Minutes: Full Governing Body Meeting held virtually using Microsoft Teams

Held on: 16th July 2020

Present

Colin Williams (CW) Chair Matthew Leeming (ML) Headteacher Simon Howes (SH) Stephen Bailey (SB) part time

Richard Priestley (RP)

Elaine Slater (ES)

Christian Schofield (CS)

Andy Parkinson (AP)

Sarah Taylor (ST)

Justin Corrie (JCo)

Stephch Bancy (SB) part time

Georgina Crooks (GC)

Rob Jeckells (RJ)

Jamie Scott (JS)

Tim Ottridge (TO)

Nick Mirchandani (NM)

Natalie Kirby (NK)

Sara Goodens (SG)

R James (RJa)

Chris Bennett (CB)

Ian Pickles (IP)

Emily Cockle (EC)

Apologies

Julian Rickman (JR) Keith White (KW) Jason Collings (JC)

In Attendance

Katja Ayling (KA) clerk

Highlighted Blue denotes questions and challenges.

Item	Purpose/Outcome	Action
	The meeting commenced at 18.22pm.	
1.0	Welcome, Housekeeping.	
1.1	(CW) welcomed all those attending.	
2.0	Apologies/Declarations of Interest.	
2.1	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Julian Rickman, Jason Collings and Keith White.	
2.2	Declarations of Interest Nil	
3.0	Minutes of the last Meeting.	
3.1	The minutes of the last meeting were approved as an accurate record.	

	The Chair will sign the approved minutes when circumstances allow.	
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3.2	Governors are asked to complete and submit their Governor Self Evaluation Forms to the chairs of their committees over the next month. ACTION CARRIED FORWARD: to be completed over the summer and to be discussed at the relevant first committee meetings of the autumn.	All
	Q. A governor asked about the possibility of increasing feedback to pupils in the form of sending intervention letters The item was passed to the chair of the Curriculum Committee.	JR/ST
	Q. A governor questioned the status of the review of setting at the school. The subject will be included in the Headteacher interview questions. ACTION CARRIED FORWARD	CW
	Q. A governor asked whether there had been any progress in increasing the media visibility of the school. There has been some coverage of the current Head moving on but it has quietened again. It was agreed that there should be a more active PR approach for the school, but this should be in conjunction with the new HT once in post. ACTION CARRIED FORWARD: Twitter presence has increased and now there are 1002 followers. Activities such as the Virtual Prom have contributed to increased media presence. This will be discussed with the new HT.	CW
	Q. A governor asked whether Mumsnet is reviewed by the school to keep abreast of the perception of the three schools in Winchester. (ST) to propose ideas to increase visibility in the community and related Headteacher interview questions to present at the next FGB. ACTION CARRIED FORWARD: CW to review the draft communications proposal emailed to him.	ST
	Q. A governor asked for clarification to ensure we have consistency across policies and how they link in with Health and Safety guidelines. (CW) and (ML) to discuss at bi-weekly meeting and respond at next FGB. ACTION CLOSED: See below.	CW
	Q. A governor asked for the Premises Committee to be kept abreast of the emerging parking proposals resulting from the Osborne Plan. ACTION ONGOING: See below.	IP
	Q. A governor asked about getting feedback from pupils and parents about how they are feeling given the Covid situation and virtual schooling. It was agreed that feedback should be sought.	

(SB) to send (SG) the questionnaires used at Twyford School for surveys of pupils, parents and teachers. (GC) to send questions she used in questionnaires to (SG). (SG) to propose questions; a. Survey to pupils will come from the school and (ML) b. Survey to parents will come from governors in conjunction with (ML) (SG) to coordinate and to share feedback with FGB asap **ACTION CLOSED** (CW) to update FGB on the Head Teacher recruitment on an ongoing basis. CWACTION ONGOING: The second round of advertising has closed. There is a shortlist of six candidates. We are now working out how the two day interview process can take part given the need to interview face to face. The task is made more complex by the planned return of the whole school in September. A meeting will be held on 17th July to discuss the logistics and review the feasibility of the interview dates, 14th and 15th September. An extraordinary FGB may be held on the second day of interviewing to ask for ratification of the interview panel's recommended candidate. O. A governor asked how staff are rotating at school and how the pupils and staff can be broken up into smaller social 'bubbles'. (ML) to propose a strategy. CW **Review of Home School Agreement** It was agreed that this is not the right time and it would be done in a year's time. **ACTION CARRIED FORWARD** Year 10 Parents' Evening The proposal is to identify a 2 weeks period for teacher/parent phone calls to review performance. Another idea is to hold an Academic Review Day with parents. Add this and the Year 10 return to school strategy to the Curriculum Meeting JR/ST agenda. ACTION CARRIED FORWARD BY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE: Current thinking is that mock exams for the current Year 10 could take place two weeks before the Christmas holiday. There could be an additional Parents' Evening, perhaps held virtually. All Governors were requested to inform (NM) if Governor Service Reports are not up to date. Governors were requested to complete their Individual Governor Review Forms A11

and submit them to (NM).

