

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WHITCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY HELD
AT THE SCHOOL ON 28TH NOVEMBER 2022**

PRESENT	Sian Hopkins	Partnership (Chair)
	Joyce Slack	Partnership
	Ian McIlquham	Partnership
	David Collins	Partnership
	Dr Paul Bulpin	Community
	Denise Kelland	Community
	David Roylance	Community
	Hayley Jeans	Parent
	Maria Boffey	Parent
	Lisa Williams	Parent
	Andrew Davies	Local Authority
	Jackie Jones	Local authority
	Noreen Linforth	Teacher Governor
	Jonathan Davies	Teacher Governor
	Richard Burge	Staff Governor
	Mark Powell	Headteacher
	Nick John	Observer (Deputy Head)
	Scott Britt	Observer (Deputy Head)
	Wayne Lilly	Observer (Business Manager)
	Steve Williams	Observer (Estates)
	Arwen Stephens	Associate Pupil
	Zakaria Oumellil	Associate Pupil
	Gareth Coombs	Clerk to the Governors

14 APOLOGIES

David Greaves.

15 APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS

The appointment of Jackie Jones as LA Governor and Jonathan Davies as Teacher Governor replacing Nick John was noted. Both new Governors were welcomed to the meeting by the Chair.

16 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 26th September 2022 were confirmed as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

17 HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE – Mark Powell

The Headteacher was attending virtually and was assisted in providing the update by Nick John.

The main matter to be considered was the Annual Report to Parents.

The Report had been circulated to Governors. The Headteacher informed Governors that it was not essential that an actual Parents' Meeting was held and that, if approved by Governors the report could then be sent to parents.

Hayley Jeans felt that there were gaps in information on page 5 of the report which made it look unfinished. There was also some jargon used which could be explained. The Headteacher informed Governors that there was a certain structure that needed to be followed in producing the report and that some jargon needed to be used. In this respect, with the exception of including Community Links, the Headteacher felt that there was not a huge amount that could be done to expand the report without producing quite a large document. This was understood and appreciated by Governors.

The Chair, Vice Chair and Headteacher would re-visit the report to establish if there was any way of expanding it. The report would then be re-circulated to Governors for their approval.

18 COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

(i) Finance Committee – The Committee had not had an opportunity to meet but Wayne Lilly gave a verbal report on the current financial situation. It was hoped that the UK Government would provide more funding to cope with the cost of salaries and pay awards. Jackie Jones informed Governors that it was anticipated that there would be a £53 million hole in the budget across Wales for all sources of funding.

Wayne hoped that the school could ride out this year but was concerned for future years if nothing was done by Central Government to provide additional funding. The Headteacher felt that this was a test of support from the Local Authority and whether they gave some priority to education. Hopefully the Local authority could ensure that any shortfall in funding would be provided.

A more full report on the financial situation would be provided following a meeting of the Committee.

(ii) Curriculum Committee – Nick John provided a verbal report. Written notes of the meeting would be available if required.

The following areas were reported upon:-

- New Curriculum for Wales: Progress
- Business Forum: Work Related Experience
- 6th Form Entry Requirements
- Drop Out Rates: Years 12 and 13
- Challenges schools are facing
- Protected Time Policy: To be provided at the next meeting.

- Learning Pathways Policy: To be provided at the next meeting.
- (ii) Estates and Buildings Committee** – The Committee had not had an opportunity to meet but hopefully there would be a meeting before the end of term. Steve Williams gave a verbal update covering the following areas:-
- It was hoped that the science block would be completed in June 2023.
 - Work had been undertaken to improve soundproofing.
 - A planning application had been submitted to improve the multi-use games area. Some objections had been submitted but it looked like the work would be approved.

19 POLICIES

The following policies were adopted by Governors:-

- Special Leave Policy
- Protected Time and Study Leave Policy
- Attendance Policy (Students)
- Privacy Policy
- Managing Violent and Abusive School Visitors

It was agreed that the following Policies should again be considered at the next meeting:-

- Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Policy Statement – To be reviewed by Headteacher.
- Word Processor Policy-2022-2023 – It was suggested that this should be re-named. The Chair undertook to go through the Policy with the Headteacher and report back to the next meeting.
- Visitors and External Speakers Policy – Jackie Jones asked if there was any new guidance which would need to be included in the Policy. Andrew Davies undertook to check if there was any new guidance and report back to the next meeting.

20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

None.

21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 23rd January 2023 commencing at 6pm.

Meeting concluded.

SRHopkins

Chair of Governors