

75. GOVERNOR ELECTIONS

As discussed earlier under Matters Arising, CH to continue in the role of Parent Governor. The Clerk informed that the next term of office to expire was that of A Grace on 15.12.07.

76. HEAD TEACHERS REPORT

A copy was circulated to all present and DGB read through it. Regarding admissions, a governor enquired about holding places open for children moving into the village, as there are quite a few houses for sale. DGB explained that some children had recently moved into the village, and had taken precedent over some children who had attended Lindal Toddlers/Playgroup for the maximum period. However the school had a responsibility to fill any vacancies as they arose, regarding falling roles and budget allocation, and it would be impossible in practical terms to anticipate whether children would be moving into the village and folly to turn children away on a 'what if' scenario.

77. FINANCIAL REPORT/BUDGET UPDATE

No formal report as the budget allocation has not yet been received, normally the budget has to be submitted by the 30.04, but the new date is now 31.05.07; this is in connection with the later announcement of infant allocation to schools. This is financially more practical, as it gives schools more time to pay bills before the year end, and a clearer picture of allocation to correct financial years. DGB expects to be in a position to discuss the budget at the next Governing Body Meeting.

78. HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

This had been issued prior to the meeting. DGB explained that LAMPS had previously compiled a very thorough, practical and user-friendly policy, which had been deemed 'very good'. However this new policy was non-negotiable as it included official appendices and facts and figures issued by the LEA. The governors agreed it was very comprehensive and after discussion enquired whether the previous LAMPS generated sections could be highlighted using a different font or italics to make it more user-friendly. All governors agreed that this would be a good idea, DGB will consult with S. Foote to instigate. ACTION: D BARLOW

All governors agreed to adopt the policy, this was PROPOSED by M. BROWN and SECONDED by C. HUMPHREYS.

79. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES

The Clerk informed that there were still some committees Terms of Reference which had not been reviewed and in another two meetings it would be time to undertake the annual review again! A brief discussion ensued, a governor asked whether this had to be done annually, which was confirmed by the Clerk, who thought the problem was perhaps exacerbated by the fact that on the whole committees at LAMPS (other than the Buildings & Resources) were only used when special issues arose, otherwise it was a process which could be undertaken by each committee separately. A governor volunteered to take the remaining Terms of Reference for review and bring them to the next meeting with his findings. The Clerk informed that this should not be too onerous as they were all appeals committees, many of which took the same format, and she would copy them to the governor with the draft minutes. ACTION: C PARTRIDGE
P BISHOP

80. S.E.F.

DGB informed that he had no updates for approval as he had been waiting for the new RAISONline statistics (replacing the former PANDA). He received these 2 weeks ago, but had been very busy and not had time to assimilate the information as yet, he intends to review this during the Easter Holiday. The recently awarded IIP standard also needs to be added.

81. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

DGB informed that the building works could now be entered as complete, and that a new Plan was due for 2008. A governor enquired whether the plan should be a 3 year rolling plan, DGB affirmed this was the case and the rolling plan would commence in 2008.

82. BETTER WAYS TO SCHOOL

CH had nothing major to report. As discussed at the previous meeting the road markings were due to commence during May 2007 and the SLOW signs to be moved. A governor enquired why we couldn't have a flashing 'school warning' sign, as in use by other schools in the area, e.g. Kirkby. Mention was also made of the new flashing signs in Marton, a governor informed that this had been a condition of granting permission for the new development in Marton. CH to send an email requesting such signs for LAMPS, as many people in the Furness area are unaware of the locality of Lindal School, being well hidden!

83. GOVERNOR VISITS - UPDATE

CH had visited on Friday 16th March, PB had been in to listen to readers (including Reception), MB had been in to teach in Classes 1 and 2. TD had also been in for his regular update.

84. GOVERNOR TRAINING

JD had attended the Roles and Responsibilities training, which she had found valuable, and realised it was an advantage to work in the school, having much more of an awareness than a lot of the other participants. She also complimented Debbie Gallagher on the delivery of the material.

AP had attended the most recent Termly Briefing and passed on the relevant information to CP, who was unable to attend as it clashed with her TA commitment.

The Clerk passed on the letter re Safeguarding Governors to AG, who will make the LEA aware on the form, of her expertise in the area due to her employment, and pass the form back to the Clerk to send to the LEA.

ACTION: A GRACE/
C PARTRIDGE

CP is booked on the next termly briefing on 30.04.07.

85. TEACHING ASSISTANTS REPORT

No formal report, no issues from any of the TA's. KT is implementing Reading Intervention, which has been very successful. 3 more children are now receiving help using this scheme.

86. SCHOOLS COUNCIL

The Schools Council organised the very recent fun and activities which took place on 'Red Nose Day'. They are also completing a questionnaire received from Dowdales regarding Extended Schools Activities and their preferences; some of the things on offer are Science Club, hockey, tennis, dance etc.

87. A.O.B.

1. Two weeks ago schools were contacted by a Statistician employed to report back to the DfES, who were contemplating reducing the number in cohort reported upon. Currently there has to be 11+ in a cohort before results are published, they were considering reducing this to 6+. DGB was very strongly against this initiative, as he felt it made identification of individuals far too easy. He sent an email voicing his objections, along with 50 other schools, all but 4 of whom felt the same. DGB felt this had invoked a powerful response given how busy schools are and how little time they were given to respond. He had received communication to say that the answer was clear and it would not now be put forward to ministers. A governor remarked that it was nice to feel that a voice had been heard, and a difference made for once!

2. see Confidential Items

3. see Confidential Items

4. A governor mentioned that she had again been reminded that Carillion had up to £2K to give to local schools, this could be anything in the form of services they provide. The possibility of work in the infants playground was mentioned. DGB asked the governor for the employee in question to contact him at LAMPS to discuss the issue further.

ACTION: C HUMPHREYS

88. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

See addendum.

89. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MONDAY 14th May, 2007 - 1900hrs at LAMPS.

Meetings of the following committees were deemed necessary: -

BUILDINGS & RESOURCES

- date to be advised

STAFFING & CURRICULUM

- 27th April 2007 at 15:30hrs

The meeting closed at 20:25hrs