

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NESTON SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY  
HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

- 1. Present:** Gillian Pratt (Chairman); John Andrews; Tim Awmack;  
David Blamire-Brown;  
Pam Evans; Gill Fox; Mark Garrett; Andrew Mortimer;  
Ken Pratt  
Margaret Carey (Clerk)
- 2. Apologies:** Tash Patrick
- 3. Register of Business Interests:** The forms were completed by all  
Governors
- 4. Declaration of Interests relating to items on the Agenda:** Nil
- 5. Chairman's announcements:** A report on Teacher's pay would be  
given under Agenda item – Finance Staffing & Premises Committee
- 6. Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th September 2018  
were signed as being a true record. Thanks were given to Mark for  
drawing up the Minutes in the Clerk's absence
- 7. Matters Arising:**
  - a. **Website Audit:** John will complete this before the end of the  
year
  - b. **Date Protection Officer:** It was stated that it would be possible  
for a Governor or member of staff to do this but safeguarding  
measures would have to be in place. It was agreed to keep this  
as an possible option.
- 8. Correspondence:** This had been circulated
- 9. Head Teacher's report:** This had been circulated.  
There were currently 201 children on roll.

Pam had changed the context in the Report which now shows the  
spread of Educational Needs

- Q. Pam was asked that out of the different categories which one  
could be part of a new set up**
- A. She felt that it could possibly be the Speech and language  
cognition and learning**

Pam explained the Thrive assessments. She said that it is to find out  
the gaps in development that children have missed and put measures  
in place

- It was noticed that the number of service children is now up to 10%
- Q. Are the large number of service children causing any issues?**  
**A. It is a mixed picture but the school keeps an eye on these children**

Pam explained the situation regarding an exclusion which she felt may have a bearing on the application for the Resource Base

There had been one incident of bullying but this had not been an extreme incident and had been resolved

Classes 3 and 4 are now up to 34 children and the school would not be taking any more in those classes

Pam had detailed the data in her report and this was discussed. She explained the discrepancy in numbers and also that the data would not be validated til the end of November.

Pam and the head teacher from Colerne School were carrying out an inspection exercise on each other's school.

Pam explained that a lot of work had been done in Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar but this would not show up in the results yet

The progress in Maths -2.75% was a result of children not achieving higher level. The School will be introducing White Rose alongside Maths No Problem which will improve this. Also the assessment of children in KS1 had been too high which impacted on future results. Also children had come from schools abroad or from home schooling with no data to accompany them.

- Q. Is there any in year data to show progress in KS1**  
**A. Yes there is the analysis. The school needs to push the high achievers**

The Key Issues for the School Improvement Plan 2018-19 are as follows:

- Improve the effectiveness of leadership and management
- Improving Teaching and Learning
- Improve the mental health of all at Neston Primary School
- To ensure that Neston school is GDPR compliant
- Raising the achievement of pupils across the school

#### **10. Budget:**

It was reported that the school is better off financially than previously thought through more NPA income. The forecast deficit is £10,000 and not £21,000 as previously expected. More funding will be coming in to deal with a health issue. This could be £10,000 which would clear the deficit.

Pam said that she is keen to pursue the Resource Base as it will be a good thing for the school and match the school's ethos. The children using the Resource Base would mix with their peers but would not be fully integrated back into the mainstream.

Pam is drawing up a Business Plan and bid and will meet with the Local Authority on 17<sup>th</sup> December. She will look to see what the impact would be on the school.

**Q. The School currently has a very competent SEN teacher. In future would the school be able to train someone else from within the staff?**

**A. Yes the school could train others. However, the role is very demanding and needs a lot of support**

Pam explained that the Resource Base would be a 15 place unit and there are already 5 children in the school that would benefit. The unit could be accommodated upstairs but the school would need resources and capital funding to set it up. Any new units would be opened by September 2019.

It was agreed that the Governors would need to discuss this further when Pam had more information.

**11. Health and Safety Report:** Ken reported that the LA had carried out an audit. There had been very favourable comments and there was a lot of documentary evidence.

Thanks were given to Renee for her hard work and to Ken for carrying out all the inspections.

Access from Hall: Tim explained that it should be possible to ease the problem when the music items have been removed. The 5 large tables used by the reading army would need to be changed. It was suggested that the kiln shed could be used to solve some of the problems but Pam explained that the kiln was now being used more and this was not an option.

**12. IT update:**

Tim had met with David who had drawn up a "road map" on how to progress the issue. There is a meeting next week with Austen Challoner to look at some of the equipment which is either not working properly or is out of date. It was important that the Admin Office has adequate equipment and the computers are being recovered and software added to improve these.

Tim would be obtaining quotations from alternative providers but he would need to fully understand the present position before this can proceed.

There may be some money available from FoNS and the school can use capital money for new equipment. However, the cost of a new provider would have to come out of the revenue budget.

They would also be looking into the leasing options and he will obtain figures for this. The school would need to build up reserves each year to allow for this.

A full report will be drawn up with costs for either purchase or lease and this will be brought to the Finance, Staffing and Premises Committee meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

Thanks were given to Tim, David and John

- 13. Grounds update:** David reported that he was pleased with how the parents got involved in the recent working party and a lot of clearing work had been done. The school had been able to use the sunken gardens for lessons.

William Wolf, Tree Surgeon, had removed dead wood from some of the trees and would be coming back in the New Year to fell the Beech tree

Tim reported that a neighbour had expressed an interest in taking over some of the land at the end of the sunken garden, past the old swimming pool up to Church Rise.

After discussion the Governors agreed that they did not want to release any of the land as this stretch of land may be needed in the future if the school was unable to afford to maintain the whole of the grounds.

It was agreed that the Governors would speak to him about how the trees bordering his land could be managed.

- 14. Finance, Staffing and Premises Committee:** The report of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 was submitted and adopted

Teachers Pay Policy: it was unanimously agreed that the school would adopt Option 1

The recommendation that the Head Teacher be given responsibility for awarding a single support up to £5K so long as it is not committed for more than 2.3rds of the school year was agreed

The recommendation that the level of virements remain as they are was agreed

The recommendation that the head teacher has the responsibility to review contracts and services due to renewal up to £5K so long as it is not committed for more than 2/3rds of the school year was agreed

Teachers Pay Panel: Ken reported that the Pay Panel had met on 12<sup>th</sup> October and three members of staff had been given additional points to recognise their level of performance.

**15. Curriculum Standards and School Improvement Committee**: The report of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018 was submitted and adopted.

Scheme of Delegation/Governors Handbook: Andrew will finalise this and circulate to Governors.  
Thanks were given to Andrew

**16. Dates of next meetings:**

CSSI - 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019

FSP - 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019

FGs - 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Chairman**

*Meeting closed at 9.30 pm*