

Walsall Council Schools Forum

Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 25 September, 2023 at 4.00 pm

Digital Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Schools Forum Members Present:

Mr M. Vlahakis	Primary Head Teacher, Cadmus Family of schools
Mrs C. Draper	Primary Maintained Head Teacher, Short Heath Federation
Mrs A. Arnold	Primary Head Teacher, Delves Infant School
Mr S. Davies	Primary Maintained Head Teacher, Christ Church CE (C) JMI School
Mrs S. Bowen	Secondary Maintained Head Teacher, St. Thomas More Catholic School
Mr M. Moody	Primary Academy Representative, Goldsmiths and Rivers Academies
Mr A. Seager	Secondary Academy Head Teacher, Bloxwich Academy
Mr James Ludlow	Secondary Academy Head Teacher, Joseph Leckie Academy
Mr David Smith	Secondary Academy Head Teacher, Blue Coat Academy
Mr W. Downie	Secondary Academy Head Teacher, Streetly Academy
Mr I. Baker	Secondary Academy Governor, Grace Academy
Mrs E. Phillips	Special School, Phoenix Academy
Ms M. Turley	Nursery Head Teacher, Ogley Hay Nursery
Mr C. Bury	Principal, The Ladder School, Alternative Provision

Officers Present:

C. Male - Interim Executive Director: Childrens and Customer
R. Walley – Technical Accounting, Treasury Management & Education Finance Manager
L. Meredith – Interim Lead Accountant, Education
N. Picken – Principal Democratic Services Officer
R Thomas – Head of Access
J. Nash – Head of Inclusion
S. Hollins – Music Education Manager

Observers Present:

Mr A. Orlik – C of E Diocese
Ms S. Guy (National Education Union)

		Action
1. 25.09.23	<p>Election of Chair</p> <p>A nomination was made for Mr. Vlahakis to be appointed Chair of the Forum for the 2023/24 academic year.</p> <p>The Clerk put the nomination to the vote by show of hands.</p> <p>Resolved (unanimously)</p> <p>That Mr. M. Vlahakis be appointed Chair of the Forum for the 2023/24 academic year.</p>	
2. 25.09.23	<p>Election of Vice Chair</p> <p>A nomination was made for Mr A. Seager to be appointed Vice Chair of the Forum for the 2023/24 academic year.</p> <p>The Clerk put the nomination to the vote by way show of hands.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That Mr A. Seager be elected as Vice Chair of the Forum for the 2023/24 academic school year.</p>	
3. 25.09.23	<p>Welcome</p> <p>The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explaining and rules of procedure and legal context in which the meeting was being held. He also directed members of the public viewing the meeting to the papers, which could be found on the Council's Committee Management Information System (CMIS) webpage.</p> <p>A roll call was taken of those members present who confirmed they could both see and hear the proceedings.</p>	
4. 25.09.23	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mike Fox, Jenny Garratt and Sharon Kelly.</p>	Noted
3. 25.09.23	<p>Minutes</p> <p>The Schools Forum received the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June, 2023 (see annexed).</p> <p>The clerk reported that the list of apologies should have included Mr I. Baker.</p>	

	<p>Resolved:</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June, 2023 were approved as a true and correct record subject to Mr I. Baker being added to the list of apologies.</p>	
4. 25.09.23	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of 20th June, 2023</p> <p>None.</p>	Noted
5. 25.09.23	<p>Late Item/s (urgent) to be introduced by the Chair</p> <p>None</p>	
6. 25.09.23	<p>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)</p> <p>There were no items for consideration in the private session.</p>	
7. 25.09.23	<p>School Music Service</p> <p>A report was submitted: -</p> <p>(See annexed)</p> <p>The Music Education Manager highlighted that funding for music services across the UK would change from September 2024. At this time, prescribed geographic Music Hubs areas would be implemented across the UK to address the new national plan for music education.</p> <p>In response to questions, the Music Education Manager confirmed that the new arrangements would not affect services and emphasised that opportunities would arise for greater collaboration across the West Midlands.</p> <p>Resolved (by roll call)</p> <p>That:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. £38,000 be granted to Walsall Music Education Hub and Service in 2023/2024, in line with previous years; and 2. The Music Education Manager bring further updates to Forum, when necessary. 	

8. 25.09.23	<p>Dates for 2023/24 Meetings</p> <p>The Forum considered a report of the Principal Democratic Services Officer (annexed)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Schools Forum agrees to hold its meetings on the following dates at 4.00pm:</p> <p>2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 17 October • Monday 18 December <p>2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 16 January • Tuesday 5 March • Tuesday 18 June 	
11. 25.09.23	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walsall Trade Union Support Service – Forum noted a letter from Unions with regard to funding the Trade Union Support Service through de-delegation. • Resignation – Forum noted that Mr Mike Fox had tendered his resignation. 	
12. 25.09.23	<p>Forward Plan</p> <p>A copy of the Forward Plan was submitted (annexed)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Forward Plan be noted.</p>	Noted
13. 25.09.23	<p>Late Items</p> <p>There were no late items for consideration.</p>	
14. 20.6.23	<p>Date of Future Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Schools Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, 17 October 2023 at 4:00pm</p>	

The meeting terminated at 4:21pm.

Signed

Date