

Ted Wragg Multi-Academy Trust

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th November in Meeting room F65/6 at Isca Academy, Earl Richards Road South, Exeter

Present: Debra Myhill (Chair)
Rob Bosworth (Vice Chair/Acting CEO)
Vanessa Cobb (PFO)
Roger Fetherston
Simon Gregory
Richard Jacobs
Saxon Spence

Apologies: Sue Baker
Steve Hayfield
Tatiana Wilson

In Attendance: Lewis Banfield *Item 4 only*
Ali Moxey *Item 4 only*
Gina Woodcraft *Item 4 & 5*
Bev Martin *Item 4 & 5*

Steph Barnard Secretary

Item	Title	Action
1.	Welcome, Apologies, and declarations of Interest Apologies were received. No declarations of interest were recorded.	
2.	Minutes of Previous meeting The minutes of the meeting on 2 nd June 2014 were agreed as an accurate record	
3.	Matters Arising – from minutes of 2nd June Item 2 – skills profile for Derfel Owen – this is no longer relevant Item 7 – Cranbrook update – DM confirmed that the video was emailed to RB. RB had circulated the bid to the Trust and RB has followed up conversations with Flybe.	
4.	PFI update and discussion VC thanked AM for handling and leading on this issue. AM explained that the PFI contract is due for its 5 year review benchmarking exercise. Last time, there was a 26% increase in the cost of the contract. Only certain areas are benchmarked which included: Pest control, energy management, catering. Carillion are the current facility management contractors. However the Schools have a contract with Devon for PFI. Devon then have a contract with Modern Schools who in turn have a contract with Carillion. So no direct contact – all through Modern Schools. Carillion haven't been very proactive in making the schools the best places they can be. Modern Schools have offered that Schools can vary their contracts – at their own cost – including catering, cleaning or grounds maintenance. The Trust undertook in-depth discussions to gain further understanding of: PFI contracts; the relationship between the parties involved; collaboration between the six schools; reputational risk; and legal issues.	

	<p>Summary of agreed actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set up a high level meeting for RJ & AM & SG with Phil Norrey & John Hart at Devon County Council to discuss how to work in partnership to sort out the problem noting that additional costs will have a direct impact on the quality of education received by children in Exeter. RJ & SG to have a pre-meet with AM. - Attend liaison meeting between Devon County County & MSEL - to be attended by AM, John Staddon & BM – on Monday 10th November. - Prepare a dossier of evidence regarding faults reported to Carrilion on which no action had been taken - Set up a meeting between Heads & Chairs from all the 6 Schools – AM/BM – to focus on benchmarking - AM to send the previous letter from the Heads & Chairs to RJ for information. - Get the information about the renegotiation on to the public record by asking the county councillors for Isca and St. James to put down a question on the process. This could be to cabinet on 10th December or full council on the 11th December. SS agreed to arrange this and BM to supply the text. - Approach Ben Bradshaw after some of the actions have been taken - Meeting with Mel Wellard, DCC, on 20th November – raise that issue is commitment rather than details. Need costings on those 3 areas so can have an informed discussion. - Gather information on Sutton and how they challenged their PFI issues <p>The Trust thanked AM & LB for all their help and hard work</p>	<p>RJ/AM/SG</p> <p>AM/BM</p> <p>AM</p> <p>AM/BM</p> <p>AM</p> <p>SS/BM</p> <p>All</p> <p>VC</p> <p>BM</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>ISCA Local Governing Body update</p> <p>GW asked the Trust to note the Local Governing Body update together with the Principal’s report, which provided more detailed information. GW confirmed that the LGB were satisfied that everything was moving in the right direction for Isca, although it was important to sustain this positive trajectory.</p> <p>The Trust agreed that they were happy with the format of the LGB report.</p> <p>GW invited questions from the Trust.</p> <p>RB asked when the Ofsted inspection was due, and how are confidence levels? GW felt that confidence was improving as all the structures are in in place and there is now more accountability. BM commented that Ofsted were due at any time now and that whilst progress rates are enough to take the school to a ‘Good’ rating there have been some challenges – one being the change to full GCSE in RE, rather than short courses, where the accuracy of assessment was poor – but they are working to resolve this.</p> <p>BM confirmed that the school was pitching for Good for Achievement & for Teaching & Learning and for Outstanding in Behaviour.</p>	

	<p>RB asked GW how confident the Governors were in the prep for Ofsted and had they been provided crib sheets? BM explained that this was on the agenda for next T&L committee meeting. GW confirmed that the Governors need something before that as the meeting is not until 3rd December. BM will action this asap.</p> <p>DM asked about pupil premium spend and could the Governors account for that? GW explained that it was difficult to unravel it all but they are getting there now although they need some further information on impact. This also needs to be on the crib sheet.</p> <p>GW confirmed that they needed to get the Governors Ofsted ready asap and took on board suggestions to arrange a training exercise for Governors together with the relevant information from the Head Teacher. BM confirmed that she would translate the training exercise carried out recently for their senior leadership team to use with the Governors.</p> <p>GW explained that there were currently two Governor vacancies which were in STEM and also Communications. Agreed that the Trust and the LGB would look to find suitable replacements which the Trust will agree.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the Trust would not appoint a governor to the LGB but that there would be a member of the Trust at each meeting. GW will send the meeting dates to SB to circulate to the Trust.</p>	<p>BM</p> <p>BM</p> <p>All</p> <p>GW/SB</p>
7.	<p>Academy sponsorship opportunity – Mill Water School RB informed the Trust of an expression of interest from Mill Water School. The Trust agreed for RB to meet with them to gather information and report back to the Trustees.</p>	RB
8.	<p>Absences/Substitutes for meetings Item postponed to next meeting</p>	DM
9.	<p>Terms of Reference for Audit Committee Item postponed to next meeting</p>	VC
10.	<p>Bank Account ‘reserve funds’ Item postponed to next meeting</p>	VC
	<p>AOB No items were raised.</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting: Friday 5th December</p>	
	<p>Future agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bank Account ‘reserve funds’ – for discussion (VC) - Terms of Reference for Audit Committee – for approval (VC) - Absences/Substitutes for meetings – for discussion (DM) 	