

Schools Forum

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 9th July, 2013 at 4.00 p.m. at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall

Present:- Mr. M. Vlahakis (Chairman)
Mrs. C. Draper
Mrs. M. Sheehy
Mr. G. Crowther
Mrs. J. Ward
Mr. E. Gee
Mrs. M. Yates
Mrs. M. Woodcock
Mr. F. Hodgkinson
Mr. T. Perrett
Mr. M. Ison
Mr. J. Murray
Mr. R. Bragger
Mr. S. Pritchard-Jones
Ms. H. Harnisch
Mr. K. Whittlestone

Mr. D. Shaw of Grace Academy attended as substitute for Dame M. Brennan

Mrs. P. Mullins, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College attended as substitute for Mr. J. P. Clarke

Mr. D. Blackwell attended as substitute for Mr. R. Bragger from 4.30 p.m.

In Attendance:- Ms. L. Hughes - Walsall MBC
Ms. D. Morris - Walsall MBC
Mr. C. Knowles - Walsall MBC

| | | Action |
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| 1. 9.7.13 | Apologies Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Mr. G. Thornton, Dame M. Brennan, Mr. J.P. Clarke, Mr. N. Smith, Mr. B. Powell, Mr. A. Orlik and Ms. J. Morgan. | |
| 2. 9.7.13 | Minutes - 11th June, 2013 | The minutes of the meeting held on 11 th June, 2013 be approved and signed by the Chairman as |

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| | | <p>a correct record, subject to the following amendment:-</p> <p>Minute No. 8 (3) include Mr. G. Crowther in the Working Group. Paragraph 11 include Mr. M. Ison in the Sub-Group to discuss options for the disbursement of the DSG surplus 2012/13.</p> |
| <p>3. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes.</p> | |
| <p>4. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</p> <p>There were no late items for introduction by the Chairman.</p> | |
| <p>5. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)</p> <p>The Forum noted that there were no items for consideration in the private session.</p> | |
| <p>6. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Revised School Funding Formula Consultation</p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>Mr. Hodgkinson stated that he had discussed the surplus with the Head Teacher and read out a letter from the Head Teacher of Brownhills School who was opposed to any funded consortium that could divert any funding from schools. She stressed that school to school support should continue as it involved schools across the West Midlands. There was some concern regarding Local Authority interference.</p> | |

Ms. Draper confirmed that the learning consortium was school to school support and the only costs involved could relate to administration, not the employment of staff. The Chairman confirmed that the surplus was not directly linked with the learning Consortium.

In response to points raised, Mr. Knowles drew the Forum's attention to Paragraphs 2.3 and 4.1 of the annexed report relating to the conflicting information that had been provided by the Education Funding Agency for which they had apologised.

Resolved

- (1) That approval be given to the circulation of a consultation document based on the principles contained in the annexed report as included in Paragraph 5 relating to anticipated consultation questions;
- (2) That Schools Forum delegate authority to the Chairman of Schools Forum to make amendments to the consultation before despatched if required; for example, if a national funding formula consultation was published;
- (3) That Schools Forum note that a de-delegation vote would need to be made amongst maintained secondary and primary schools for the 2014/15 funding allocation; arrangements for the votes would be made with secondary schools individually and through the Chairman and representatives of Primary Forum and would be submitted to Schools Forum in October;
- (4) That Schools Forum note that the only change schools in Walsall would have to make would be that the lump sum had reduced from £200,000 to £175,000;
- (5) That Schools Forum note that a national funding formula was pending in 2015/16 and a consultation on that would be published.

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| <p>7. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Arrangements for the funding of Early Years Education for Two Year Olds</p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>Ms. Morris outlined the content of the report and after consideration it was,</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That Option 3 contained in Section 4 to the annexed report be approved to provide the first four places funded via place value plus £4.70 per hour for the 5th child and above; the balance of the funding would be retained to commission speech and language support and play in the home learning environment across the providers delivering two year old places.</p> | |
| <p>8. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Forward Plan</p> <p>The Forward Plan was submitted.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Forward Plan be agreed.</p> | |
| <p>9. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</p> <p>There were no late items.</p> | |
| <p>10. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>There was no correspondence received.</p> | |
| <p>11. 9.7.13</p> | <p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>It was NOTED that the next meeting of Schools Forum would be held on Tuesday, 24th September, 2013 at 4.00 p.m. at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall.</p> | |

The meeting terminated at 4.50 p.m