

DERBYSHIRE SCHOOL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES 28 OCTOBER 2009

Present: *Paul Mason, Linda Du-Roe, Peter Thorne, Mahala Titterton, Martin Brader, Barbara Arrandale and Stuart Conway.*

(i) Apologies: *John Partington and Barry Thacker*

(ii) *The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted with the proviso that an amendment should show that Paul was to ask Martin to act as vice chair and Linda to join the executive committee.*

Matters arising: *Ofsted visit changes are duly noted. The main speaker at the Birmingham conference on the 7 November will be the Ofsted Chief Inspector Christine Gilbert. The previous minutes should read, "Good schools MAY be inspected only every 5 years".*

(iii) Current issues and reports:

Local - Paul has spoken to Mike Longden (Cabinet Member) with regard to our executive meetings and it is hoped that a meeting with him will be arranged soon. Local Social Partnership - the effectiveness of LSP's under scrutiny. They will act as the first stage of arbitration, voice an opinion and unresolved issues proceed to regional then national WAMG as appropriate. Governors, Heads and staff need to reach agreement on practices.

Briefing sessions - John Partington to attend.

School Forum - 15 - 19 learning changes highlighted by Paul. There are issues to be resolved due to the demise of the Learning Skills Council. Single Status - the Report is due within the next 6 weeks. Non-teaching staff issues still to be addressed. Jobs,

roles and assessment - April 2010.

CRB vetting and barring - cost will be £64 unless you are a volunteer. The registration check must be completed by the individual prior to any job application. Ofsted will want to see that everyone in school is on the central register. For further details about single central records of CRB checks and re-checking consult "Safeguarding Procedures". Schools carbon reduction issues - to be discussed later together with the finance amendment regulations. Direct Schools Grant - there is an under spend and proposals for allocating will be published in due course. A request has been submitted for an increase to the Parent Partnership allocation. Refer to the recent document sent to Heads from Ollie Pardoe. The leaflet should be issued to parents when an issue arises.

Regional - Paul, Peter and Stuart attended the regional conference at Rutland Water on the 20 October. Stuart distributed copies of his notes for information.

National - the AGM of NGA will be attended by Peter, Martin and Stuart on Saturday the 7 November in Birmingham.

Copies of the NGA Bulletin do appear on our website.

There has been a resolution submitted by Stan Solomons for debate at the meeting.

Elections at the AGM - there are 6 candidates for which we have 3 votes. Following discussion, and having briefly perused their submissions, we agreed to vote positively for 2 candidates only - Colleen Arnold and Claire Collins.

29 applications have been received by NGA for the post of CEO. There is a short list of 5 with interviews being held on the 3 November. The result will be announced at the AGM.

The NGA 2010 conference will be held in London on 27 January. The fee will be £150 or £50 per Association member. Paul will try to persuade Mike Longden to attend.

NGA are inviting comments on the effectiveness, or otherwise, on the Matters Arising publication. They would also like Governors to submit articles for publication.

(iv) Financial - Stuart distributed his Report. It was agreed that we should await the

outcome of our meeting with Mike Longden before making any further decisions about investments. Honorarium - the executive members agreed to give Paul a sum of £525.00.

(v) Correspondence - none. AOB - Linda attended the recent LA Clerks and Chairs staff development event which included bullying and the new Ofsted inspection regime. It was stated that Governors should be familiar with raise-on-line etc.

We are to purchase 2 sets of the NGA guides.

Will you please let me have any questions you would want us to ask Christine Gilbert?

The date of the next meeting is November 25 2009 for which Paul, Peter and Linda send their apologies.

Stuart Conway

In John's absence.