



MINUTES OF THE FEDERATION TRUST MEETING

Thursday 25 March 2021, 3.30pm
The Gallery

Present

Emma Gautrey, Judith Gilboy, Rob Guthrie, Andrew Holt, (Chair), Guy Magrath, Alex Mould, Rob Mulvey, Martyn Rhowbotham, Stuart Williams (Executive Principal).

In Attendance

John Harrison, Laurence Howard (Independent Member), Sheryl Wilson (Clerk).

1. Welcome introductions and apologies for absence

Andrew Holt welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies of absence were received from Ian Dodd, Sam Hearth, Sally Kirkby and Natalie Ray.

2. Declarations of Personal Interest and Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of personal or pecuniary interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10 December 2020

The minutes were signed to be a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

5. Clerk's Business

The Terms of Reference for each of the schools in the Federation, together with the Terms of Reference for the Resources Committee and the Audit Scrutiny Panel had all been amended and updated following advice obtained from solicitors. A document detailing all the changes was shared with trustees on the portal and each point was discussed. Trustees approved all the amends and agreed that the Terms of Reference could be published on the website and issued to each local governing body.

Question: Why is reference made to directors and trustees?

Stuart Williams advised that as a charitable company, the term directors is used which is often referred to in documents, however, trustees are also detailed in the Articles of Association, therefore both titles are used.

Question: With reference to the definition of a staff governor, does it make a difference if the teacher works full or part time hours?

We do not need to stipulate what hours they need to work to be a staff governor, and the term of office is 4 years.

Harington School Local Governing Body

Peter Moody had previously been appointed by Leicester University to Harington School LGB. The term of office expired in May 2020 and Leicester University nominated Philip Dalby to join the LGB. Trustees unanimously agreed that it was beneficial to the LGB for Peter to be appointed by the Trust, due to his skillset and experience, which is effective from 25 March 2021.

6. Catmose College Expansion

Stuart Williams presented a visual plan of the proposed expansion for Catmose. A paper copy of the Partnership Agreement was also distributed to trustees. The building that occupied Brightways has been relinquished by the local authority and it will be available to the College by the summer. The intent is to remodel the space for four large classrooms, a big office and a smaller classroom. The second phase of the project will involve building a new block at the back of the Catmose building.

Question: How does the expansion impact on food spaces?

The issue will be the theatre space, extra toilets and music rooms, catering should be able to accommodate extra students.

Question: Please can you clarify the need for involvement from the local authority, why can't the College liaise directly with the Government?

It is the local authority who hold the funds.

Question: With the expansion and more children attending, what about extra space for the foundation subjects if the new building will be allocated to Design Technology?

Stuart Williams confirmed that each block originally had space for 6 classrooms and this had already been increased to 7, in years 10 and 11 where there are 8 groups, teachers teach out of area. If the College becomes an 8-form entry, increasingly teachers will teach out of area, which could erode the ethos and teachers do not have ownership of classrooms. He agreed further careful consideration is given to the potential growth to ensure that our ethos remains one where the College is a calm and purposeful environment in which to work.

Stuart Williams advised that there was no mention of fixed furniture and equipment (FFE) in the partnership agreement and there were other points in the Partnership Agreement that needed clarification. Trustees agreed that the way forward was for Stuart Williams to meet with the decision makers at the local authority, if the agreement was then at a point of sign-off, available trustees would be invited to an extraordinary meeting, in addition Guy Magrath and Emma Gautrey will have oversight.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 1 July 2021, 3.30pm