

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNORS MEETING

Held on Thursday 29th April 2010 at 6.00 P.M.

Present: Mr Philip Eyton-Jones – Chairman
Mrs Catherine Simpson– Head Teacher
Mr Stuart Ayres
Ms Judith Corbett
Mr Alan Evans
Mrs Doreen Eyton
Mrs Maria Hammersley
Mr Tony Hannigan
Mr Markus Hesseling
Mrs Barbara Hughes
Miss Jane Kennedy
Mr Philip McGreevy
Mrs Liz Oliver
Mrs Sally Tansley

In Attendance: Miss Anne Spiller - Clerk to the Governors

1. Apologies: Mr Stuart Ayres, Miss Tara Moorcroft, Fr Antony McDowell, ,

2. Faith School Update

The team (PE-J, CS, AE, MHes, M Ham, TH, JK, JC, PMcG,) had just met in school with Hywyn Williams & Jackie Whalley.

PE-J – It was his view that there was likely to be only one Faith School, probably 11-16. We have agreed to a Strategic Plan and Feasibility Study. We have to do an Option Appraisal. He reported that Hywyn Williams was convinced the 11-19 would not be anywhere near Rhyl. He believed we would lose 16-19 in the near future.

MHes - Thought the Power Point was a disaster, it was not threatening them. We need to put this site in and make it really attractive.

With the election coming might change everything including funding.

What was the option of going it alone? Would we be viable?

PMcG – The important election will be the NAW in 2012. The next spending review will be drastic, unlikely there will be £25-£30million available. Our success and track record can be strengthened, we should work on regardless. He felt it was risky to write to DCC and say we are not in the consultation.

MHam- Felt Bodelywyddan to be the favoured site as it was close to Conwy County, possibly get a partnership with a college? She felt it unlikely there would be a Secondary Faith School on this site.

CS – There had been a meeting with Carol Burgess, James Curran, Rita Price & Jackie Whalley which we had not been invited to. This was not acceptable. We need a read receipt e-mail for future meeting invitations. We want to be involved, we need to show we are prepared to be part of the feasibility study, not sign up to 11-16 option, there are other alternatives. We need a meeting 'Let's drive it'.

JK – D.C.C. should have stopped that meeting.

MHam – DCC did not see it was their responsibility to ensure we were asked. We must ensure that it is the Bishops.

Primary provision was not being reviewed, there were a number of faith schools.

CS - We need to go in strong. She had real concerns about the Faith School option. We go for a Catholic School, this was a fundamental issue for the Governors to consider. Travel was a concern, free transport would be withdrawn, and (however a number of parents choose here and already pay for travel). She felt we should go with the Diocese, we have to be part of their proposal which will be 11-16 and not bother with TACP Plans.

We have to be innovative, we are the only State Boarding School.

AE - To write to Hywyn clarifying what came out of this meeting. Yes to Study; No to 11-16.

TH – Both sides had compromised.

JC – Do we go with them or go it alone? We represent a very cost effective option.

We add the best value on 11-16, they are both qualitytative and quantitative.

St Brigid's prolongs a child's childhood.

BH – The Primary being here adds to that. We need a good Inspection.

CS – Senior School adore the Primary - Achievement Assembly.

ST- Put the slant on the positive way. Make it appear to be his vision. Play along with them.

Scandanavian schools were now from 3-19. Pay lip service and shore up our own standards.

Threat is our buildings. Capital Maintenance & provision to meet Health & Safety.

PE-J – We are not covered by the Diocese, thus need our own pot for 85% Capital Funding. He would liaise with Sylvia Lyndoe (NAW).

He would e-mail both Dioceses & Dir of Ed and urge them to ask Bishops to convene a meeting ASAP. We must join in for the moment, get into one trounce for next 15 yrs.

JK – DCC were looking for us to be signed up by the end of May.

CS – Governors need to decide, 'What is it we want for this school'?

LO – Suggested we asked for a Post Graduate to carry out research on our behalf.

After discussion on this matter it was agreed that PMcG would speak to the Vice-Chancellor of Chester University

3. Inspection

Mrs Simpson reported that the Registered Inspector thought KQ1 that we might be a 2 not 3.

He indicated that he was keen on the quality of Teaching & learning. The Inspectors would spend 1 hour with each teacher.

4. Future Meetings

Tuesday 4th May (Pre-Inspection with Registered Inspector Peter Harris) 5p.m.

The Post Inspection Governors meeting would be on Friday 21st May at 3.30 p.m.

Full Governors Thursday 24th June at 6.30 p.m.