framework initiative. The summary was well received by governors, and all agreed that it was useful, informative and relevant. The governors accepted DGB's offer to copy future similar information sheets.
ACTION: D BARLOW

86. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

DGB informed there was nothing to report. Next term he would be 'trawling' for parental views ready to make a new plan.

87. BETTER WAYS TO SCHOOL

Agenda item 64. (see Matters Arising) was read to CH. She hasn't yet written the letter but will do so.

ACTION: C HUMPHREYS

DGB has had a brief meeting with Ken Hanson following some Road Safety Talks to the children. He informed KH that they had spent £800 of the money awarded on high visibility safety jackets and mentioned the possibility of spending the rest on new signage and speed bumps. KH informed that these were in fact Highways responsibility, but suggested playground markings such as zebra crossings, road junctions etc. to facilitate role play/teach road safety in the playground. DGB showed the governors a brochure of such items, stating also that the money awarded was time constrained, and could be lost. All governors agreed this would be a great idea, which the children would enjoy and learn from, it may also come in useful for the annual cycling proficiency sessions held for the Year 6's.

A governor informed that the only speed bumps included in any of the 5 options regarding The Green were at the War Memorial end, therefore it looked as though it would be up to LAMPS to pursue any further traffic calming measures.

88. GOVERNOR VISITS UPDATE

P. Bishop visits school most Friday afternoons listening to readers and offering help as required. C. Humphreys had attended Class 1 making musical instruments; the Class had also given a performance for Class 2, which was very entertaining.

A. Grace had attended the Lego workshop, which was deemed very successful and very well managed. AG had noted how well the children worked together.

89. GOVERNOR TRAINING

T. Dalziel has applied to attend the Health & Safety Course on the 27.04.05, but has heard nothing yet. CP to chase.

ACTION: C PARTRIDGE

As mentioned previously the Disability Discrimination Course has been rescheduled for the 18.04.05.

90. TEACHING ASSISTANTS REPORT

No report for this meeting.

91. SCHOOLS COUNCIL

The School Council meets tomorrow, and the 'Suggestion Box' system is now operational. A video/dvd player has been purchased at the councils behest, (a bargain at £76.50, less V.A.T.!). A combination machine was chosen as a lot of material in school is still in video form, but now dvd's can be used as well.

92. A.O.B.

1. D. Barlow informed the governors that he has put in a bid for £10K to a 'pot of money' earmarked for Access, to improve accessibility to the School Garden.

2. A governor enquired whether anything had happened regarding the twinning of LAMPS with the French school. DGB explained that the initial response to the e-mail sent was very encouraging, the children then sent letters but nothing more happened. Both Denise Backhouse and Janice Lloyd had both sent further e-mails asking whether the letters have been received, but there has been no response.

PB has a friend in Germany who may be able to produce a link with a German school if LAMPS was interested, DGB and the governors agreed, PB to 'test the water'.

ACTION: P BISHOP

3. A governor enquired about classes in behaviour, conflict situations etc. which he had read about in a newspaper article. DGB explained that this was in fact PSHE & C, which was taught at LAMPS, and that this initiative was to ensure that the subject was taught as a separate entity rather than a 'bolt-on' to other subjects.
4. A governor enquired about the new regime for KS1. VS informed that following a staff meeting earlier today a letter was being sent to parents. The new regime relies more on teacher assessment in conjunction with tests which can be carried out at any time of year from September to June, however this year it will end up being May as usual, simply because of starting the new system. The teacher can mark a child up or down from test results if he/she feels it doesn't give a true reflection of the child's abilities. Also they can still be moderated, so the teacher has to prove the results.
5. PB requested a meeting with DGB regarding SEN and Gifted & Talented, this will be arranged next term. ACTION: DGB/PB

93. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

There were no confidential items for this meeting.

94. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 18th April, 2005 - 1900hrs at LAMPS, Disability Discrimination and Budget Approval.

Monday 23rd May, 2005 - 1900hrs at LAMPS.

The meeting closed at 20:30hrs