

BANISTER PRIMARY SCHOOL  
 MEETING OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY  
 THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023  
 9.00 A.M. IN SCHOOL (HYBRID)

**MINUTES**

Present	Initials	Apologies	Initials
P K McBride (Chair)	Mac	Christina Spiers	CS
Peter Davison (Remote)	PD	Ibrahim Enemosah	IE
Vivek Kohli	VK	Luke Newman	LN
Matthew Turpin (Remote)	MT		
Megan Streb	MS		
Steve Leggett	SL		
Kate Vincent (Headteacher)	KV		
		Absent	Initials
		Marion Clelland	MC
		Nic Waight	NW
		Romana Syed	RS
		In Attendance	Initials
		Katie Pevreall (Clerk)	KP
		David Hockin (SBM)	DH

No	Actions
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome, Present and Apologies</b>
<b>1a</b>	Mac welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were accepted from CS, IE, and LN. The meeting was not quorate, but it was agreed that the meeting would go ahead.
<b>2</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest</b>
<b>2a</b>	None were declared.
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes and Actions from Previous Meeting</b>
<b>3a</b>	It was noted that the meeting was not quorate, and the minutes could not be agreed.
<b>3b</b>	LN to refresh safer recruitment training remained ongoing. <span style="float: right;"><b>LN</b></span>
<b>3c</b>	Energy efficiency capital grant to be discussed at next GP meeting remained ongoing, although the committee had discussed this more broadly at the previous meeting. <span style="float: right;"><b>GP</b></span>
<b>3d</b>	Skills audit to be completed in Autumn 2 remained ongoing.
<b>3e</b>	MT to meet with KV re: PP statement remained ongoing.
<b>4</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
<b>4a</b>	None.
<b>5</b>	<b>Communications Between Headteacher and Governors</b>
<b>5a</b>	The chair and headteacher had met to discuss the Caversham Covenant. Following the death of Ruth Perry, headteachers in Southampton felt that there

was a need for a covenant to protect headteachers' wellbeing. This would also need support from governors and would be discussed in detail in item 9.

## **6 Subcommittee Reports and Matters Arising**

*GP*

- 6a** The 2022-23 budget had a cumulative carry forward of £97,000. The proposed budget for 2023/24 had an income of £2,459,674 and an expenditure of £2,457,805 creating an in-year surplus of £1,869.
- 6b** The committee had also discussed a CCTV upgrade and agreed a provider for this.
- 6c** The school meal price increase in January had not yet been passed to parents, but it was agreed that this increase would be passed on from September.
- 6d** The committee had also discussed the YR playground. If governors approved the spend, the playground would be refurbished during the Summer break. £37,000 had been allocated in the budget for the work, this did not include retarmacking and the work to the canopy to remove the walls. The school was asking for approval of a budget of £40,000 to redo the YR playground. This could not be agreed without a quorum.
- TLC*
- 6e** The meeting had been postponed to 26<sup>th</sup> May.

## **7 Headteacher Report**

- 7a** The report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

***Q: Has the strike action had any impact on the children?***

***A: There has not been an obvious impact. The school offered far more places for children on strike days than parents took up.***

***Q: Has there been a change in attitude from parents regarding strike action as the days have gone on?***

***A: They have had more awareness of why the strikes have been taking place.***

- 7b** It was noted that staff had been clear about whether they would be striking or not which had allowed the school to plan and avoid a full closure. Headteachers' unions were also discussing taking strike action.

***Q: Does the school know what the impact of an unfunded pay rise would be?***

***A: The school would be able to support this without additional funding for a year.***

- 7c** MT joined the meeting.

## **8 2023/24 Budget for Approval**

- 8a** The information regarding the budget and YR playground was repeated for the benefit of MT. The meeting was now quorate.

- 8b** All those present agreed to the proposed budget, including the £40,000 spend on the YR playground.

