

P R E S E N T:-

Mr J Britton, Mr S Burley, Mr G Cook, Mrs A Ekers, Mr J Sinclair, Reverend L Slow, Mrs K Taylor, Mrs J Thomson,

Mr A Shadrack (in the Chair)

Clerk to the Trustees – Mr S Campbell

1 WELCOME BY THE CHAIR-DESIGNATE

Mr Shadrack welcomed trustees to the inaugural meeting and expressed trustees' thanks to Mr Britton and other staff from each school in the Trust for their hard work during the conversion process.

2 ELECTION OF CHAIR

NOTE: Mr Shadrack, being the only nominee, retired for the vote.

- RESOLVED: a) that the term of office for the Chair be one year, ending at the first meeting of trustees in the spring term of 2018;
- b) that Mr Shadrack be elected Chair.

3 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

- RESOLVED: a) that the term of office for the Vice-Chair be one year, ending at the first meeting of trustees in the spring term of 2018;
- b) that Mrs Thomson be elected Vice-Chair.

NOTE: Mr Britton left the meeting at this point.

4 APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Trustees considered the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The Chair briefed trustees on Mr Britton's role as CEO-designate and expressed confidence in Mr Britton's ability to undertake the role on a permanent basis. Trustees agreed that Mr Britton had successfully led Woldgate School and Sixth Form during a period of significant improvement whilst project managing the conversion process. Trustees agreed that the role of CEO should remain under review as it was expected that more schools would join WLP in the following years with significant implications for Mr Britton's workload.

The Chair read draft letters addressed to Mr Britton; one offering the post of CEO and the other offering the post of Chief Accounting Officer. The latter constituted the minimum legal requirement for a chief officer of the trust.

- RESOLVED: a) that Mr Britton be appointed Chief Executive Officer;

- b) that Mr Britton's two roles (Headteacher and CEO) remain under review.

NOTE: Mr Britton rejoined the meeting at this point.

5 ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND THE ROLE OF TRUSTEES

The Articles of Association had been written to reflect the foundation-minority (Church of England) of the MAT. Trustees noted that the trust's board of members had approved the Article of Association at the meeting held on 6 March 2017 and that they could not be changed except with the Department for Education's (DfE) approval. Trustees noted that, Olivia Seymour had not joined the board of trustees but that a diocesan trustee would be appointed if a Church of England school joined the trust.

The Chair briefed trustees on the board's role in relation to the board of members and the local governing bodies of each school.

- RESOLVED: a) that the Articles of Association be received;
- b) that the local governing bodies of each school in the Trust be constituted as follows:

Pocklington Junior School:

- 1 Headteacher Governor
- 1 Staff Elected Governor
- 2 Parent Elected Governors
- 6 Co-opted Governors

Stamford Bridge Primary School:

- 1 Headteacher Governor
- 1 Staff Elected Governor
- 2 Parent Elected Governors
- 8 Co-opted Governors

Woldgate School and Sixth Form:

- 1 Headteacher Governor
- 1 Staff Elected Governor
- 6 Parent Elected Governors
- 9 Co-opted Governors

6 SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Members had adopted the Scheme of delegation at the meeting held on 6 March 2017 and had suggested that trustees review the document regularly. As much responsibility as was practical had been delegated to each school's governing body and the extent of delegation was the same for each school. Trustees noted that the Scheme of Delegation could be tailored to each school's circumstances, particularly with regard to new schools joining the trust. Trustees agreed to approve and adopt the Scheme of Delegation for each school in the Trust with a view to review the document with the headteachers and chairs of each school.

The following documents were tabled at the meeting:

- *What is a Member?*
- *What is a Trustee?*
- *Holding Trustees to Account – a Proforma Tool for the Members.*
- *Proposed Pattern of Trust Meetings.*

RESOLVED: a) that the Scheme of Delegation be approved and adopted;

b) that the Scheme of Delegation be reviewed at the meeting of trustees to be held on 15 May 2017.

7 POLICIES

Trustees noted that headteachers had begun to revise their schools' policies in time for approval at the meeting of trustees to be held on 15 May 2017. A list of provisional trust policies was tabled at the meeting.

8 WOLDS LEARNING PARTNERSHIP PRESENTATION

The CEO delivered a presentation to trustees and copies of the slides were tabled at the meeting. Key points from the presentation follow:

The Partnership had been structured to allow each school to retain its own identity, name and uniform. Parental choice had been prioritised since the consultation stage and it had been made clear to consultees that the Trust was not creating a 'through-school'. Stability and the protection of pupils and their learning had been the main priorities when the Trust had been set up.

The care for, and development of, staff had also been a key consideration in the creation of the trust's ethos. The CEO explained that the Trust wanted to ensure that it was considered to be a good employer. To this end, employees' terms and conditions would be protected for three years and a tailored approach to CPD would be adopted.

The DfE and Regional School Commissioner's (RSC) office had expressed that they considered that the optimum-sized MAT would comprise 10 schools. The RSC had begun to cap the number of MAT in certain local areas. Growth of the MAT would be managed carefully through the undertaking of due-diligence and rigorous planning.

The initial objectives for the Partnership were focused on leadership, governance, teaching, professional development, assessment and the implementation of centralised services. Stamford Bridge Primary School and Woldgate School and Sixth Form (both judged 'good' at their most recent Ofsted inspections) would aim to move towards 'outstanding' status within the following three years. Pocklington Junior School would aim to move towards judgement of 'good' at its next Ofsted inspection. The Partnership's plan was to ensure that all teaching could be considered 'good' or better within the following three years.

The CEO informed trustees that the Trust had been searching for a 'challenge partner' to support the improvement of teaching and learning. The Local Authority had given the Trust £17,500 to develop school-to-school support.

Prudent financial management had been prioritised at an early stage. The Trust had begun efforts to secure extra funding and support grants. The roles of the school business managers would be developed in the light of their new financial environment.

Trustees thanked the CEO for his presentation and continued leadership.

9 **EMAIL ACCOUNTS**

Trustees noted that secure email addresses had been set up by the Partnership for them to access all documents related to their role.

10 **NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: that a meeting of trustees be held on 15 May 2017 at 7.00 pm at Wolgate School and Sixth Form.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Chair's Signature – 15 May 2017