

# MONKLEIGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Mar 2016 – 5:00pm

## MINUTES

date produced: 23/03/2016

CIRCULATED TO:

Name	Initials	*	Category	Name	Initials	*	Category
Mrs Marci Baxter	MB	*	Parent	Mr David McRoberts	DMcR		Co-opted
Miss Rosie Beer	RB	*	Co-opted	Mrs Bethany *O'Donoghue	BO'D	*	Staff
Mr David Butler	DB		Co-opted	Mrs Leah Paiano (Chair)	LP	*	LA
Mr Brian Evans	BE	*	Parent	Mrs Hannah Pettifer	HP	*	Co-opted
Mrs Jess Gierke	JG		Parent	Mrs Karen Reeves	KR	*	Head
Mrs Marie Jones	MJ	*	Co-opted	Rev. Gwen Smith	GS	*	Co-opted
*Denotes present				Mrs Di Beer (Clerk)	LDB	*	Clerk

Agenda	
1	Welcome and Apologies
2	Declarations of Interest
3	Minutes of previous meeting
4	Multi Academy Trust
5	Policy
6	Staffing
7	Time and Date of next FGB meeting

## MINUTES

### 1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting. Apologies had been received from Mr Butler (medical), Mrs Gierke (work commitments) and Mr McRoberts (away from area). Governors unanimously accepted.

### 2 Declarations of Interest

Mrs Pettifer and Mrs Reeves declared an interest in agenda item 4 due to being governors at Great Torrington School

### 3 Minutes of previous meeting

Mrs Paiano enquired if those who had agreed to contact their unions had done so, and what the outcome had been (ref: 2016\_02\_22 – 3-I-iii).

Mrs O'Donoghue confirmed that she had contacted her union, who had initially not got back to her. She has since been given a telephone number to contact a union representative.

Mrs Jones confirmed that she has spoken to the local officer, who was helpful to a degree, but was not an expert in employment. She had been told that care should be taken regarding anything affecting pensions / contracts. She has tried contacting the employment rep, who has not yet been back in touch.

Miss Beer confirmed that she has not yet contacted her rep.

Governors agreed that it is a difficult thing to ask unions about as nothing has yet been decided.

Governors were unanimous that the minutes of the meeting were a true and accurate record – signed.

### 4 Multi Academy Trust

Mrs Reeves confirmed that she and Mrs Paiano had attended a meeting at Beaford regarding the forming of a MAT.

A Great Torrington School is already an academy.

B Abbotsham Primary School is also keen to go ahead, but is looking at various options

C The other school leaders at the meeting appeared to be planning what the MAT will look like, whereas we are still deciding if we want to be in a MAT.

D Another meeting is being held on 16<sup>th</sup> March regarding the MAT

Mrs Reeves informed governors that she had attended a meeting with Sue Clarke, who had said "The Local Authority is not going anywhere". SC's view was that the LA would still like to work with academies. She felt

Action /  
Notes

#### Governing bodies' core functions:

- A. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- B. Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- C. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

that there is a lot of vested interest in academisation, and she considers that the 2020 rumour regarding MATs is more about secondary schools than primary. She had advised that no schools should feel rushed into forming a MAT. If the school's data is OK, who is going to force you?

KR said that she had felt reassured to hear someone say that it's not something that has to be done soon. She advised governors that the right decisions need to be made for our school. She feels that Monkleigh can still work collaboratively with schools.

A discussion ensued with some governors having done a reasonable amount of research on MATs prior to the meeting. Various points were raised:

Monkleigh should train staff more to be in a stronger position.

Many MATs are failing

Monkleigh can already evidence working well with other schools

It may be good to work with some Church schools too

The motivation for becoming a MAT is surely financial

Partnership talks had been exciting, but now seem more concerning. We still need to work collaboratively.

Mrs Paiano asked governors to vote on the joining of a MAT  
0 in favour, 9 against – unanimous.

#### **5 Assessment Policy**

Mrs Reeves had previously distributed a re-written assessment policy. Governors stated that they had found it very interesting and informative. Mrs Paiano proposed that the policy be adopted. Unanimously approved.

#### **6 Staffing**

Miss Beer, Mrs Jones and Mrs O'Donoghue left the meeting. Recorded as part 2 minutes

#### **7 Time and Date of next meeting(s)**

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 18:30.

Signed as true: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chair of Governing Body)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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- B. *Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and*
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