ACTION CARRIED FORWARD

Policies –

NQT Policy to be reviewed at July FGB meeting.

The FGB approved the policy with a caveat that (SB) should review it and raise any issues if relevant at the next FGB

ACTION CARRIED FORWARD:

The document is now available on OneDrive for (SB) to read and give comments to (CW) who will subsequently gain FGB approval by email.

AOB

(ML) undertook to consider contacting pupils directly about morale and welfare as opposed to academic issues. One teacher governor reported that they had made contact with their class through SMHW and had a 70% response back from pupils.

ACTION CLOSED:

See Headteacher's Report.

4.0 Core Function 1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

4.1 Reviews of Committee Meeting Minutes

4.11 | Curriculum Committee

A verbal update was given and it was noted that the main points of the Curriculum Committee Meeting are covered in the Headteacher's report. In addition to standing agenda items the following were discussed;

- Virtual schooling
- The parent survey conducted in May. The results are on OneDrive.
- The LLP report. This will be revisited when the time is right for it.
- Year 11 grades based on centre based assessment.

There is a vacancy for Chair of the CC and three eligible candidates have been asked to consider the position.

4.12 | Premises Committee

A verbal update was given and it was noted that the main points of the Curriculum Committee Meeting are covered in the Headteacher's report.

- A replacement is being sought for Eddie Lane.
- Netball and Hockey training have resumed but other community use of the facilities is not yet confirmed.
- The last four months have been busy for the site teams who have brought forward several renovation tasks. The outside of the school will be redecorated over the summer break and the pool will have to close again for an upgrade in August.
- there will be more cleaning of the school than usual when pupils return.

SB/CW

4.13 | Pupil Support Committee

A verbal update was given; the committee focused on the welfare of children attending school at the moment and how disadvantaged children are being monitored and contacted at home.

4.14 | Governor Visits

None are scheduled at the moment but when they resume they are likely to be different form how they used to be.

(CW) to discuss with (RJ) and (ML) to develop a proposal to be submitted to FGB by email and discussed at the next committee meetings and FGB.

CW

4.2 Governance Committee

The following was discussed at Governance:

- Covid
- Attendance
- The outreach programme
- The Government's request that the full school should return in September
- The Osborne School building
- School finances; approval was given to spend £40k to upgrade a classroom
- How the school should reflect the Black Lives Matter movement. The school has already acknowledged the increased prominence of the movement in assemblies and in September will invite pupils of all ethnic backgrounds to join a group to share experiences. A former pupil who has been in discussion with us will be invited come to speak with senior staff.

Governors made the following observations:

- The school should extend its reach to the wider community and create collaboration with other schools in this matter.
- The school needs to establish that banter is not an acceptable form of language as it can be harmful.
- We need to ensure the school reflects society around us.
- The school should have a seat at the table of any initiatives in the wider community that are working on the issue.

ACTION;

- FGB to review what the school does to react to this ongoing issue, to change perceptions and behaviours and in particular to eradicate unconscious bias where it is present. Whilst the initiative should be pupil led staff should be involved to guide, help and challenge pupils and drive change across the school. The governing body are asked to make themselves available and the school is asked to let them know how they can be of assistance and get involved.
- Curriculum Committee to review how this should be incorporated into the curriculum.

A11

JR/ST

- A suggestion was made that a staff member should be appointed as an Equal Opportunities Officer, HT & SKT to discuss further.

RJ/CW

- (CW), (ML) and (RJ) discussed if a statement should be added to the school website stating where the school stands on Black Lives Matter, it was agreed that no immediate action should be taken as the school already has a publish ethos statement, that states; "Knowing that all human beings are equally and infinitely valuable and that they have equal rights and equal dignity".

5.0 <u>Core Function 2.</u> Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.

