

**Local Advisory Group Meeting**

**Wednesday 4 July 2018**

**MINUTES**

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| PL | Paul Lovern – Executive Head | NJ | Nicola Jarrett – Headteacher Richard Crosse |
| HB | Heather Bowman – Chair of Directors | RM | Rachel Mills – Headteacher Howard |
| SC | Sue Cockayne – Director for LAG | JW | Jon Wynn – Headteacher St. Mary’s |
| AA | Antony Allen – Parent Member Richard Crosse | AHod | Alison Hodgson - Director of Business Operations |
| MHE | Marcella Henley – PTA Member Richard Crosse | AH | Alison Howard - Clerk |
|  |  | RC | Richard Crosse |
| PB | Phil Bate – Parent Member Howard | SM | St Mary's |
| CM | Claire Malcolm – PTA Member Howard | TH | The Howard |
| CB | Chris Billingham – Community Member Howard | TA | Teaching Assistant |
| CC | Claire Clarke – PTA Member St. Mary’s | HT | Headteacher |
| MH | Marie Havelock – Community Member St. Mary’s | STEM | Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics |

**Attendance :** PL, SC, HB, AA, CB, PB, CC, CM, MHE, RM, NJ, JW, AH

1. SC welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting opened with a prayer.
2. **Apologies :** MH sent apologies. Jan Higgins has resigned from Kings Bromley Parish Council and also from the LAG; a replacement LAG member has not yet been decided.
3. **Pecuniary Interest**

There were no changes to pecuniary interest forms.

1. **Minutes of last meeting**

An amendment was made to the minutes to show that in Item 6, paragraph 3, St Mary's/Colton, The Trustees **and PTA** have funded an outdoor shelter. These were then accepted as a true record and signed by SC.

1. **Head of School Reports**

**Richard Crosse School:** NJ reported that the staffing has remained stable through the year, but two teachers are leaving at the end of the summer term. Two new teachers have been appointed; they have both visited the school and will spend the last week of this term in school. Volunteers play an important part in school, with 13 volunteers working in school this year and 4 new ones offering to come in next year. The Age UK volunteer will leave at the end of this term, but has offered to come to help with drama in the future. NJ listed many sporting events: football, rounders, mini-triathlon, athletics, kwik-cricket and swimming, which included a fundraising swimming gala to raise money for equipment for a disabled child. In addition, there has been a Royal Wedding event and trips to Warwick University as part of the racing car project run by Dr Allen in school, which will involve racing at Rockingham Speedway next week. Children are continuing to work hard, but are also preparing for end of term productions.

**Howard Primary School:** RM presented copies of the Ofsted report from the recent inspection, grading the school as good, and expressed thanks to staff, pupils, parents, Directors and TSSMAT staff at the other schools for all their support. Ofsted considered that the self-evaluation was very accurate, with Teaching, Learning and Behaviour all rated as good. Priorities identified by Ofsted were to improve the teaching of Maths, particularly for the more able, and Spelling. Staffing is now stable at the school and will remain much the same next year, with the exception of one TA moving to RC; a TA/Care Club leader retires at the end of this term (a new appointment has been made) and a teacher who supports a child with special needs is also leaving (the child is moving to a different school). RM thanked all the volunteers who provide help in various ways and talked through the enrichment activities including STEM activities provided by AA, a Phonics workshop, guitar concert, Playleader training, Funky Food Programme, Royal Wedding picnic, May Queen celebrations, Sports Day. A school from Burton on Trent based in an urban setting has visited TH and children from TH will return the visit. There has been a visit to Sea World in Birmingham. 5 new children from 3 families will be welcomed into TH in September.

**St Mary's School:** JW presented Ofsted reports from the recent inspection, grading the school as good. He thanked staff, pupils, children, the PTA and Directors for all their support and also TSSMAT staff from the other two schools who, as at TH, came in to help the day before the inspection. Work on spelling is a priority for the school and it is planned to work on nurture and growth mindset, with an emphasis on calmness. With regards to staffing, a new teacher joined the school after Easter and has settled in well. A new TA has started work in school and a teacher who has worked previously at SM is returning to work at the school. A teacher has returned to work after maternity leave. The Nursery Volunteers were thanked for all their hard work in school. Enrichment activities included Sports Day, STEM Science Day with AA, gardening and Forest School, Stoke football and Active Maths. Y3/4 have won a tennis tournament and enjoyed their homework projects. The Nursery has proved to be very successful in attracting new children to the school. JW thanked everyone for their support during a successful year.

