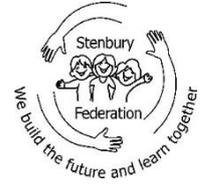


# STENBURY FEDERATION

Interim Executive Headteacher: Mr M Snow  
Chair of Governors: Mrs D Barker



**Chillerton & Rookley Primary**  
Main Road, Chillerton  
IW PO30 3EP  
Tel. 01983 721207  
chillerton@stenburyfederation.co.uk

**Godshill Primary**  
School Road, Godshill  
IW PO38 3HJ  
Tel. 01983 840246  
godshill@stenburyfederation.co.uk

## Minutes of The Stenbury Federation Governors Meeting held Virtually on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 commencing at 5.30pm.

### Present:

Di Barker (DB) Chair – Local Authority Governor  
Kate Green (KG) - Co-opted Governor  
Neil Jackson (NJ) – Co-opted Governor  
Polly Smith (PS) – Staff Governor

Mark Snow (MS) Interim Exec HT – Godshill/C&R  
Angela Dexter (AD) SBM –Co-opted Governor  
Nicole Sturgess (NS) Parent Governor  
Natalie Garrett (NG) Parent Governor

Leigh Mannix Clerk

*The meeting was quorate-current membership is 8 out of 10.*

**Vacancies:** Two x Co-opted Governor:

**Key:** Challenge, Support, Ring-Fenced, Decision, Action

Item	Minute	Action	By
1	5	NJ to arrange a meeting with NG, NS and KG. It was requested that AD also be in attendance to help explain the budgets in detail.	NJ
2	5	The skills audit to be completed by Governors.	Governors
3	9	NS to contact MS to discuss coming into school to talk to the YR6's regarding knife crime	NS/MS
4	12d	DB will forward the statement from the Pupil Places working party to the clerk to cascade to Governors.	DB
5	16	PS to contact NG and NS with regard to coming into school for the Science curriculum learning walk and to look at the children's books PS to contact them via email.	PS

	Actions
<p><b>1</b> <u>Apologies &amp; Welcome:</u>  <b>Apologies:</b> Lacey Nicholls.             Apologies from DB who would be joining the meeting later, NJ would be chairing the meeting in her absence.   <i>No apologies or reason received from Kirsty Matthews to be considered by Governors for acceptance.</i></p> <p><b>2</b> <u>Declaration of Pecuniary Interest: (agenda items this meeting)</u>            DB declared that she is also a Governor at Barton Primary School to be a link between the Governing Bodies.            MS declared he was the Headteacher at Barton Primary School.            NS declared she was part of the Youth Offending Team            NG declared she was part of the SOS.            AD declared she was the SBM for the Federation  <b>It was agreed that there was nothing on the agenda that would require any of those making declarations to step away from the meeting.</b></p> <p><b>3</b> <u>Order of Business:</u>            As agenda</p>	Accepted

I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the Governing Board Meeting.

Signed..... *Diane Parker* . Chair/Vice-Chair Date.....27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**4 Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes from the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting.

**The minutes were proposed by NJ seconded by NS with all in agreement.**

**5 Matters Arising:**

**Item 1 from the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 has yet to be completed. NJ to arrange a meeting with NG, NS and KG. It was requested that AD also be in attendance to help explain the budgets in detail.**

**Item 2 the skills audit to be completed by Governors.**

LM had confirmed with DH that the finance committee can recommend the budgets for ratification by FGB, having looked at them in detail and were in agreement.

**6 Update on Consultation:**

Governors were informed that the consultation, due to be heard by Council in February, had been deferred until their next meeting. The council had deferred to enable them to look at other options.

**7 Finance Report:**

AD informed Governors that the budgets should be agreed at this meeting. The budgets were not good in either school, but in limbo with regard to Chillerton & Rookley. Costs were share between the schools with regard to staff.

MS reported irrespective of any outcome the budgets would be hard to balance. MS has been in touch with HR with regard to teacher restructure.

The projection of children numbers for Reception class are down, not just within the Federation, but across the Island. This gets worse as time goes forward and will be a problem for the whole of the Island, and schools will have to condense classes. The LA need to put together a strategic plan as this is of real concern and will hit budgets. There will be a thousand vacant places over the next two years.

NG mentioned that a Flexi school was a possible option with over 500 children being home educated on the Island.

It was felt that this was not a policy favoured by the LA.

