

THE GOVERNING BODY OF HOWARD PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Minutes of the meeting of the Governing Body held **remotely** at 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 18 May 2022.

PRESENT

Mr O Bryden (Chair), Mrs V Edmondson, Mrs V Farrell, Mrs M Greenwood, Mr K Huby, Mrs E Hudson, Mr J Pickles, Ms J Thompson, Mr G Thomson

In Attendance

Mrs A F Jewell (Minute Clerk)
Mrs S Mollett (Deputy Head Teacher)

Mr Bryden took the Chair for the meeting.

97. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE, CONSENT AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies were received from Mrs R Jinks and Mr G Muir (both with consent)

Mr Thomson declared an interest in Minute 99 (relating to rental of the hall).

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

No items were noted to be brought up under any other business.

99. APPROVAL OF BUDGET

Prior to the meeting Governors had received copies of the budget for the current financial year including budget projection up to and including 2024/25. Forms B1 and B3 referred. The following were noted:

- There is a carry forward figure of £1623 from 2021/22.
- Originally the school were looking at a £85,000 deficit. Fortunately, with the reduction of a teacher's salary and the management of support staff salaries, as well as the inclusion of Government grants, the budget includes a surplus of £5,000.
- An amount of approximately £27,000 will be received which is income allocated by the Government based around Pupil Premium numbers. Schools have been advised to include this into their budgets for next year also.
- The school has received £7,425 Sports Premium with another £10,000 expected. If this figure was not received then automatic savings can be made elsewhere to reduce the outgoing.

Q: How certain are you that these grants will come in as there is over 10% of outgoings?

A: We are as secure as we can be. We have based the income on what we have taken in over the past year and added a small amount on as we have increased hire charges to the hall etc. At the moment this doesn't appear to have affected anything and wrap around care has stayed at the same numbers. We are being realistically cautious. We will have to closely watch numbers over the next year.

- The budget has been allocated on what is known at the current time regarding children who will be at school in September. This could become an issue depending on which children come in the Autumn. At the moment it is known that one child with an EHCP will be leaving. The school is aiming to reduce slightly the 1:1 support using 2 adults with 3 children for those with SEND. There are two potential appointments for support staff that may need to be made. The problem could be if a child comes to the school in Reception or Nursery that requires 1:1 support as even if they come with funding the school will only receive a small fraction of this. More information will be known before the end of term.
- Governors approved the B1 and B3 forms.

Three Year Budget

The Head Teacher advised that the staffing figures going forward will be fairly accurate and a 2% pay rise has been factored in. Costs have been worked on the LA's advice of adding an additional 2.75% from the previous year.

The total delegated budget has been based on last year's figures. There are some slight changes as to how rates etc are allocated but these have been factored in. The LA expected the school to receive a £17,000 increase in the budget so this has also been added in to the following years.

This year it is likely that £5,000 can be put back into contingency, the following year it could be £30,000. For 2024/25 this is just sustained. Although 2023/24 is predicting a £17,000 budget increase, teachers costs are also predicted to rise by £21,000.

There is a possibility that support staff could be shared across two classes. It was noted that there may be other factors that affect the future budgets but Governors were mindful that if the school continues with the same staff then this may need looking at in a couple of years.

Q: Why is the contingency so high in 2023/24?

A: This is because the school financial year does not match up with the academic year. Savings we are making with a teacher leaving will mean we will receive 7/12ths followed by 12/12ths the following year so costs for staff will reduce next year because of the full saving in the financial year.

Q: Is the three year forecast factored into the uplift?

A: Yes.

RESOLVED: That Governors approve the draft budget 2022/23 (unanimous).

100. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS

RESOLVED: That the next meeting of the Governing Body be held on Wednesday 13 July at 5.00 pm

Full Governing Body

Wednesday 14 September at 5.00 pm (AGM)

Standards & Effectiveness Committee

Monday 4 July 2022 at 6.00 pm

Finance & Premises Committee

Monday 4 July 2022 at 5.00 pm

101. AGENDA, MINUTES AND RELATED PAPERS – SCHOOL COPY

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

The Chair closed the meeting at 5:44 pm