5.1 | Headteacher's Report (Verbal)

The full report is available on OneDrive and (ML) highlighted the following:

- The school is fully staffed for September and there will be 19 new trainees despite recruitment having been hampered by distancing.
- We do not yet know the full impact that Covid has had on finances. Current forecasts show that there will be a small and manageable negative impact.
- The return to school in September will be very complex with many decisions needing to be made; the SLT will rely on support from the governors. Various members of the FGB encouraged the HT and SLT to reach out to the FGB whenever needed for support.
- The staff have been stoic and exceptional this term.
- We are waiting to hear from the Teaching School Council about the terms of eligibility for Teaching School status before deciding whether it is appropriate for Kings.
- The OsKings build project has been delayed but the target launch date is still September 2021.
- Anna Payne's report on disadvantaged children is on OneDrive and demonstrates the school's creative and energetic approach in this area.

A Governor noted that the school had been very proactive in providing laptops and IT support to children early in lockdown and ahead of any Government recommendations to do so.

5.2 | Teaching and Learning – on line offer

- The history of the school's lockdown teaching provision was reviewed including the parent and pupil survey headlines.
- The school recognises that some things could have been done better but the attempt to offer a mixed economy of teaching is seen as the right strategy. Other schools have reported a tailing off of attendance of live lessons; some parents and pupils wanted a greater number at Kings.

- It was noted that FGB had expressed concern that staff may be over stretched. The teacher survey showed that 74% of staff stated they spent more time on school work than before lockdown and 59% of these reported that they spent more time giving feedback to pupils.
- Concerns raised by teachers include the amount that has been expected of them during lockdown; the difficulties of balancing work alongside family commitments; and the relatively low number of pupils who attend Teams live lessons despite the amount of time taken to prepare these.

Q. A Governor asked what the amount of live lessons are per year group? What form is the live feedback the staff are providing?

There is no data on the exact number of live lessons per year group. There was less live teaching further down the school and if there were another lockdown this would be addressed earlier on in the process. The school has asked itself whether t had there been more live lessons earlier, take up may have been better.

Staff in the survey were referring to feedback in general not live feedback specifically. The current model of online feedback is to provide it every 2 weeks rather than every 4 weeks in school. There may have been some confusion about where to find feedback so one of the initiatives Anna Payne's report recommends is to make it simpler for pupils to find and retain feedback for future reference.

Q. A Governor checked whether this was class feedback or individual. Some staff have used class smart feedback which is then targeted at individual pupils - for example through SMHW.

Q. A Governor asked how the welfare of teachers is being managing to avoid burnout.

The HT has emphasised the importance of staff welfare to them several times and identified the resources within the school to provide support and guidance. Line managers have been in regular contact with staff. We have a good sense of which staff have thrived and which have needed more support, some having been invited into school more often that the rota required. We feel we will not be faced with surprises when staff and pupils return in September.

ACTION: (CW) to write to staff on behalf of all governors to thank them for their hard work and continued efforts during lockdown.

Q. A Governor asked if there is a plan in place to provide online learning for any children who cannot return to school when the majority do in September?

Government guidance says they expect school to have a robust provision offering parallel online and in classroom teaching by the end of September. Anna Payne and Jake Lean are scoping out how to provide this in the Autumn Term. The government state this should include videoed lessons, the Open National Academy materials are being considered, the concept of live streaming

CW

is also being investigated. However, the logistical challenge of getting the whole school back in September is the immediate priority.

Q. A Governor asked whether the next inset days will be devoted to planning and upskilling staff in preparation for another lockdown, perhaps to reach out to other schools to share best practice, for example IT at Barton Peveril.

Yes, there is time for this and checking classrooms are ready to comply with new regulations.

Q. A Governor asked whether there would be training for staff to help them pick up on mental health needs.

Yes, the first session at the staff meeting on return will be led by Jane Berridge. Q. A Governor asked whether, given it is unlikely that all pupils will return in September, it will be possible to record or live stream lessons to avoid teachers having to double up.

Yes, we are looking at the possibility of live streaming lessons that take place in school to protect staff workload.

Families have been encouraged to contact the school should they have any concerns about attending in September. Our mode of operation for families who have had or may have poor attendance will be to support and assure them to get the pupils back to school rather than to turn to punitive measures.

Q. A Governor highlighted the government's expectation for schools to provide online learning for children whose parents do not sending them back due to shielding or isolating. Is there a plan in place to supply online learning for the minority of pupils who will remain at home?