Decisions had been delayed by the current Council and it was feeling like groundhog day.

NJ reported that the projected debt for Godshill was £218k and Chillerton & Rookley £187k.

MS mentioned that this was not just a future problem for the Federation, other village schools will be in the same boat with budgets going down and costs going up. Secondary schools will also be affected. There would be a significant drop in funding over the next three years.

**Thanks to AD for the work in preparing the budgets.**

**NJ proposed that the budgets be agreed and this was seconded by KG, Governors were in agreement.**

**8 SFVS:**

AD reported that the SFVS, emailed to Governors, would be sent in by the end of the month. There had been a slight change with regard to bench marking.

There were no questions to address

**All Governors were in favour.**

**9 Headteachers Report:**

MS reported that the LLPR, our lead partner, had been to visit. Phonics were a main focus and there would be further training on this, also working with a team with regard to Read, Write, Ink.

Regarding data, children were not at national standard, although the YR 6 children were doing quite well.

The FFT targets are reasonable.

Subject leads are share across the Federation and there would be a report to follow.

Staff absence – children from Chillerton & Rookley had to be transported over to Godshill for a couple of days to help with staff absence, this was due to an indirect consequence of Covid and bereavement.

Four members of staff have symptoms of long Covid and one member is under occupational health, Members of staff and children are still succumbing to the virus. MS is fixing holes in staffing on a daily basis.

Staff are also exhausted having to cover classes where needed, the five days isolation causes disruption in the workplace and in some cases staff are off longer if they have not fully recovered. This has been challenging for the SLT.

Moving forward the SLT will have to look at staffing structures and make some changes for September 2022.

**I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the Governing Board Meeting.**

Signed..... *Diane Parker* . Chair/Vice-Chair Date.....27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Action

Year 4's from both schools were going on a residential trip to Kingswood, this would be the first trip in two years. Sports for Champions would be visiting the school, with other opportunities planned for the summer.

**Challenge**

*Q. How is attendance been affected in both schools?*

A. It is 92% - 93% at both schools and currently 92% nationally. One child absent at C&R had quite a knock on affect. It is a challenge as the DFE are not happy with attendance at schools. Children are now picking up bugs that have been on hold for the last two years.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> April testing will change and kits will have to be paid for, if Covid occurs then it will be a case of just learning to live with it.

NJ thought the attendance would have been lower in the current climate.

SIP/SEF is on the wall at Godshill and reading and phonics is a focus, the school is on an even keel at the moment. YR5/6 are having catch up sessions with two coaches coming in to help with SAT's and moving forward.

NJ had concerns with the YR6 regarding SAT's as they had missed so much education in the last two years. MS mentioned that the secondary schools would use the data in an unfair way.

MS wanted Governors monitoring visits to return, KG is coming in weekly to help PS with the Friday Eco club and PS reported a large take up and quite a long waiting lists. PS mentioned that she would like to also begin this during the school day, but is finding it hard to know what to do.

NG wondered if KG was still mentoring, KG apologised, but she had been recovering from Covid also taking on a lot more things in her personal life and has found it difficult.

MS told Governors not to feel bad as it had been a struggle for everyone during this time.

NG would be happy to help with ECO, English and Creative Writing.

MS said it would be good to make an appointment to see Mrs Evans at Chillerton & Rookley, which would be a good focus to start looking at reading. AD informed Governors that SE would be free mainly Thurs and Mon pm.

NJ reported it would be good to start getting back into school now.

PS felt that every plan that is made has fallen apart during this time for one reason and another.

**DB  
join  
ed  
the  
meet  
ing  
at  
6pm**

**10 Safeguarding:**

NS mentioned that from an outside view there is an awful lot of knife crime lately and schools should be aware of this, especially working with young people, who may have older siblings at high school. This is a criminal offence and should be reported to the police immediately if a child is caught carrying one.

NS said she would be willing to come into school and talk to the children in KS2. MS thought it would be good to talk to the YR6's and have a chat with them.

**NS to contact MS to discuss this.**

DB, who has attended the chairs forum and meeting with the safeguarding team to discuss Peer on Peer abuse. Governors would need to ensure their training in this area is up to date.

Governors could access the Key and AD informed Governors that they can access the National College now via their Stenbury email.

The staff have their second safeguarding session tomorrow 24<sup>th</sup> March.

