



**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA FULL GOVERNORS MEETING OF
WHEATFIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL HELD ON 15TH NOVEMBER 2023
VIA TEAMS.**

The meeting being Quorate was opened at 6.10pm by EVD.

Present:
Governors: Andy Moffat (Co-Chair AM); Paul Prosser (PPr); Jennifer Adams (JA); Nicola Tabb (NT); Emma Verney-Davies (Acting HT-EVD).
Apologies: Lisa Ling (LL)
In Attendance: -Mike Behnke – Clerk (Syzygy Clerking Services); Clare Moffat (CM).

No.	Minutes	Action Point
1.	<p>Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EVD welcomed governors to this extra meeting, held to ratify the national pay awards for teachers and support staff. 	
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EVD reported that she had not as yet received the local authority email to confirm that the above pay awards were going ahead. Governors were required to ratify the pay award, there being no reason why the local authority should not uphold the DfE decision. <p>CM outlined what this meant for the school and the budget (paper previously circulated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school budgeted in April/May, 3% for teachers pay. An award of 6.5% was awarded nationally. The government has stated it will contribute towards that figure, the exact amount as yet unknown but likely to be 3%. The spreadsheet shows a 1.5% increase, already budgeted for 3%. The figures for the additional 1.5% are shown in the spreadsheet. Teachers pay is ready to go in November's pay. CM further explained the figures shown in the chart. Teachers is showing a deficit of £35,481. Both CM and Jane Green (JG) have agreed this is an incorrect figure (due to the new budget system). CM further explained the issues being faced with the new system which has 2 platforms which are not speaking to each other. This is being investigated. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As soon as the above issue is sorted, CM agreed to email the correct figures to Governors. For Support staff, a £1925.00 increase was budgeted for and has been agreed by Unions, but not yet applied, the school waiting for the LA's go-ahead. The school will be in credit for just under £18,000. The figure on the spreadsheet does not however include a new LSA who has recently started. Overall, the support staff figure should balance. <p>Q: We budgeted for 3%. The Award is 6.5% and we think that the DfE will fund 3%. We therefore have 0.5% to find?</p> <p>A: Jane's advice was to calculate the extra as 1.5% because we don't know the exact government contribution figure. The funding is due to come in the November funding figures, and until I see what we've got, we won't know what they will pay us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DfE have announced the total figure available to schools nationally, and estimated that the full cost to the pay award, is an additional 3% of funding. The work force census information was not available to them when that amount was estimated in the summer. The advice therefore from Cambridgeshire is to budget for the extra 1.5%. <p>Q: If the figure is 0.5%, have we done the scenario analysis to say this is our worst case scenario?</p> <p>A: No, because this is what Jane has told me to present to you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was discussed further, including the ramifications if the government gave a smaller figure than envisaged. It was agreed that until the definite final figure was known, governors could only acknowledge and accept the 6.5% and support staff figures. <u>EVD/CM left the meeting</u> to allow the governors to debate the above and agree the figures or not. A decision was required asap in order to ensure that pay rises were incorporated into the November pay packets. <u>The governors ratified the pay rises as presented,</u> in the hope that the government's contribution would be 3% as originally envisaged. Any further consequences would need to be discussed should the final contribution figures differ. Governors requested that CM clarify the 1.5% figure with JG, bearing in mind the DfE announcement of a 3% contribution. EVD /CM returned to the meeting, AM feeding back the governors discussions and seeking clarification from JG as noted above, regarding the 1.5%. It was agreed that the next FGB meeting December would reassess the budget in light of the above decisions. CM/EVD were thanked by the governors for pulling all of the pay information together for this meeting. 	<p>CM</p> <p>CM</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CM updated the governors on the issues taking place with the new budgetary system (SBS) which not only was not talking with the existing system (FMS) but had issues with its own 2 budget profiles not being in sync with each other. The reports from SBS were also not user friendly , not marrying up the different cost centres, just providing them in random places. SBS are working on this and have assured the schools this will be fixed by the time of the next update, due later in November. There was no other business declared. 	

4.	FGB Dates for 2023/24: All at 6.00pm	
	Tuesday 12 th December '23	Monday 12 th February '24
	Thursday 28 th March '24	Wednesday 1 st May '24
	Wednesday 17 th July '24	

With the business completed, the meeting was closed at 6.42pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

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.....Chair of Governors

.....Date

Agenda Item	Actions from this meeting 15.11.23	Who	Timescale
2	To provide governors with the correct teachers figures once the issues with the new pay system have been resolved.	CM	asap
2	Governors asked CM to clarify with Jane Green, the 1.5% figure the school has been asked to budget for.	CM	asap
2	December FGB to reassess the budgetary position in, light of the confirmed pay rises and government's contribution To the budget.	ALL	December