

## Schools Forum

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2012 at 4.00 p.m. at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall

**Present:-**

- Mr. S. Flynn (Chairman)
- Mr. M. Vlahakis (Vice-Chairman)
- Mrs. M. Sheehy
- Mr. D. Brownsword
- Mr. R.C. Yeomans
- Mr. G. Crowther
- Dame M. Brennan
- Mr. J.P. Clarke
- Ms. H. Lomas
- Mrs. J. Ward
- Ms. M. Yates
- Mrs. M. Woodcock
- Mr. F. Hodgkinson
- Mr. T. Perrett
- Mr. M. Ison
- Mr. D. Clough

**In Attendance:-**

- Mr. D. Mortiboys - Walsall MBC
- Ms. D. Morris - Walsall MBC

		<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b> <b>10.7.12</b>	<b>Apologies</b>  Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Mr. B. Powell, Ms. P. Hunt and Mr. A. Orlik.  The Chairman referred to a recent ballot to increase the number of Governor representatives of Academies on the Forum and introduced the following new Members:-  Mr. T. Perrett - Shelfield Academy and Queen Mary's Grammar School  Mr. M. Ison - Grace Academy	
<b>2.</b> <b>10.7.12</b>	<b>Resignations</b>  The Forum was advised of the resignation of Mrs. M. Robinson, Catholic Diocese representative with immediate effect.	

	<p>Mr. Clough informed the Forum that this would be his last meeting and Mr. R. Bragger would be taking his place with effect from September, 2012.</p> <p>Mr. Yeomans stated that this would be his last meeting of the Forum as he would be retiring at the end of the school year.</p> <p>The Forum thanked the Members for their contributions to the work of the Forum during their terms of office. Particular recognition was given to Mr. Yeomans in respect of his contributions to the Forum and Sub Group and, in particular, for his sometimes challenging questions. He was a valued Member of the Forum and the wider community.</p> <p>For the benefit of new Members, Members of the Forum and officers present introduced themselves.</p>	
<p><b>3.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Minutes - 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2012</b></p>	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Matters arising from the minutes</b></p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.</p>	
<p><b>5.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</b></p> <p>The Chairman informed the meeting that he would be introducing a late item relating to admissions errors.</p>	
<p><b>6.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)</b></p> <p>The Forum noted that there were no items for consideration in the private session.</p>	

<p><b>7.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Academy representation on Schools Forum</b></p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>That the Schools Forum note the results of the ballot for Governor representation on the Forum and the appointment of Mr. T. Perrett - Shelfield Academy and Queen Mary's Grammar School and Mr. M. Ison - Grace Academy.</p>	
<p><b>8.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Revised Walsall Schools Forum Constitution</b></p> <p>A copy of the revised Schools Forum Constitution, including the revised membership, was submitted.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>That the revised Walsall Schools Forum Constitution be agreed.</p>	
<p><b>9.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Schools Funding Formula</b></p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the Head Teachers involved in the Funding Formula Group for the time they dedicated to help develop the principles of a new funding formula.</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys outlined the content of the report and confirmed that the funding formula for 2013/14 would be equitable, clear and transparent. Some schools would see a reduction in funding as the proposal prevented the multiple funding of schools and small schools would receive a lump sum of £175,000. Operating under the new Department for Education guidelines, the Working Group considered the proposal which would provide the most equitable fit.</p> <p>After consideration it was,</p>	

	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the Forum approve the issue of a consultation with all schools on the proposed new funding formula;</p> <p>(2) That response to the consultation be submitted to the Forum at its September meeting;</p> <p>(3) That the Head of Schools Finance, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Schools Forum, be authorised to update the draft consultation (Appendix 3 of the report) if required to meet additional guidance from the Department for Education on special educational needs;</p> <p>(4) That the progress on High Needs Block and impending future reports be noted;</p> <p>(5) That the progress on Early Years Block and impending future reports be noted.</p>	
<p><b>10. 10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Schools Forum Consultation</b></p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys drew attention to Paragraph 2.2 of the report and stated that the Forum was required to recognise the growth of Academies and reflect this in their membership. Membership of the Forum was broadly proportionate but the addition of two further Academy representatives would achieve the representation required.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the current membership and voting patterns of the Forum be retained and a further two Academy representatives be sought;</p> <p>(2) That an e-mail be forwarded to all Schools and Academies requesting Academies to provide nominations for two further representatives on the Forum, the Governor nomination to be confirmed as the nominee</p>	

	<p>who was recently selected in the Academy Governor ballot;</p> <p>(3) That the Forum agree to representation being made to the Department for Education on the draft Schools Forum (England) Regulations, 2012 as set out in Appendix 3 of the attached report.</p>	
<p><b>11.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Forward Plan</b></p> <p>The Forward Plan was submitted.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>That the Forward Plan be approved as set out subject to the following amendments:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That the meeting scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 be deleted and a meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 at Barr Beacon School be included.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That an item be included on the Forward Plan in relation to the “Sneyd Update” for consideration at the next meeting.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That an item be included on the Forward Plan in relation to Update on Single Status for consideration at the next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>12.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</b></p> <p>The Chairman introduced a late item in relation to places being offered to children at Delves Infant School as a result of an error by the Admission Authority taking the Reception class over 30. Following appeal decisions, the Reception classes at the school would be 3 over number. Mrs. Woodcock expressed concern as a Governor of the school. The Admissions Authority had made the error and were forcing the school to accept the children without the provision of additional funding.</p> <p>Mr. Brownsword referred to a similar issue that had arisen and as a result, Julie Taylor had been invited to address the Primary Forum on the matter. A Working Party of Primary Heads would be meeting</p>	

	<p>in the near future in an endeavour to ensure that this situation would not be repeated.</p> <p>Mr. Crowther confirmed that his school had suffered similar problems over the last two years.</p> <p>The Forum requested that information be obtained from the Primary and Secondary Forums to ascertain whether other schools had experienced any problems relating to the admissions process.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>That the Chairman write to Julie Taylor on the disquiet around the issue of the allocation of places to children that have resulted in schools being over their statutory/published admission number as a result of procedural errors.</p>	
<p><b>13.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>The Chairman circulated an e-mail he had received relating to the Education Transition Programme Board schedule of dates.</p> <p>The e-mail was requesting representatives onto the Education Transition Programme Board.</p> <p>The Forum was advised that there were already Members of the Forum on the Stakeholder Group.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>That, as Members of the Forum were already on the Stakeholder Group, no representatives be nominated to the Education Transition Programme Board.</p>	
<p><b>14.</b> <b>10.7.12</b></p>	<p><b>Date and time of next meeting</b></p> <p>It was <b>NOTED</b> that the next meeting of Schools Forum would be held on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 at 4.00 p.m. at Barr Beacon School, Old Hall Lane, Aldridge, Walsall.</p>	

The meeting terminated at 5.15 p.m.