Yes, this is being scoped out by Anna Payne and Jake Lean.

A Governor highlighted the very positive response from the parents' survey which followed a period of much greater parental scrutiny over what the school is providing than usual. They also noted that it will be very stressful for staff to need to provide live classroom learning and online learning simultaneously.

Currently a cohort of about 135 pupils come to school with around 60 on a single day, including some of our most vulnerable children. 14 staff are on duty. The HT made governors aware that changing timetables, even for a part of the school, for 'bubbling' purposes, would take at least 2 weeks.

5.3 Impact

We wanted to understand more about the learning impact of the shutdown. A survey of teachers at the end of June asked them to grade pupils against four criteria based on SMHW activity. The numbers suggest that a larger reengagement challenge than that suggested by other data may be required in September; 23%, ie. 78 and 76 of Years 9 and 10 pupils have had intermittent engagement with SMHW activities or tasks with very little work submitted. Fewer Year 7 pupils fall into this bracket.

Q. A Governor asked whether we have a gender split for engagement over the lockdown and virtual learning period.

No but it was felt engagement amongst girls would have been higher than amongst boys. Online attendance overall in Year 10 is still high at 87% but has tailed off more recently.

GCSE results will be sent by email to pupils' Kings' school accounts rather than being collected in person on results day. Prefect allocation for the new academic year will be made through virtual assemblies in September with ties being distributed in tutor groups.

Year 11 Grades

We have submitted grades based on holistic judgements (backed up by a clear rationale) informed by evidence of students' performance during their courses of study, such as in homework, mock exams and non-exam assessments. These will be moderated but the current recommended results would provide us with an all-time high progress 8 score of 0.43.

Governors thanked staff for the provision of online option days for Year 9 students.

One third of students did not attend the online option days which reflects the lack of engagement highlighted in 5.3. above.

SIP/SEF

SIP/SEF is to be reactivated when feasible. A draft is being developed to be launched when we are ready to move on from the post Covid recovery plan.

5.5

5.4

Leadership

SLT has been strengthened by 2 people: Jane Berridge for two terms and Jake Lean, Head of Science, as Acting Assistant Headteacher.

5.6

Q. A Governor asked how many of the applicants were female.

None of the applicants were female hence we are particularly pleased to have Jane join the team.

Q. A Governor asked whether staff, especially female ones, can be professionally mentored to help them rise through the ranks, possibly with support from outside the school.

The value of this was recognised and mentoring has been used.

6.0 <u>Core Function 3.</u> Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

6.1	The budget is changing and fast moving and will need to be revised in the Autumn term. - The community staff came off furlough today - the DofE scheme for the school to try to recover some of the extra Covid costs has been launched but on closer inspection we will only be able to recover few of the costs incurred. - We are still in negotiation with insurers to try to recoup money from cancelled trips. - Extra cleaning costs are being incurred to increase H&S in the school.	
7.0	Governing Body Structure.	
7.1	Training Update Very little training is booked. Governors are encouraged to take up the opportunity of the courses available. Governors are asked to complete their review forms and then resulting training requirements can be booked and met.	All
8.0	Policies.	
8.1	Safeguarding	
	We have completed the annual Safeguarding Audit Tool which is on OneDrive. Usually at this time of year there is a new version of the document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'; this is now available which means a new Child Protection Policy and a new Safeguarding Policy will be required. Models for these will be available in September so until new policies are drawn up the existing ones will be in use. These policies will be available on OneDrive and will be ratified at FGB in October.	FGB
8.2	NQT This policy is available on OneDrive for (SB) to review. Once reviewed it will be reissued to FGB by email. Unless objections are received will be approved.	SB/CW
8.3	Charging and Remissions Policy This was approved by the Finance Committee.	
8.4	Literacy Policy This was approved by the Curriculum Committee.	
8.5	Physical Activity Policy	

