

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY
HELD AT LINDAL & MARTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
ON MONDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2008

Present: D Barlow; P Bishop; T Dalziel; S Fleming; V Smith; S Richards;
C Humphreys (from 7.30pm)

T Dalziel took the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from M Brown, J Dalziel, A Grace, A Postlethwaite.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 16TH JUNE 2008

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

3. 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; first meeting still to be arranged by School Council.

55.8 With regard to the road markings and speed limits currently outside the school. The matter had been discussed at the Parish Council's Meeting on 1st May and they had kindly offered to keep us informed of any progress regarding highway issues. However, as we have still had no response from the Highways Agency and/or County Council, a further request is to be made to Parish Council to discuss at their next meeting to keep the "pressure" on.

4. 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'.

One was received from D Barlow, as his Brother-in-Law would be doing light garden work (funded by the PTA).

ACTION

CH

5. GOVERNOR ELECTIONS

There following Governor election is due to take place:

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

As M Brown was absent from the meeting, she is to be contacted with a view to asking if she would like to stand again, and an election to be triggered in due course.

6. HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

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

a) Conditions Survey

D Barlow explained that every five years a survey (by Capita) has to be conducted to plan and prioritise future building maintenance. The only items requiring attention with a grading of 'C' are listed under "Mechanical Services – Elements 36 & 37" (which relate to Boilers) and under "Mechanical Services – Element 38" (which relates to Ventilation). D Barlow stated that the maintenance survey wasn't bad considering that the School was 154 years' old.

b) Financial Update

D Barlow confirmed that we have submitted our three year outline budget plan, which had been accepted by the Local Authority.

Charging & Remissions Policy – D Barlow circulated a paper showing financial breakdowns covering the period March – September 2008 for school trips/activities etc.

c) New Literacy & Numeracy Framework

This was introduced last term to deliver maths across the School and we have decided to resource another Collins Scheme, which has recently been rewritten. The previous Scheme, with its difficult to follow framework, did help, however, to improve our standards in maths. Therefore, we are looking for a new "home" for them.

C Humphreys arrives at 7.30pm.

d) KS2 SATS – Borderline Remarking

There has been a lot of controversy recently over KS2 Exams. D Barlow stated that he had returned three English scripts for re-marking; as he had taken issue with the level of quality of marking by the company concerned (ETS) and that he was awaiting a response, hopefully, by the end of the month.

e) School Improvement Partner

It is intended that we shall have three monitoring sessions per year.

D Barlow advised that our new School Improvement Partner, from September 2008, is to be Margaret McCulloch (existing Head of a Barrow School); who will be working with us over the next two years. She had already visited to familiarise herself with the school and planned to return in November, at which time she will need to see our target setting. Therefore, targets are to be set and approved by Governors.

ALL

D Barlow expressed his concern with regard to “Target Settings” as he felt it purely data driven and does not relate to the measure of how good a school is and felt it was going back to the days of “peer appraisal” with Heads being matched up with other Heads. He also stated that he had been invited, last September, to become a S.I.P. but had turned it down.

D Barlow advised that our School Improvement Officer (Joan Stark) is still around and has been involved with LAMPS now over the last two years.

f) School Improvement Plan

This was decided to carry-over for one year. However, some items still need to be addressed:

- Existing old Girls’ Toilets to be enlarged and used as a P.E. equipment store by extending the current stone building; costs to be looked at.
- The refurbishment of existing office; as presently, conditions for Sheila Foote are not great and need updating.
- Redecoration of corridor leading to Class 3. Existing peachy-pink colour to be “lightened” with something more aesthetically pleasing.

S.E.A.L (Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning)

Both V Smith & S Simpson are to attend a course over 4 days (2 days per person) which focuses on attendance, behaviour etc. D Barlow explained that we do not have a problem with our children but that attendance of the course would come in good stead as it is part of the Healthy School Standards Audit.

Garden Development

D Barlow’s Brother-in-Law doing garden work. (Declaration of Interest Item 4).

Also, children from UVHS came and “blitzed” the garden under the ASDAM Scheme, which promotes children’s jobs in the community. D Barlow stated that he was very impressed with the job done and that they were also extremely well supervised.

7. **FMSIS**

A financial audit of LAMPS is to take place and Governors on finance committees would be asked to complete a self assessment form online in relation to monitoring of financial overviews etc. D Barlow to download “blanks” in readiness of online submission by 31st October.

DB

8. **FINANCIAL REPORT / BUDGET UPDATE**

Financial Report

This item had previously been covered at Item (6b) above.

Budget Update

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

9. **S.E.F.**

D Barlow stated that he would attempt this tomorrow (23rd September) on new template.

DB

10. **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

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

11. **BETTER WAYS TO SCHOOL**

Matters arising – Item 77.3.122 & 77.55.8 & 3.55.8

A letter was read out dated 7th May 2008 from Mr J Smith (Clerk of Lindal & Marton Parish Council). Mr Smith had kindly raised ongoing issues, on our behalf, with Capita at the Parish Council’s Meeting on 1st May with regard to our repeated, unsuccessful, requests for information regarding road marking and also the possible impact of increased volumes in traffic en route to the new Wind Farm Test Mast at Standish Cote.

A request was made to the Clerk to again write to Mr Smith for an update and with a view to keeping “pressure” on Capita for an answer as, at the moment, we do not seem to be getting anywhere.

SR

12. **GOVERNOR VISITS – UPDATE**

There were the following Governor visits:

G White - visited and joined in with the music class.

P Bishop - visited to listen to pupils’ reading.

13. GOVERNOR TRAINING

Nothing to report.

14. TEACHING ASSISTANTS' REPORT

Nothing to report.

15. SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council has now been elected; with the first meeting still to be arranged by the School Council.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

See Addendum

17. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

See Addendum.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 10th November 2008 commencing at 7.00pm at LAMPS.

The Meeting closed at 8.00pm.