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**7 Headteacher Report Continued**

***Q: Why did the parents who were offered places for their children on strike day not take them?***

***A: The children didn't want to come in.***

***Q: Your report talks about recruitment being difficult due to the quality of candidates, why do you think that is?***

***A: Take up for teacher training is low and the attitude towards teaching has changed.***

- 7d** PD joined the meeting.

***Q: Are we highlighting to quality candidates that we understand the shifting landscape and the expectations of teachers?***

***A: We had a high number of applicants, so this is not a concern.***

- 7e** The school had recruited two ECTs and were pleased with the appointments.

- 7f** Mac had accompanied the children on a visit to St Andrew's Church and noted that the behaviour of the children was excellent. The church had also complimented the school on the behaviour of the children and the organisation of staff.

- 7g** KV had observed the Milky Way and noted that almost all staff were actively engaged with the children and children enjoyed being there. There were some processes to tighten up and one member of staff had not correctly followed the first aid process, however this was corrected at the time.

***Q: Is the online wellbeing service being used by staff?***

***A: Yes, around six staff are also using the counselling service that is available.***

- 7h** The school would be looking into the financial health modules to see if they would be useful for staff.

- 7i** KV explained the process of SATs marking for governors. It was noted that the results were originally due to come out on 10<sup>th</sup> July but would now not come out until 11<sup>th</sup> July. Any papers that the school thought should be remarked would have to be submitted in less than a week, and there was a payment for each submission if it is not successful.

- 7j** Schools were anticipating the curve for reading to change. Greater depth children struggled with the length of time given for the reading paper.

- 7k** Governors commented that the resilience of the children was very positive.

- 7l** MT had been to visit Nic Waight to discuss the new approach to writing. This started with a look at the reading curriculum as good reading comprehension was the foundation of better writing and crafting. There had been a push for

regular spelling checks and teams were aware that the expectation was for them to hear their children read regularly. MT would arrange to meet with NW again to discuss progress.

- 7m** KV had been moderating writing across the school. There was a concern that the focus had been moving towards SPAG rather than composition and coherence. This would be addressed.

**Q: The SIO talks about the progression map, does the mapping software help with this?**

**A: The mapping software allows you to share maps you have already created rather than helping to create them. The maps will be ready at the end of this half term.**

- 7n** Mac observed a Y1 phonics lesson and noted that the lesson followed a very strong pattern, and children were engaged throughout. Teachers were reporting that the scheme was working well for them.
- 7o** The English hub was visiting at the end Summer 1 and KV would be asking for a report to governors on the impact of the hub.

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## **9 The impact of Ofsted on schools**

- 9a** The Caversham Covenant had been shared prior to the meeting. It was hoped that a system could be set up to ensure that headteachers in the city were adequately supported during and after Ofsted.
- 9b** Governors briefly discussed the role of SIOs in school improvement and headteacher wellbeing. It was noted that there were fewer SIOs in the city than previously and work was being subcontracted out to HMLs.

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## **10 Pupil Premium Statement**

- 10a** The statement had been written and would be shared with governors via GovernorHub. It would be discussed at the next meeting. **KV**

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## **11 Safeguarding Update**

- 11a** The criteria for CP had changed. There was one family in school who the school was particularly concerned about, however the LA had not escalated the case despite two requests from the school and the family was now shut to social services. The children were at 60% attendance which was a cause for concern. It was noted that there were a high number of agency social workers which resulted in regular staffing changes.

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## **12 Governors Visits**

- 12a** SL had carried out an ICT monitoring visit and a Leader in Me visit.
- 12b** Mac had carried out a phonics monitoring visit, a Leader in Me visit, and had accompanied the school on a trip.
- 12c** VK had carried out a science monitoring visit, had observed SATs and behaviour at breaktime.

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**13 AOB**

**13a** None.

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<b>Page</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Resp.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>3b</b>	LN to refresh safer recruitment training	<b>LN</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>3c</b>	Energy efficiency capital grant to be discussed at next GP meeting	<b>GP</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>10a</b>	KV to provide governors with PP statement	<b>KV</b>