

Minutes of a Meeting of the Schools Forum

Monday 4th March 2013

Shaw House

Present:	Richard Blofeld		Headteacher	Robert Sandilands Primary School
	Nick Breach		Governor	Shaw cum Donnington Primary School
	Fiona Bridger-Wilkinson		Headteacher	Victoria Park Nursery School
	Jeanette Clifford		Governor	St Bartholomews School
	Kathryn Cockar		Headteacher	Kennet Valley Primary School
	Paul Dick		Headmaster	Kennet School
	Peter Fry		Headteacher	The Willink School
	Reverend Mary Harwood		Church of England Representative	Oxford Diocese
	Jane Headland		Headteacher	Brookfields Special School
	Brian Jenkins		Early Years PVI Representative	Jubilee Day Nursery
	Catherine Morley		Headteacher	Theale Primary School
	Chris Prickett		Headteacher	Streatley Primary School
	Clive Rothwell		Governor	John O'Gaunt School
	Pam Slingsby		School Business Manager	Basildon Primary School
	Graham Spellman		Roman Catholic Representative	Portsmouth Diocese
	Peter Thorne	(Substitute)	Headteacher	Long Lane Primary School
	John Tyzack	(Chair)	Chair of Governors	Whitelands Park Primary School
	Stacey Williams		Headteacher	Reintegration Service
	Councillor Irene Neill		Executive Portfolio for C&YP	
	Councillor David Allen	(Substitute)	Council Member Liberal Democrats	
Ian Pearson		Head of Education		
Andy Walker		Head of Finance		
Claire White		Schools' Finance Manager		
Carolynn Loosen	(Minutes)	Schools' Funding Officer		

Action

1. APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Fadia Clarke		Deputy Principal	Newbury College
John Micklewhite	(Vice Chair)	Headteacher	Birch Copse Primary School
David Ramsden		Headteacher	Little Heath School
Maria Tillett		School Business Manager	Theale Green School
Glyn Whiteford		Headteacher	Denefield School
Charlotte Wilson		Headteacher	Trinity School

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 21ST JANUARY 2013

The minutes of the meeting on 21st January were approved.

3. ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no action points.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pam Slingsby declared an interest in agenda item 7 appendix B regarding additional funding for statements 2013/14.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Barbara Hunter the Headteacher at Francis Baily has resigned from the School's Forum and has been replaced by Catherine Morley the Headteacher at Theale Primary School.

The election for the primary governor representative is due to close on 15th March and the successful candidate will attend the next Schools' Forum meeting.

The Schools' Forum currently has 24 members; 19 school members and 5 non-school members. As 50% of the members will come to the end of their term of office in July it was proposed that the size of the Forum should be reviewed.

ACTION: Proposals for membership to be presented at the next Schools' Forum.

C White /
C Loosen

6. EARLY YEARS FUNDING 2013/14

Claire White presented the report on Early Years Funding 2013/14. The Early Years Steering Group has agreed the revisions to the formula and they will continue to monitor the budget closely during the year.

DECISION: The Schools' Forum agreed the recommendation that the early years funding be based on the proposed funding rates for the early year's single funding formula and the 2 year olds as set out in the report.

7. FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR HIGH NEEDS PUPIL FUNDING 2013/14

Claire White presented the final arrangements for High Needs Pupil Funding 2013/14.

DECISION: All the recommendations were agreed.

- The arrangements for High Needs Funding 2013/14 were noted.
- That additional payments are made to schools where the SEN formula and top up funding does not meet actual costs.
- That for the academic year commencing September 2013 for all new planned change of placements the school will pay the PRU £1000 per term.

8. FINAL ESTIMATE OF DSG FUNDING FOR 2013/14 AND PROPOSED BUDGET

Claire White presented the final estimate of DSG funding for 2013/14 and the proposed budgets against each funding block.

DECISION: The Schools' Forum agreed the proposed DSG budget and that any DSG underspend in 2012/13 be retained as High Needs Block

contingency.

9. ALLOCATION OF CENTRALLY RETAINED DSG UNDERSPEND 2012/13

Ian Pearson and Claire White presented a report on the proposed allocation of centrally retained DSG underspend 2012/13.

DECISION: The Schools' Forum agreed the following recommendations:

- **Release of funding to John O'Gaunt of £200k already agreed by the Schools' Forum together with £187k from the underspend and £85k towards restructuring costs.**
- **Release of funding to The Willows of £59k due to the Schools' Forum not being able to honour the additional allocation in 2013/14 as previously agreed due to the funding reforms.**
- **Funding of £72k and £48k for Beenham Primary and Beedon Primary Schools respectively to meet the repayment of loans taken out before the significant cuts to devolved formula capital and the funding reforms.**
- **The remaining £1m to be allocated to schools on the agreed basis of per pupil for secondary schools and a flat rate of £500 plus per pupil for primary schools.**

ACTION: Allocations to be made to schools before year end.

C White /
C Loosen

10. DSG MONITORING 2012/13, MONTH 10

Ian Pearson reported on the DSG monitoring report as at 31st January 2013.

The current forecast variance is a £1.602m underspend, which is mostly made up of recoupment income and reduced spend on out of county placements, and will be allocated out to schools as per the previous report.

11. PROPOSED DATES AND WORK PLAN FOR 2013/14

The proposed dates and work plan for 2013/14 were agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Reminder that there is a meeting on 11th March at 4pm at Shaw House to discuss the DfE review of school funding arrangements consultation.

Meeting closed 6:00 p.m.

Date of next meeting: Monday 10th June 2013
Time: 5pm
Venue: Shaw House