The three Headteachers were thanked for their presentations.

1. **Trust Updates**

PL gave a big thank-you to Headteachers, staff, parents, PTAs , LAG members, Directors and children for ensuring that TSSMAT is now in a strong position; Ofsted valued the fact that the three schools worked together in a supportive way, making a very talented team; this enabled TH and SM to go into the inspections in a positive manner.

TSSMAT is aiming to grow, with a fourth school, Anson School in Great Heywood, hoping to join. A decision will be made on this by the Regional Commissioner on 11 September 2018. PL advised that the political landscape is changing, with MATs being encouraged to take on more schools. CM asked about data and PL said it was more appropriate to present this in autumn after SATs results are known.

1. **Community Updates**

**Richard Crosse/Kings Bromley:** MHE informed the LAG that parental connections were being used by the PTA to source items such as food for the Summer Fayre and Sports Day, school uniforms and IT equipment. The PTA has a good relationship with the local Co-op. There has been a new parents' evening attended by the PTA in the hope of recruiting new committee members. Events such as Chocolate Bingo, raffles, cake sale and the Summer Fayre have been successful and the PTA will have a free stall at Kings Bromley Show. A planned car wash has not taken place due to the present drought. Money has been given towards the school minibuses, resources and IT equipment. The purchase of 16 laptops has been welcomed by the school. A grant of £2000 has been given to the PTA by Kings Bromley Show Society after a bid was presented by PTA members.

**The Howard/Elford:** CM reported that the fundraising for a new classroom continues; there has been a silent auction, Royal Wedding and cycling events. The Chair of the Friends has arranged for Gift Aid to be in place for donations. Other events are planned and it is hoped that planning approval will be given so that applications can be made for external sponsorship. Despite the fact that most of the money is going towards the new classroom, money has also been given to buy resources and fund activities for the children. New parents are keen to join the Friends. CM and PB both confirmed that the new HT was getting very positive feedback from parents who enjoyed sports day and other school events. CB said that villagers appreciated the fact that the HT attended a village meeting and that PL attended a recent funeral of a villager. She also mentioned that older villagers enjoyed the Royal Wedding celebrations and felt that the outreach to the community and the twinning association gave a very positive message. RM thanked Elford villagers for their welcome.

**St Mary's/Colton:** CC said it had been a really positive term for the PTA and the school, with very successful events such as Chocolate Bingo, the Big Breakfast, film night and Sports Day. They are looking for new recruits to the PTA committee. Money for a new shed and Forest School, together with the Leavers' hoodies, has been given to the school. CC informed the LAG that the school now has rabbits as well as chickens.

SC thanked the PTAs at the three schools for all their fundraising efforts.

1. **Any other business**

MHE raised the issue of medication in schools, as pharmacies can now give out medication such as Calpol and Piriton free of charge to children without a doctor's prescription. However the school can only administer prescribed medication which is to be taken 4 times a day. NJ advised that information received recently on a training course from a medical practitioner stressed that in no circumstances could medication be administered by the school without a doctor's prescription, as otherwise the person administering the medication would be held responsible for any outcome. TSSMAT will look at the situation again, as pharmacies are increasingly providing medication.

AA had enjoyed presenting the STEM activity days in the schools and Warwick University was pleased with the outcome of the outreach activities, including the building of the racing car at RC. Another car will be built in a second school and it is hoped that the project can be extended to a third school. NJ said how popular it had proved to be with the children and she was pleased with the involvement of girls in the engineering project.

AA mentioned that there was still a vacancy on the LAG for a parent, as well as a Community member.

1. **Date and location of next meeting**

With regards to next year's meeting dates, MHC asked whether the day could be changed. Monday was found to be a day everyone could attend and suggested dates are as follows:

8 October 4pm at RC

4 March 4pm at SM

1 July 4pm at TH

Signed............................................................. Date.........................................

Sue Cockayne, Chair of Local Advisory Group