

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF  
HANDSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY  
HELD ON THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018  
AT 8.00 AM AT THE SCHOOL**

Present: Mr Simon Jarvis (**Vice Chair**) - **Co-opted Governor**

**Parent Governors**

Ms Jennifer Smith  
Mr Michael Fear

**Local Authority Governor**

Ms Donna Carby

**Co-opted Governors**

Ms Katherine Bromley (Staff)  
Mr Gabriel Gottlieb  
Ms Mary Wilson (Staff)  
Ms Elizabeth Winder  
Mrs Alina Harris (Chair)

**Head Teacher - voting**

Ms Jill Augustin

**Staff Governor**

Mr Robert Tromans

Clerk: Carol Carroll

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Mr Jarvis, as Acting Chair, welcomed all to the meeting. Mrs Harris, thanked Mr Jarvis for acting as Chair in the weeks after the birth of her baby and noted that she would be happy to stand as Chair again in the next academic year.

1.2 Apologies: None.

1.3 The meeting was quorate.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

**3.** Governors noted that the first of the planned parent consultation meetings had been held on 5<sup>th</sup> July and a number of issues were raised. Similarly, the staff meeting on the same day raised a number of concerns with the proposal to academise with REAch2.

Governors also noted that the Academy Business Plan from REAch2 had been received on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and had been reviewed by members of the Working Party. The Working Party had agreed that the current proposal did not provide the school with the long term financial security initially sought.

Ms Winder pursued a number of resulting enquiries directly with the REAch2 Finance Director, however REAch2 was not able to provide any further revisions to the Business plan at this time.

The Working Party therefore proposed to halt the academy conversion process and had prepared a suggested written communication to parents, staff and the wider community.

Mr Jarvis asked governors to vote whether to halt the current process of consultation and academisation with REAch2.

### **Governors unanimously agreed**

Governors noted that a parent had offered confidential and independent communications advice to the Governing body. Governors discussed the communications revisions provided and whether to issue a letter to parents and staff with immediate effect.

Mr Jarvis asked governors if they approved the amended communication to staff and parents.

### **Governors unanimously agreed**

Governors agreed to make further revisions to FAQs on the website

Ms Augustin also confirmed that she would advise the DfE and REAch2. The Unions and other stakeholders would also be advised after parents and staff.

Governors noted that, in the past, Handsworth has generated additional income by providing school-to-school support to other schools in special measures within Waltham Forest. These schools are now obliged to become academies and therefore this type of income generation is no longer an option for Handsworth. In order to provide support and tap into that network, Handsworth itself would need to become an academy. Governors continue to consider the long term and viable financial options for the school.

Governors agreed that there were lessons to be learnt throughout the proposed academy process, including consideration to better ways to communicate and engage stakeholders with any future proposals to staff and parents.

### **Actions:**

Ms Wilson to change the message on the school website and upload the revised FAQs.

Ms Augustin to notify Sir Steve Lancashire (REAch2); DfE; make an announcement to staff; to email the letter to staff, parents and carers, unions and other stakeholders.

Ms Carby to support in drafting a communication to Unions.

Ms Wilson to provide Governor Services with a copy of the signed attendance sheet and minutes from today's meeting for their records.

Mr Jarvis thanked governors for attending and the meeting concluded at 8.35 am.

**Signed**.....

**Dated**.....