

THE GOVERNING BODY OF CROWLEES CE (VC) JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Governing Body held **remotely (via Zoom)** at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 2 March 2021.

PRESENT

Reverend H Butler (Chair), Reverend H Baker, Mr P Byrne, Mrs R Corcoran, Mrs F Goldthorpe, Mr J Hudson, Mrs A Khan, Mr M Lord, Mr N McKeown, Mrs M Shilton, Mr D Smith, Mrs S Sultan, Mr A Walker, Mr C Wilding, Mrs K Woods

In Attendance

Mrs A F Jewell (Minute Clerk)
Mrs L Sowden (Observer)
Mr D Stead (Observer)

231. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No apologies were received and there were no declarations of interest.

232. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following item was notified to be brought up under any other business:

- Retirement of Mrs M Shilton from the Governing Body.

233. REPRESENTATION

The following matters of representation were noted:

(a) Resignation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>With Effect From</u>
Melanie Shilton	Co-opted Staff	03.03.2021

Appointment

<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>With Effect From</u>
Aisha Khan	Co-opted	12.01.2021

(b) Appointment of a Co-opted Governor

The Head Teacher advised that this vacancy had been filled by the appointment of Mr D Stead

(c) Draft Instrument

RESOLVED: That Governors agreed to approve the draft Instrument of Government to commence with effect from 2 March 2021.

234. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2021 be approved by the Chair as a correct record and signed at a future meeting subject to the following amendments:

Attendance – It was noted that Reverend Baker had attended the meeting.

Minute 220 (a) – bullet point 6 should read £2,600 not £2,600,000

235. MATTERS ARISINGHead Teacher's Report and Governors' Questions

Q: How many staff members are classed as vulnerable or clinically vulnerable?

A: There is one SEND support assistant who is shielding until guidance changes. We have three members of staff classed as clinically vulnerable who are working with additional safeguarding in place.

Q: When children return to School will all parents be wearing masks on site?

A: We have asked parents coming on site to wear a mask whilst on School premises. It is an extra precaution but we won't be enforcing it. We are doing everything we can to make everyone safe.

Q: How are the staff feeling about children returning?

A: Generally staff are looking forward to welcoming the children back. We are all looking forward to a bit more structure, routine and more normality.

Mr McKeown conveyed this thanks as a Parent Governor to staff during the lockdown in coping with the children and doing such a fantastic job of coping with the online learning as well as those learning in the classroom.

Q: Have you heard any more about the Catch-up Premium?

A: We are waiting to hear specifically how it will be split out from the Government. We will be expected to catch the children up, but the challenge will be to do it in an appropriate way. Some children will take longer to get back to the expected level compared to others. We cannot teach them twice as much in half the time and do need to be aware of children's wellbeing. We don't know how we will catch them up yet but we will do this in a timely manner. We have some ideas but nothing is yet known about the specifics and funding.

Q: Have any of the children or parents expressed that they prefer the online learning, particularly those with SEND?

A: Some children have found areas of the online learning useful and we want to learn from it. We will be keeping some aspects to integrate into class teaching. The vast majority of children and parents want to come back.

Mrs Corcoran advised that Year 6 have benefitted by not having to take SATs this year as it has taken the pressure off them and staff have been able to embed areas of the curriculum instead. The Government have reminded schools that SATs will take place next year.

236. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Curriculum Committee

The Minutes from the Committee meeting held on 12 January had been circulated to Governors.

The Head Teacher advised that the consultation with parents on the PSHE curriculum was still open but that no feedback had been received. It was suggested that parents may have overlooked this due to the current lockdown. All information is available on the school website.

237. SPECIAL NEEDS

The Head Teacher advised that there are potentially two children with EHCPs possibly starting at EYFS in September. Governors noted that the School will have to pay a minimum of £6,000 per child and also find some support for them. It was hoped to hear a final decision before the end of March. The School has advertised for five TAs and so far has received six applications. It was hoped that interviews will take place the week after the Easter holidays. Governors will be kept up to date with any developments.

238. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

Mr Hudson advised that the Finance Committee had met prior to the Governing Body meeting. The Committee had reviewed and discussed the budget summary up to and including period 10.

Figures had been received from the LA for the next financial year during the previous week. The budget had allocated an increase of £445 per child. The Committee will meet to discuss the new budget prior to 5 May when figures need to be submitted.

It was noted that a couple of names had been suggested who may be able to audit the School accounts. This is being pursued.

The Head Teacher advised that one of the proposed projects to convert the new modular buildings into an area for Foundation stage had been deferred as the space is not appropriate for small children. The School is proposing to look at Year 1 classrooms and to possibly landscape their outside area to make into a bespoke Year 1 area. Early Excellence will be visiting the School during the next few weeks to look at the area.

The following Governors volunteered to form a working party to develop this project:

- Mr Smith.
- Mrs Sowden.
- Dr Khan.
- Mrs Sultan.

239. SAFEGUARDING

Mrs Corcoran tabled a presentation to Governors detailing a safeguarding update. The following were discussed:

- Reminder of changes to Keeping Children Safe in Education Part 1.
- Safeguarding issues that are particularly relevant in the current circumstances.
- Reminder of the four main types of abuse.
- Look at how to respond to disclosure from a child.
- Ensure adults know how to report concerns.

Q: Is there clear clarity in the policy that parents are informed before any safeguarding concerns are reported?

A: Yes. It has happened both ways – you have to have a conversation with the parents but if they don't consent the School must find a way to address the issue appropriately and ensure the safety and wellbeing of the child.

The Chair thanked Mrs Corcoran for her presentation.

240. POLICIES FOR REVIEW BY FULL GOVERNING BODY

RESOLVED: That Governors approve the Medical Policy, subject to removal of the sentence regarding giving competent children access to controlled drugs and removal of Mrs M Shilton as named Medical Officer.

It was noted that Mr Byrne had seen and approved the medical audit.

241. GOVERNOR TRAINING AND GOVERNOR VISITS

The Head Teacher read out the updated list of Governor link classes. The Chair advised she would be contacting each new Governor to complete some induction training.

The Head Teacher thanked Reverend Baker for his weekly recording and uploading of assemblies. These have been very much appreciated by pupils and have served to continue the relationship between Hugh and the School.

242. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Retirement of Mrs M Shilton from the Governing Body

The Chair advised the meeting that it was Mrs Shilton's last Governing Body meeting after 24½ years. The Chair gave a speech and thanks were made to Mrs Shilton on behalf of Governors for all her support given to the School and Governing Body during her tenure as a Governor at the School.

243. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the next meetings of the Governing Body be held at 7.00 pm via Zoom on the following dates:

Tuesday, 4 May 2021.

Wednesday, 16 June 2021.

244. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

RESOLVED: That no part of the Agenda, Minutes or related papers be excluded from the copy to be made available at the School, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

The meeting closed at 8.39 pm.