	Q. A Governor commented that item 1.1.3 should cross reference the work done on gender identity and other relevant policies. (SB) to email (IP) the relevant bodies for this policy and (IP) to: - cross reference other relevant policies - email to Ali Birch for sign off - email final version to governors for review and approval.	IP
8.6	Finance Policy Approved	
8.7		
	Health and Safety Policy All new policies need to be cross referenced with the Kings H&S policy and current policies should be read in conjunction with the school H&S policy. (IP) to place Health and Safety Policy on Kings website.	IP
9.0	Any Notified Business	
9.1	Potential new governor (ML), (RJ) and (CW) had a meeting with a potential new governor, Katherine Bamber. FGB will hold a vote at the October meeting.	
9.2	Governor Term of office review Two governors have already been extended already. The governors voted to extend Sarah Taylor's term by another 4 years.	
9.3	Review of designated governors Governors were asked to nominate themselves for the BEE/Careers Governor role to be reviewed at the October FGB.	All
	A Governor commented that we no longer need a designated Data Protection Governor and that this could be a shared responsibility. This was agreed.	
	A Governor suggested merging Pupil Support Committee and Curriculum Committee as they are interrelated. Item to be discussed at both committees.	JR/SG & SG
	Q. A Governor asked whether open evenings could be held with subject specific sessions.	
	They are not usually subject specific but it can be considered. (RJ) to liaise with (SH) about making online open sessions productive.	RJ

9.4	Annual Safety Audit This has been completed and is available on line. Return to School in September Plans are not yet final but the expectation is to have virtually all children in school with new health and safety measures. (RJ) sent a comprehensive email to parents today outlining thinking to date and setting a target date of 21st August for an updated communication from him to parents, staff and Governors.	RJ
10.0	Any Other Business.	
10.1	Admissions The furthest distance from which a family has successfully gained a place at the school this year is 5.562 miles which is over 3 miles further away than previously. It is promising that we continue to have applicants from schools and families in the catchment areas of the other central Winchester schools. Q. A Governor asked what the thinking was about holding events which gather numerous people together such as open days and evenings. Such events will need to be held virtually for example through the online virtual school tour and the on line versions of the Headteachers address to new families. There could be a live element to such events where parents email questions in advance for a panel of staff and pupils to answer. A proposal will be developed over the summer holiday to be implemented in September. Q. A Governor asked whether open evenings could be held with subject specific sessions. They are not usually subject specific but it can be considered. (RJ) to liaise with (SH) about making on line open sessions productive.	RJ RJ
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11.0	Next Meeting is on 15 th October 2020 at 6.15pm by Teams.
11.0	Meeting closed at 20.53 hrs.
	Mr Leeming thanked the governors for their voluntary time and effort.
	support for the whole school and leadership of the entire team.
	working with Mr Leeming and thanked him for his personal support and his
	School over the last 7 years. The Chair expressed how much he had enjoyed
	The Governors thanked Mr Leeming most sincerely for his leadership of Kings
	demonstrated the complexity of the situation to parents.
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	A Governor commented on the positive nature of the letter and that it

ACTIONS SUMMARY

4.13	Governor Visits None are scheduled at the moment but when they resume they are likely to be different form how they used to be. (CW) to discuss with (RJ) and (ML) to develop a proposal to be submitted to FGB by email and discussed at the next committee meetings and FGB. Black Lives Matter Movement	CW
	 FGB to review what the school does to react to this ongoing issue, to change perceptions and behaviours and in particular to eradicate unconscious bias where it is present. Whilst the initiative should be pupil led staff should be involved to guide, help and challenge pupils and drive change across the school. The governing body are asked to make themselves available and the school is asked to let them know how they can be of assistance and get involved. Curriculum Committee to review how this should be incorporated into the curriculum. HT & SLT to consider the appointment of an Equal Opportunities Officer. 	All JR/ST RJ
5.2	(CW) to write to staff on behalf of all governors to thank them for their hard work and continued efforts during lockdown.	CW
7.1	Training Update Very little training is booked. Governors are encouraged to take up the opportunity of the courses available. Governors are asked to complete their review forms and then resulting training requirements can be booked and met.	All

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	Usually at this time of year there is a new version of the document 'Keeping	
	Children Safe in Education'; this is now available which means a new Child	
	Protection Policy and a new Safeguarding Policy will be required. Models for	
	these will be available in September so until new policies are drawn up the	
	existing ones will be in use.	
	These policies will be available on OneDrive and will be ratified at FGB in	
	October.	FGB
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	They are not usually subject specific but it can be considered. (RJ) to liaise with	
	(SH) about making on line open sessions productive.	
	Return to School in September	

9.5	Plans are not yet final but the expectation is to have virtually all children in	RJ
	school with new health and safety measures. (RJ) sent a comprehensive email to	
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	for an updated communication from him to parents, staff and Governors.	
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	numerous people together such as open days and evenings.	
	Such events will need to be held virtually for example through the online virtual	
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