



# Minutes of the Autumn Term Meeting of the Kilnhurst Primary School Governing Board held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 4:30pm

EXPECT THE BEST

GIVE THE BEST

BE THE BEST

## PRESENT:

Governors	Daniel Whaley, Samantha Russell, Nicola Darby, Laura Brearley,
Head Teacher	Ryan Cousins
Clerk/Adviser to the Governing Body	Pete Steadman
Other	Peter Haynes (Trust CFO), Sylvia Underwood, Elizabeth Swift

## APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Gary Webb and Andrew Skiffington

1 RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted

## MEETING FINISHING TIME

It was agreed the finishing time would be 6:00pm

## DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR BUSINESS INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal, business interests in relation to any item on the agenda.

## ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED UNDER ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items to be included under urgent business

## FINANCE UPDATE – 2018/19 BUDGET

Peter Haynes – Chief Financial Officer for the Trust provided a comprehensive update on the 2018/19 budget which showed a deficit Of £117k reducing to £35k. It was explained that this was a timing issue and over the next two years will balance out.

Some of the key issues impacting on this was 2% to 3.50% in teacher salaries/ 1.5% for leadership salaries and whilst the DFE would cover this there was no continued commitment to.

Funding in other areas was as expected based on numbers in September other than Early Years which was based on a term by term basis.

Expenditure was within budget and there were no concerns however there was a need to be cautious with supply cover as there was no surplus staff in school now.

Q – What doe £6k buy you in cover?

A – At £200 per day around 35 days

The other issues were the building – it was an old building and as such maintenance was a cost and this could change the budget commitment should and if there was a problem anywhere.

Q – Is there a problem with the outside classroom?

A – Currently used for KS1 however this is no longer fit for purpose

Q- When work to the school is planned is the age and condition of the building taken into consideration and sympathetically?

A – Yes where we can and there are no plans to change the front of the building and original areas of the school.

Overall everything is in budget and the school has an in-year surplus of £83k

For 2019/20 there is a slight decrease in income of around £16k however the DFE will notify the Trust in March what the new settlement will be. The school will have stable staffing costs, but pension contributions are still an unknown. One of the ways the Trust is working with school is to review central purchasing to assist schools in making savings.

2020 – deficit down to £20k but in 2021 spikes again to £34k. From a staffing point of view the school cannot cut any further so there is a need to look at how the school can increase the numbers on roll.

PH felt that credit must be given to the school in reducing the deficit and at the same time improving outcomes for children and young people at the school. The Directors had agreed to underwrite the deficit for the time being, but this will be monitored and reported back to them.

Q – What can the Trust do when its sitting on £1m and a school is in deficit?

A – It is difficult to get other schools to support this where they see the money as ‘there’s’ even when they have a surplus however Directors have agreed anything over 8% will be pulled back centrally.

Q – If all the money is in the Trust – will the Trust then tell us how to spend it?

A – Schools are a victim of circumstance and the Trust can’t keep plugging gaps – a good Ofsted would normally follow with an increase in pupil numbers.

Q – Where are other children going from this area?

A – It is a similar picture with several other schools – Year 1 we see an increase normally but that mainly movement is back into Rawmarsh schools when places become available.

RC thanked PH for attending the meeting and felt extremely positive now with a very good team in place across the school however cautioned that if the school get high need children this will take resources from key areas.

2. RESOLVED that:

- a. Peter Haynes be thanked for the report to the governing board;
- b. The 2018/19 budget be approved;
- c. The 3-year budget projections be received and noted.

## **BUILDINGS UPDATE**

RC reported that 2 classrooms were being re-wired/updated. The builders were working with the school to minimise disruption and were also working with the school on some additional outdoor lighting. It was on course for completion within timescale.

**GOVERNING BODY MINUTES**

3. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 be approved as an accurate record with no matters arising.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

There were no items discussed at the meeting that were deemed confidential.

**DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

4. RESOLVED that the date and time of the following meeting be approved
- 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 4:30pm

**Meeting of the Governing Board – 13th December 2018**  
**Questions asked by Governors:**