

Derbyshire School Governors' Association Executive Committee Meeting 24.6.09 County Hall

Present: Paul Mason (Chair) (PM), John Partington (Secretary) (JP), Stuart Conway (SC) (Treasurer), Linda Du Roe (LD), Martin Brader (MB)

Minutes.

1. Apologies: Mahalia Jackson, Barry Thacker.

2. Minutes of previous meeting. These were accepted and approved.

3. Current issues:

PM reported that he had made contact with the incoming Cabinet Member for Education, Michael Longden. The meeting organised with County Councillor Alan Charles had therefore been cancelled.

DCC course for Clerks to Governing Bodies. JP, SC and PM had attended the course at South Normanton on 18th June as observers. This had provided useful publicity for DSGA.

DSGA website. After discussion it was agreed

- (i) that PM would draft an opening page for the website.
- (ii) that JP would supply the current agenda and executive committee minutes to MB, and
- (iii) that MB would look into the possibility of reproducing the latest OFSTED rules and guidelines brought to the meeting by LD which detailed the greatly expanded responsibilities of governors.

Liaison meeting with County Councillor Longden.

Members agreed a number of issues for the next meeting. (i) Representation on the Schools Forum, (ii) the effects of falling rolls, (iii) the future of small schools, and (iv) concerns about admissions.

W.A.M.G. JP and PM attended the recent meeting. Practice in the deployment of Teaching Assistants was very varied, leading to inconsistencies. It was expected that the start date for the new arrangements would bring acute difficulties for many schools. Concern was also expressed about the exact meaning of 'rarely cover', and there was scepticism about the ability of schools to forecast staff absences and bring in appropriate cover.

A.O.B. LD drew attention to the right of teachers who have not claimed their retirement pension by the agreed date to remain permanently in post.

Date of next meeting: 22 July 2009.

. John Partington. Hon. Sec. DSGA