MS reported that referrals had gone through the roof and Social Services are swamped and overwhelmed with the amount they are having to deal with.

Staff have access to "My Concern" within school.

There is a financial crisis amongst some families and a worrying time for children as well.

**Challenge**

*Q. There is low attendance amongst the SEN children at 82%, is this being monitored?*

A. One child has been out following a major operation and has had to isolate. Other SEN children have had complications relating to illness.

PS had concerns with the amount of courses the staff were expected to do and the lack of time to do them. AD reported that TA's would get time to complete them.

NJ also reported that quite a lot of Foster Carers are currently resigning because of the lack of support from the LA.

**Action**

**I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the Governing Board Meeting.**

Signed.....  . Chair/Vice-Chair Date.....27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**11 Health & Safety:**

AD had nothing to report.

MS informed Governors that the staff are exhausted and had concerns for their well-being. There had not been one day when all staff had been in and this was across the board. Staff well-being should be high on the agenda for Governors.

**12 Governors Matters, Reports & Training:**

a) Leadership

b) Visit Report Summaries – Any reports to be sent to the clerk for cascade once completed

c) Programme of Subject Leader Reports

d) Training & Development – *DB had attended the Chairs forum, sexual harassment had been discussed. Also an update for the KCSIE for 2022. DB is now part of the Pupil Places Working Group for IOW Primary Schools. This is a voluntary group representing Headteachers and Chairs of Governors. The group was formed to consider the challenges which face the Island Primary Schools in continuing to improve the Quality of Education to their pupils, while admissions to Reception classes and consequent numbers on roll are projected to fall and continue at a low for the foreseeable future.*

*DB will forward the statement to the clerk to cascade to Governors.*

*The impact will be felt in the larger schools also and have an impact on budget and resources. The Council does not have a strategic plan in place and the Council needs to be pressured into putting a plan in place as this is a very serious matter. DB informed Governors that they do have a voice in this.*

**Challenge**

*Q. Any update on Chillerton & Rookley*

*A. DB reported that Suze Ellis had informed her that the issue regarding consultation will be on the agenda at the next meeting due to be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, which would take it to half term. This was felt to be totally unacceptable and the Council need to make a decision, but Governors would have been none the wiser if DB had not contacted our elected member.*

e) Feedback from Official Complaints

f) Correspondence

**13 Policies for Review:**

It was agreed that the LA policies be adopted.

The following policies to be reviewed and adopted.

- Attendance Policy
- Child Friendly Peer on Peer
- Complaints Procedure (LA)
- Low Level Complaints Policy

There was a query from PS with regard to the Low Level Complaint policy and using pet names for children, which were used in Reception class to help with alliteration. MS reported that this was a Government led policy and is used alongside the Child Protection/Safeguarding Policies. Common sense would be used by the SLT in school with regard to the policy. This is something that Ofsted would ask about.

PS requested more training with regard to “My Concern”

*DB proposed that the policies be accepted, this was seconded by NS and agreed by Governors.*

**14 Correspondence:**

No correspondence had been received

**15 Impact of the Meeting:**

NJ – It had been good to see everyone in attendance and wanted to **thank all the staff during this difficult period.** It would be great to see everyone back doing face to face meetings again. **Thanks went to NJ for chairing the meeting.**

DB – **Thanks to all the staff** and DB reiterated the sentiments of NJ to get back to face to face meetings.

NS – It was good to know that Governors would once again be welcomed back into school.

**I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the Governing Board Meeting.**

Signed..... *Diane Parker* . Chair/Vice-Chair Date.....27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Action

**16 Any Other Business:**

PS mentioned to Governors that there would be a review of the Science curriculum and would welcome governors if they would like to come in. The focus would be on learning walks and books. NG and NS would like to be available. **PS to contact them via email.**

The clerk reported that there had been no applications received for Parent Governor from either school. Having contacted DH for next steps, DH explained that Governors could appoint parent Governors from within the Governing body. Following discussion NG and NS would be appointed as Parent Governors and resign their roles as Co-opted Governors.

AD was appointed as a Co-opted Governor.

Governors were in agreement.

Action

**17 Dates of the Next Meetings:**

**Summer Term:**

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022

There being no other business to discuss the meeting closed at 6.45 pm

I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate record of the Governing Board Meeting.

Signed..... *Diane Parker* . Chair/Vice-Chair Date.....27<sup>th</sup> April 2022