



# Newtown Primary School Governing Body

## Full Governing Body Meeting Thursday 11th February 2015 at 17:30 Venue: Newtown Primary School

**Present** Jenny Lloyd (JML) Penny Burnside (PB) Jill Mather (JM) Saxon Spence (SS)  
Hayley Back (HB) Sandra Dagleish (SD) Victoria Darios (VD) Ruth Jones (RJ)  
Richard Westlake (RW) Mike Cox (MC) Laëtitia Brochon-Harmsworth (LBH)

**In Attendance:** Jessica Bengier (JB)  
(Clerk)

**Apologies:** Steven Fearn (SF)

**Absent:**

**Quorum:** 7. 11 in attendance, meeting quorate

- |  | <u>Action/ Resolution</u>  |
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| 1. <b>Apologies for Absence/ Absences Sanctioned</b><br>SF - Family Commitments<br><b>Absence sanctioned</b><br><b>Agreed by all present</b>   | Absence sanctioned<br>Agreed by all<br>present   |
| 2. <b>Declaration of Interests invited and declared</b><br>None noted  |  |
| 3. <b>Approval of meeting minutes from FGM 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015</b><br><b>FGM Minutes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 agreed by all present and signed by the Chair.</b>   | Minutes of the AGM<br>0.12.2015 approved<br>and signed                                   |
| 4. <b>Matters Arising from the minutes of the FGM</b>  |  |
| 4.1 <b>Speech &amp; Language Centre</b><br>This issue has still not been resolved. John Peart remains out of office due to sickness. MC asked whether we are still receiving the funding into our budget at this time despite the Service Level Agreement (SLA) not being signed. RJ confirmed that the funding is still being received.<br><br><b>Action: remove from Matters Arising until an update has been received from DCC.</b> | Action: remove from<br>Matters Arising until<br>an update has been<br>received from DCC. |
| 4.2 <b>School Website</b><br>This work has not yet been completed as staff couldn't access the website. The information has now been received and work to be carried out over half term.   | Noted  |
| 4.3 <b>Advert for New Governors</b><br>Circulated prior to the meeting. Clerk will put up on the website. JM will put in Community and School Newsletters  | Noted  |
| 4.4 <b>Aspirations for the future</b><br>The responses from the exercise at the previous meeting have been collated by JML and circulated prior to the meeting. JML reported that she has received a request for feedback from the Governance Review from Babcock's.<br><br><b>Action: Agenda item for the next meeting, a review of actions since</b>   |  |

FGM Minutes approved 11022016

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Signed by the Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Governance Review.

5. **Headteacher's Verbal Report**  
Report distributed at the meeting.

### Attendance

It was noted that a child with specific medical needs is currently on part time attendance. This will increase out percentage of authorised absences. JML felt that we can have confidence that current attendance rates are a very good result for the school.

### Staffing

#### *Meeting moved to Part Two*

**Agreed: Agenda item for Resources Committee - Exit interviews for staff being carried out by governors.**

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### Teaching & Learning

JML asked for further information on lesson observations which are carried out. It was noted that OFSTED inspections no longer grade teaching based on lesson observations but the Senior Management Team (SMT) is still using the OFSTED framework to measure the quality of teaching in a lesson.

JML asked whether the SMT was happy with how data on progress is being tracked and triangulation of pupil progress. VD responded that yes it was still very good way of measuring progress and development.

SS asked whether RJ felt that there were families within the youngest three classes who should be claiming Free School Meals (FSM) as numbers of FSM pupils have dropped on previous years. RJ felt that this was possible but it was more likely that the families are students (at the university) or the 'working poor' and therefore do not qualify for the benefits which link to FSM entitlement.

6. **Review Community Cohesion**  
Report circulated prior to the meeting. Vision and Values document circulated at the meeting. It was highlighted that aspects of our school vision deal with Community Cohesion. RJ recapped on workshops the school has held to engage and support parents, especially EAL parents. Noted

VD stated that the school definitely celebrates its diversity and our curriculum and activities reflect this.

Young ambassadors, trained by St Luke's College, run a range of inclusive activities during the lunch times.

Feedback from parents is that the school is very positively diverse and welcoming to all/

7. **Questions Arising from the minutes of the Resources Committee**  
Minutes distributed prior to the meeting.

RW confirmed that St James Football Club has welcomed the school to use the grounds as an emergency evacuation point.

8.1 - SS expressed concern that the school is having funded repairs and old gas heaters when we should be bidding for funding to replace the boiler

system. The committee continues to be proactive in trying to obtain funding for a replacement boiler system.

10.3 MC expressed concern at the lack of clinical supervision and support for the Headteacher considering the case load of current safeguarding issues for pupils at the school.

**Action: Resources Committee to investigate funding and service for Clinical supervision.**

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8. **Questions Arising from the minutes of the Teaching & Learning Committee**  
No questions arising.

*RW left the meeting at 18:45*

9. **Leadership and Governance**

9.1 **Knowing our school and future challenges.**

9.2 **Future Planning**

- What is our vision for the school?
- What do we have to offer and what do we need?
- What partnerships are options are there?
- Structured planning of the remit for the working party
- Creation of a working party and definition of the role and timescales

JML had collated the feedback and discussions from the Future Partnerships workshops with the staff in January. The meeting broke into small groups to discuss the strengths of the school and partnerships that could work to benefit our pupils. The meeting then reconvened to collate discussion points and build a list of questions to ask other schools/ partnerships

**Agreed: RJ, MC and LBH to form working party to look at options given by different types of partnerships. To visit MATs Federations and Co-operative Trusts. Report back at the May FGM meeting.**

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10. **Part Two**

*Meeting moved to Part Two*

Noted

11. **Governing Body Correspondence**

None noted for this meeting

Noted

12. **Policies to approve**

12.1 **Whole School Safeguarding Policy 2015**

Due to time constraints this policy was not available for this meeting

**Action: Agenda item for Teaching & Learning Committee**

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13. **Time and date of next meeting.**

FGM - Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 5:30pm

Agreed by all present

24.03.2016 agreed by all present

**Meeting ended at 19:45**