

Joint Meeting of the ASGB and Chairs' Forum held on
14th November 2018 at 6.15pm at
Guardian House, West Bromwich

Present:

Mrs E Benbow – Moorlands Primary and ASGB Executive
Mrs H Bloxham – Holy Trinity CofE Primary
Mrs. P Brown – Grove Vale/Holy Trinity Primary and ASGB Executive
Mr B Byatt – The Meadows Sports College and ASGB Executive
Mr B Edwards – Highfields Primary School
Mrs L Howard – Lyng Primary, Newtown Primary and ASGB Executive
Mr S Hussain – Ormiston Forge Academy and ASGB Executive
Mrs C Gallant – Perryfields High School and ASGB Executive
Mrs D Holden – The Priory Primary School
Mr B Patel – Great Bridge and Chair ASGB Executive
Mr P Piddock – St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Mrs J Poxon – Joseph Turner Primary and ASGB Executive
Mrs A Randhawa – Eaton Valley Primary

Apologies

Mrs T Bate – Brandhall Primary School
Mrs S Harvey – Oldbury Academy of Sport and ASGB Executive
Mrs P Burford – Harvills Hawthorn Primary School
Mrs M Parkes – Whiteheath Education Centre
Fr. Nwanunobi – St. John Bosco Catholic Primary School
Mrs N Khatun – Hanbury Primary, Westminster and ASGB Executive
Mr D Bailey – Whiteheath Education Centre
Rev. D Humphries – Whitecrest Primary School
Ms. L Dukes – Harvills Hawthorn Primary School
Ms. R Gura – Park Hill Primary School

In Attendance

Chris Ward – Director Education, Skills and Employment
Rosemarie Kerr – Principal Accountant Sandwell LA
Craig Felton – Director SIPS Governance
Lynne Foster - Support Officer ASGB

53/18 Welcome and Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members
The Support Officer confirmed receipt of any other apologies and it was **Resolved** that apologies as noted and received by the Support Officer, above be accepted.

54/18 Declarations of Interest

The Chair enquired whether any member had any direct, indirect or pecuniary interest in the business to be discussed. Mr Hussain's declaration of interest in relation to the website had been previously noted.

55/18 Governance Update – Craig Felton Director SIPS Governance

- Mr Felton reminded members that the Governance team were now using Governor Hub to maintain a record of governing board membership, contact details and attendance. The 'front office' part of the system as an on-line portal was available to schools on a trial basis; this would securely manage all documentation and meetings for governors; in addition an App could be downloaded to phones. The system would work equally well for MATs. There was no charge for the front end system during the trial period to the end of March 2019. From April 2019, the charge would be £100pa reflecting exactly the fee that Governance had to pay Governor Hub. The charge if going direct to Governor Hub would be £500pa. All SIPS clerks should have details of Governor Hub or you may contact SIPS Governance team direct for more information.
- Development for Chairs' programme would commence in Sandwell from January 2019. The Clerks programme would commence in March 2019. SIPS clerks would be attending but the programme was also open to independent clerk (see NGA website).
- Asked who was responsible for dealing with complaints now that Bob Brooks had left, Mr Felton advised that it would be Andy Timmins/Donna Woolery, in the Central Complaints team. Vexatious complaints would be referred to the Legal team. The governor suggested that dealing with complaints, particularly vexatious ones, might be included in the governor training programme and Mr Felton agreed to refer the suggestion to the Training team. Another governor shared her experience that the number of complaints had gone down since the school's policy had been more rigorously enforced. The support officer confirmed that Andy Timmins had agreed to attend a future meeting to present the new complaints policy. It was

Resolved that the update from Craig Felton be received and noted. The Chair thanked Mr Felton for his update.

56/18: Budget Consultation –Rosemarie Kerr, Principal Accountant Sandwell LA

Ms. Kerr presented the budget consultation. Additional comments and answers to any questions had been included in the notes section of the presentation clearly marked ASGB Notes. You may need to scroll down to see them all and take care if printing. (Appendix 1)

57/18 Chairs Forum Update – Chris Ward, Director Education, Skills and Employment

Mr Ward presented his update. Additional comments and answers to any questions had been included in the notes section of the presentation clearly marked ASGB Notes. You may need to scroll down to see them all and take care if printing. (Appendix 2)

58/18 Minutes of the Meeting held 19th September 2018 and Matters Arising

Members, having been presented with the minutes of the above meeting, it was **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held 19th September 2018 be approved. There were no matters arising which were not already on the agenda.

59/48 Development for Chairs

The support officer advised that 24 governors had indicated that they wished to register for the Development for Chairs programme through NGA and commencing January 2019. However, to date, only 4 governors had completed the registration process. The support officer would be contacting governors to confirm that they were still interested as there was a waiting list of other Sandwell governors expressing interest.

60/18: Updates from ASGB Executive Members

The support officer told members that she had attended the DAGB conference on mental health and had already forwarded a short report which included some useful links. The Chair and support officer had also attended the West Midlands NGA conference and a short report was available at the meeting.

61/18 Open Forum/Any Other Business

- A member asked about the ASGB website. The support officer advised that more input from members was required. Members to be sent the link.
- There was a further discussion during which members expressed their concerns about the inadequate funding that schools were having to manage.

62/18 Next Meeting Dates

- 13th February 2019 6.15pm
- 10th April 2019 6.15pm to include Chairs' Forum
- 22nd May 2019 6.15pm
- 10th July 2019 AGM 6.15pm to include Chairs' Forum

Meeting closed at 7.50pm

Chair.....Dated

Note: Full details of the meeting were included in the Summary Notes sent to members following the meeting.