

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the
Local Authority School Governor Appointments Panel
held on Friday, 7th February, 2014 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor Rhoda Bailey (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

Councillors M Hardy, A Harewood and D Mahon

Officers

Andy Kent, Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services

Paul Mountford, Democratic Services Officer

15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors G Merry and J Clowes.

16 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION

In accordance with Procedure Rule 11 and 35, a total of 10 minutes was allocated for members of the public to address the Panel on any matter relevant to their work.

There were no members of the public in attendance and the Panel, therefore, proceeded to the next item of business.

17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary or non pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

Declarations of interest were made as appropriate during discussions of the item of business in which there was an interest.

18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 18 October 2013 be approved as a correct record.

19 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item, in pursuant to Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and public interest would not be served in publishing this information.

20 LOCAL AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS TO SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES

The Panel considered the Department of Education's consultation on the Constitution of Governing Bodies of Maintained Schools – Proposed Changes to Regulations.

The Government was currently consulting on making reconstitution under the new regulations mandatory for all maintained school governing bodies by the end of the academic year 2014-15. This would have a significant impact on the number of LA governors as the new regulations only allowed for one LA governor per school. It would also impact on the role of the Panel as its role as an appointing body would not continue. The consultation document was attached to the report.

The aim of the proposals was to improve the standard of school governors, with greater emphasis being placed on required skills. The Chester and Shrewsbury Dioceses had welcomed the proposed changes.

The Panel then considered the Director's report on vacancies within Cheshire East maintained schools and the applications received for appointment or re-appointment to identified posts.

Additional information was tabled at the meeting in respect of two new appointments and one re-appointment.

Finally, the Panel noted that the Council had been invited to nominate an individual to the governing body of the new Church Lawton free school for children with autistic spectrum disorders, which would be opening in September. The officers were preparing a person/role specification for the appointment and would be discussing the matter further with the National Autistic Society before reporting back to the Portfolio Holder and the Panel.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the direction of Government policy as set out in the consultation document 'Constitution of Governing Bodies of

Maintained Schools – Proposed Changes to Regulations’ be endorsed;

- (2) That the following appointments be made:
- (a) **New Appointments** for a four year term of office with effect from 7 February 2014:

ASTBURY ST MARY’S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs K S Moore and Dr R D Mort (for one vacancy) – Decision deferred for further discussion between the Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services, the School and the Diocese, with the decision delegated to the Chairman and Portfolio Holder.

DISLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr C Jackson - Decision deferred to allow the Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services to discuss with school

HIGH LEGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs R J Blackburn

LOWER PARK SCHOOL

Mrs C A Kenyon

PEOVER SUPERIOR ENDOWED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr J G Croxton - Decision deferred to allow the Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services to discuss with further with applicant

PUSS BANK SCHOOL

Mr C D Steiger

SANDBACH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ms C Lawton

VERNON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs H A O’Sullivan

WILMSLOW GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dr R C Small

In the interests rest of openness Cllr Mahon declared that he know Dr Small

- (b) **Re-appointment** from the day after their term of office comes to an end or from 7 February 2014 if their term has already ended:

BROKEN CROSS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Cllr C M Andrew, Decision deferred to allow further information to be sought by the Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services, with the decision delegated to Chairman and Portfolio Holder

In the interests of openness, all Members declared that they knew C Andrew as she was a councillor colleague

ELWORTH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cllr G Merry

In the interests of openness, all Members declared that they knew G Merry as she was a councillor colleague

MABLINS LANE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr L Simm

MIDDLEWICH HIGH SCHOOL

Dr C Chapman

In the interests of openness, Cllrs R Bailey and M Hardy declared that they knew Dr Chapman

MONKS COPPENHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr A Guildford - Decision deferred to allow the Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services to seek further information

RUSKIN SPORTS AND LANGUAGES COLLEGE

Mr Gordon Fyfe - Decision deferred to allow the Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services to seek further information

SANDBACH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Miss R Darlington

SHAVINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

Mr A R C Pierre – decision deferred to allow the Liaison Manager, Schools, Settings and Services to seek further information

SOUND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cllr R Bailey

In the interests of openness, all Members declared that they knew R Bailey as she was a councillor colleague

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, MIDDLEWICH

Mr J P A Williams

THE MARLBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr A Mierzejewski

WRENBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs R Bulkeley

- (c) **Nominations as Local Authority Governors for appointment by School:**

AUDLEM ST JAMES' CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs J Furber

In the interest of openness, Cllr R Bailey declared that she knew Mrs Furber

MARTON AND DISTRICT CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs S Kent

- (d) **Nominations as Local Authority Governors for re-appointment by School:**

GORSEY BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Revd P A Smith

PARK LANE SCHOOL

Mrs T M Palmes

- (3) That the position with regard to the appointment of a local authority governor at the new Church Lawton Free School be noted.

21 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is to be held on Friday 6 June 2014 in the Committee Suite at Westfields, Sandbach.

The meeting commenced at 10.30 and concluded at 11.45

Councillor Rhoda Bailey (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)