

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE GOVERNING BODY OF ST MICHAEL IN THE HAMLET PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HELD AT 5.00pm ON WEDNESDAY 02 FEBRUARY 2021 VIA ZOOM**

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**PRESENT**

Laura Pilgrim – Chair  
Rachel Brackenridge  
John Ellis  
Keith Hitchman  
Oonagh Jaquest  
Rona Lucas  
Nena Mitchell  
Laura Moreton  
David Patmore  
Phil Watson

**ALSO PRESENT**

Terry Brown – Clerk  
Judith Agis – Year 4 Teacher

**21/01 WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed governors to the meeting.

**21/02 REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

There were no new declarations in respect of agenda items.

**21/03 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence. M Nikeas

**21/04 GOVERNORHUB UPDATE**

The Chair reminded governors of the training available vis Governorhub.

**21/05 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting 07 October 2020 were approved as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

## 21/06 BLACK LIVES MATTER

J Agis gave a report. The key points were as follows.

- i. Liverpool Learning Partnership had established BLM working groups. The working groups brought together staff and governors from schools across the city as well as members of the BAME community.
- ii. The working groups worked closely with the City Council to create a shared vision and promote the role of black people in the education system.
- iii. The working groups were focussing on curriculum reform and policies.
- iv. The working groups had established a shared drive where resources can be shared.
- v. Black history needed to be integral to the curriculum.
- vi. Black role models in science, literature, politics etc needed to be made more prominent.
- vii. There needed to be a clear commitment to anti-racism.
- viii. There needed to be some reflection on white privilege and unconscious bias.
- ix. A whole school audit had been completed. This would inform the school's response going forward.
- x. Next steps included questionnaires for stakeholder, auditing and reviewing policies, establish a diversity working group, diversify the reading material available to children, and promotion of black role models through displays etc.

### Governor Challenge

Governors asked the following questions:

- i. What can be done in terms of diversifying the governing board.?
- ii. What can be done to highlight the role of black people in local history?

J Agis responded as follows:

- i. Governors could approach the local community. An audit may help identify people who could serve as governors.
- ii. Historian, Lawrence Westcliff, was working on documenting local history. There was also a local black history group. J Agis agreed to provide further details.

Governors thanked J Agis for her report. J Agis left the meeting at this point.

## **21/07 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Governors had previously been circulated with the minutes of the Standards and Resources committees.

Arising from the minutes:

### **Resources**

- i. L Moreton was working with human resources to deal with some discrepancies in pensions.
- ii. Urgent work was required on some of the sewer pipes. This would be funded by the local authority and would take place over the summer holiday. However, this would mean that the planned refurbishment of the toilets would be delayed.

### **Standards**

The committee received reports from subject leaders on remote learning and SEND.

## **21/08 COVID-19 UPDATE**

L Morerton gave an update. The key points were as follows:

- i. The school had received the home testing kits for staff. Staff were asked to take the test twice a week.
- iii. There had been a lot of request from parents for their children to be allowed to attend school during the lockdown.

### **Governor Challenge**

Governors asked the following questions:

- i. Were all the staff taking the COVID-19 tests?
- ii. Were the requests from parents repeat requests or individual discrete requests?

L Moreton responded as follows:

- i. The tests were not compulsory. However, the vast majority (50 out of 54) of staff were taking the tests.

- ii. It was mixture of both. In some instances, the parent's circumstances may have changed. The school followed the criteria and guidance set down by the DfE.

## **21/09 HUMAN RESOURCES**

Governors considered a confidential item which regulations require be minuted separately and would not form part of the public record.

## **21/10 HEADTEACHER'S REPORT**

Governors had previously been circulated with the Headteacher's report. Arising from discussion:

- i. There had been two fixed term exclusions since the last meeting. The local authority social inclusion team had been very helpful in dealing with these two cases. The parents had also been supportive.
- ii. The IT technician was to leave the school at the end of the month. B Powell had been appointed as mental health and wellbeing lead.
- iii. L Moreton thanked S Birch, remote learning lead, for her hard work. The remote learning offer provided a well-balanced curriculum for those children learning at home. Two live lessons for smaller groups were to be offered going forward.
- iv. The number of safeguarding issues had risen during the COVID-19 pandemic. A Beckwith, who was shielding and working from home had taken on a lot of the safeguarding work. L Moreton thanked the safeguarding team for their hard work.
- v. The School Council was meeting remotely.
- vi. There was a rota for staff working from home.

### **Governor Challenge**

Governors asked the following questions:

- i. Were the children who were excluded impacted by the lockdown.
- ii. How was L Moreton's wellbeing?

L Moreton responded as follows:

- i. One of the children was affected negatively by the lockdown. Though there were also some family issues at the same time.

- ii. It was challenging dealing with the uncertainty resulting from the pandemic. However, there was a very good and supportive team at the school which was extremely helpful.

**20/11 GOVERNING BODY ITEMS**

Governors considered the following items:

- i. The Chair reported that the Director’s briefing had received reports on: Walking to School, COVID-19, and Liverpool primary reading age.
- ii. Governors were requested to update their biographies for the website.
- iii. Governors were reminded of the training on offer through Governors Services.
- iv. L Yallop had not attended a meeting for some time and had not responded to any attempts to contact her. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to L Yallop concerning her attendance.
- v. One of the candidates for appointment as a co-opted governor no longer wished to be considered for appointment.
- vi. The Chair was to poll governors as to their preferences for committee dates/times.
- vii. It was agreed to defer the away day until physical meetings were once again possible.

**21/12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 12 May 4.30pm

There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 6.10pm

