

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHITCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY HELD
AT THE SCHOOL ON 19TH JUNE 2023**

PRESENT	Sian Hopkins	Partnership (Chair)
	Joyce Slack	Partnership
	Ian McIlquham	Partnership
	Max Vine	Partnership
	David Collins	Partnership
	Paul Bulpin	Community
	David Roylance	Community
	Ashley Collins	Parent
	David Revill	Parent
	David Greaves	Parent
	Maria Boffey	Parent
	Andrew Davies	Local Authority
	Jackie Jones	Local Authority
	Mark Powell	Headteacher
	Jonathan Davies	Teacher
	Noreen Linforth	Teacher
	Richard Burge	Staff
	Scott Britt	Deputy Head (Observer)
	Wayne Lilly	Business Manager (Observer)
	Steve Williams	Estates (Observer)
	Nick John	Deputy Head (Observer)
	Ceri Garland	Teacher
	Gareth Coombs	Clerk to the Governors

31 APOLOGIES

Lisa Williams; Denise Kelland.

32 GOVERNOR MEMBERSHIP

- Sian Hopkins was re-elected as a Partnership Governor.
- Paul Bulpin was re-elected as a Community Governor.
- The resignation of Denise Kelland as a Community Governor was noted. The Chair, on behalf of the Governing Body and the school, paid tribute to Denise for the long and much valued service and support for the school as a Governor. She would be badly missed.

33 MINUTES

Subject to the following amendment the minutes of the last meeting held on 22nd March 2023 were confirmed as a correct record:-
Under members present include Andrew Davies as a Local Authority Governor.

34 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Minute 25: Headteacher's Report: New Build – This referred to the new Science Block.

35 HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE – Mark Powell

A full report on attendance figures was provided. Overall attendance was 90.64%. However, Year 11 attendance was not great and stood at 89.47%. There was also some concern over eFSM attendance figures which stood at 83.66%, while non eFSM figures were 92.48%.

A Teaching/Staffing update was provided. It was reported that Nick John had been appointed as the new Headteacher from September 2023, with Ceri Garlant being appointed as a Deputy Head. There would be 3.1 fewer teachers from September 2023.

Nick John reported on the SLT structure from September.

A Finance update was provided. The end of year budget would have a surplus of £908,996. Expenditure on a games area would be undertaken at a cost of £108,000. A loudspeaker system would be provided at a cost of £40,000. The School Private fund held £268,000 which was not committed expenditure.

35 NEW CURRICULUM PRESENTATION – Ceri Garlant

A presentation was given on the progress to date on the plans to implement the New Curriculum. This was supported by the circulation of the Welsh Government Guide to the New Curriculum for Wales and a written document showing the vision and approach of the school to implementing the New Curriculum was tabled and noted.

The school was planning to roll out the New Curriculum from September 2023. In order to do this the Governing Body would need to ratify the proposals. Following discussion it was

AGREED that the school proposals for implementation of the New Curriculum in September 2023 be ratified by the Governing Body

The school would now need to publish a summary of the Whitchurch High School Curriculum on the website so that it could be accessed by parents.

36 SCHOOL UNIFORM – Mark Powell

Written proposals for school uniform requirements for years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 had been circulated with the agenda. The main points were gone through by the Headteacher. It was necessary to comply with Welsh Government School Uniform Legislation.

Following discussion it was

AGREED that the proposed school uniform requirements circulated with the agenda and outlined by the Headteacher be approved by the Governing Body.

37 FEEDBACK FROM SUB-COMMITTEES

(i) Finance – This had been covered in the Headteacher’s Update.

(ii) Curriculum – Nick John gave a verbal report. Written notes were available on request. With regard to science there would be a move from 17 classes to 14 classes from September 2023.

The school would be concentrating of literacy and numeracy provision.

Language provision had been discussed and Governors would be kept informed of any proposed changes in this area of educational provision.

Proposed school trips were always considered by the sub-committee and Governors were assured that all trips complied with school regulations.

A whole school review would be conducted which would include Governor involvement whereby individual Governors would be asked to be attached to a specific faculty. A further update on these proposals would be given in the new school year.

(iii) Estates – Steve Williams gave a verbal report. Written notes were available on request. A progress report was given on the New Build which included the new Science Block.

The fire alarm system on both school sites had been upgraded.

With regard to DDA further works were being undertaken.

MUGA would be finished before the end of June 2023.

Tenders were out for the provision of a new walkway.

The refurbishment of the former science labs was underway but progress was slow at present. It was hoped that the work would be completed by next Easter which would also include work on the new maths block.

The art block had been demolished but plans for the replacement of the block were still awaited from the LEA.

In closing his report Steve wanted to pay tribute to Denise Kelland who was leaving the Governing Body after many years of much valued service and support. These sentiments were supported by the Governing Body. Denise would be much missed.

(iv) Admissions – Joyce Slack would provide a progress report shortly.

38 POLICIES

The following policies were adopted:-

- Bullying
- Admissions
- Educational Visits

With regard to the Healthcare Needs Policy, Andrew Davies wanted to have further information on how Healthcare Professionals worked under the policy proposals. He realised that the policy needed to be brought in line with the requirements of the new ALN Act. Andrew would check on the role of Healthcare Professionals, specifically matters relating to the sharing of confidential matters and would report back to the Governing Body in this matter.

39 GOVERNOR EMAIL / TEAMS – Richard Burge

Richard gave a presentation regarding the proposal to use Microsoft Teams to store minutes, agendas, other documentation. If Governors needed a password to access the website then they should contact the Headteacher's P.A.

40 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Governing Body Skills Audit – A document was circulated and noted and the main points highlighted by Joyce Slack. It was felt that an induction process should be undertaken by all Governors.

(ii) Catering Presentation – Wayne Lilly informed Governors that three companies would be giving a presentation on Friday 23rd June in support of their tender for the catering contract. A decision would be made on the awarding of the contract by Monday 26th June and Governors would be informed of the outcome.

41 MARK POWELL

This would be Mark's last meeting as he would be leaving the school at the end of the year. He wished to thank the Governing Body for their much valued and continual support during his time as Headteacher of Whitchurch High School. He was confident that the school would be left in safe hands after the appointment of Nick John as the new Headteacher.

Joyce Slack responded on behalf of the Governing Body. She wished to record that she was very pleased that Mark had been persuaded to apply for the post when it was advertised for the second time. Mark had an outstanding interview and it was a delight to have Mark in post as Headteacher. He had been an inspiration to the school and had had a huge impact on the staff and pupils. She wished to thank Mark for everything he has done which had made Whitchurch High School the great school that it is. The Governing Body would do all it can to ensure his legacy continues.

42 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

None.

44 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

18th September 2023 commencing at 6:00pm.

Meeting concluded.

Signed: SR Hopkins
(Chair)

Date: 18.9.23