



MINUTES OF THE FEDERATION RESOURCES TRUST MEETING

Thursday 8 February 2024, 9.15am
The Gallery

Present

Andrew Cross, Rob Guthrie, Andrew Holt, Alex Mould, Stuart Williams (Executive Principal), Guy Magrath (Chair), Martyn Rhowbotham, Clive Norgaard Morton.

In Attendance

Kelly Jackson (Head of School, Catmose Primary), Oliver Teasel (Head of Harington School), Chris Wilson (Chief Finance Officer), Sara Kane (Governance Professional).

1. Welcome introductions and apologies for absence

Guy Magrath welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mark Tinkler.

2. Declarations of Personal Interest and Pecuniary Interest

There was a declaration of personal interest for staff when discussing the salary sacrifice scheme and electric vehicles. Staff members agreed not to vote on this agenda item.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7 December 2023

The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

A query was raised as to whether a response had been received from the EFSA regarding the potential sale of the Central Services building. It was reported that a valuation had been received. However, any funds generated from the sale would need to be used for a project rather than saved as capital. It was agreed that the potential for the building to be used as a central resource for the Federation would be looked into and any findings reported at the next meeting.

5. Financial Reports

As at 31 December an in-year deficit of £106,000 is forecasted for 2023/2024. This decrease in the predicted deficit is due to an increase in the SEN/DSP income.

Tusker

Trustees agreed to appoint Tusker as the Federation's partner in supplying electric and hybrid vehicles through the new salary sacrifice scheme.

Flexible Energy Contract

It was agreed that the Federation would sign up to the Northern Utilities scheme. This would enable savings on the utility costs (potentially £63000 per annum). This is a 3-year contract which caps the price paid, allowing energy to be purchased in advance, when the price is lower. This adds a layer of protection and has budgetary benefits, rather than enter a fixed contract in September each year, when global events could impact on prices, and see the Federation fixing at higher prices.

Local Government Pension Discretion Policy

It was agreed that the Federation would adopt the Local Government Pension Scheme's example Employer Discretion Policy. Each of the discretions come at an additional cost to the Federation, however, the discretions will not be generally exercised, but allow the Federation to use the policy for consideration under exceptional circumstances.

Approval of CEO credit card

The CEO's credit card transactions were approved by Guy Magrath.

Bacs over £30K

Guy Magrath signed the BACS over £30,000.

6. Salary Sacrifice Scheme and Electric Vehicles (Policy)

Governors agreed to implement the Salary Sacrifice scheme and electric vehicles policy. The financial benefits of the scheme for both the Federation and staff were highlighted.

Question: If the scheme is successful will the Federation to install electric power points?

Yes, the Federation would need to install electric power points, however, there are funding grants available for installation on school premises. A stipulation of the grants is that during the first 12 months staff have exclusive use of the charging points, then the school is able to open up the charging points to the general public and charge a higher rate for use.

7. Staffing Update

The following vacancies have been appointed to:

- Teacher of Business Studies & Economics
- Teacher of Science
- Teacher of Geography
- Senior Teaching Assistant
- Teaching Assistant
- Cleaner x2
- Exams Invigilator x4

Current vacancies include:

- Teacher of Design Technology
- Teacher of English
- Teacher of Religious Studies
- Cleaner
- Exams Invigilator
- Apprenticeships

Confidential Minutes *

8. A.O.B

There were no items of any other business.

Diary Dates

Resources meeting – Thursday 21 March 2024, 9.15am