

Newton & Teign Local Board

Minutes: Wednesday 12th February 2020
4pm at Hennock School

Invited: Lynda Cooper (Chair)
Jo Carter
Vic Pooler
Olivia Gentile
Ewa Ziubryniewicz
Frances Swan
Kelly Yeo
Becky Ames (Clerk)

Guest: Kayleigh Webster (potential parent Governor, Bearnese)

Governors are asked to notify the Chair or Clerk at least 5 working days prior to the meeting of any other items they wish to place on the agenda.

Welcome: Lynda Cooper welcomes all and introduces the new Clerk Becky Ames

Apologies: Jo Carter Ewa Ziubryniewicz Frances Swan Kelly Yeo

Declaration of Business Interests: There were no declarations of Business Interests

N1.20 Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of 18 December 2019 – Were approved and signed by the Chair Lynda Cooper

N2.20 Matters Arising

2.1 Becky to circulate minutes from Directors Standards and Curriculum meeting (29/01/20). Lynda Cooper (LC) reported to the local board that the minutes have been circulated but not with enough time to review them fully. LC reported some parts to the Board for discussion.

2.2 Early Years data on website does not tally with figures given by staff in meeting; Alice to investigate and confirm – deferred until 22nd April 2020.

N3.20 Procedural

3.1 Safeguarding

Report on any updates relating to Safeguarding

Hennock - Vic Pooler (VP) reported on a current safeguarding concern which is being managed effectively, the Governors are satisfied with VP's responses to their questions surrounding the issue. ACTION VP to advise on the outcome at the next Local Board meeting. VP advised that she has concerns about supporting other families that may be struggling. LC challenged VP and asked whether she felt supported by the staff at Hennock and the Trust. VP feels very supported by the Trust and by other AH's. LC challenged VP and asked whether there is currently enough support in place for the children of these families. VP advised there are a number of things in place for children that may be struggling with the use of the school TA's and the Inclusion Hub.

Bearnese - A report from Alice was shared from LC, Alice Eeles (AE) reported to the board that she has found the safeguard training using the Brook tool was very useful. VP and Olivia Gentile (OG) advised the board that this tool can be found online. Alex Waterman provides 1 minute safeguard reads and Alice asked whether the Governors would also like them sent to them. LC decided that she feels the Governors receive adequate safeguard training and information but thanks them for the consideration. Kayleigh asked whether there can be safeguard posters added to the children's toilets on subjects such as online safety. Academy Heads to ACTION.

Visit from Becky Humphreys deferred to the next meeting to allow data from SIMS to be processed. LC reported that it has been decided that Becky Humphreys will now report to the Working Party and she will feed back to the N&T local board.

3.2 SEND

Report on any updates relating to SEND

Hennock - VP advised the annual review will be in March, VP and LC are meeting 13/02/2020 to further discuss SEND at the focus visit. The school have been well supported by the communication and interactive team.

Bearnes – AE's report advised that currently the Children's provision is good and parents feel very supported.

The Board raised a question about how EP hours is shared across the Academy and do each school get their correct amount of time.

N4.20 Strategic

Directors Standards & Curriculum Committee

Update from meeting held 29/01/2020

VP raised concerns over the merge of THE South Dartmoor Schools; LC made clear what was discussed at the S&C meeting explaining that the N&T board ask to form a hub with them to share knowledge and experiences relating to Safeguarding and SEND. This was fully supported by the Board. This is something that could happen in the future.

There was further clarity given on the Trust Structure, the Board said it is nice to see that along with the addition of extra schools more Central Team Leaders are also being added to support the growth of the Link Academy. LC advised that Trustees have been asked to visit some of the schools; they will visit along with the Governors at their usual visits.

OFSTED have visited one of the schools which was the first inspection based on using the new framework. One question raised was whether local governors can support staff that may be overwhelmed. VP and LC discussed how this could be implemented within their work; this is something that needs to be thought about more. LC challenged VP and asked how she supports staff and whether there is a policy in place for staff well-being? It is understood that policies are currently being looked at but will likely be discussed at the next AHs meeting.

Local Board Working Group

Update from meeting held 06/02/20 – There was a visit from Babcock where advice was given about how we are currently/wanting identifying as a Trust. Small school Big Opportunities is the approach to be referred to when thinking about how we identify ourselves.

LC advised that she would like to implement a parent to governor forum of some description and that this is being looked into. LC and VP both feel that it is important for parents to have a communication link between Governors and the school in which information can be fed.

Governor signatures of KCSIE – are we all signed? Apart from Kayleigh?

N5.20 Governance

Recruitment: ideas and strategies, LC is still looking for new Governors and regularly speaking to parents and representing the N&T Local Board.

Upcoming Governor Day – Friday 28th February.

The Board have reported issues with IT; they have suggested that each local Board should have a shared library in the one drive, the same as they do for Directors. LC reported that it is really difficult to share documents safely and efficiently and rose how this was brought up at the last Standards and Curriculum meeting and that the matter is in hand. VP has also had discussions with Limbtec and advised they said that it is complex procedure. VP also stressed the importance of initiating pupil login's which is another thing that is meant to be done shortly.

N6.20 **Focussed Visits**

Review any focused visits so far this term and any issues to be aware of
Plans and priorities for next term – Governors are due to go in and refer to the
ASIP's next term.

Trustee visits to schools – LC to advise heads when a Trustee will visit.

N7.20 **Dates of future meetings**

- Wednesday, 22nd April, 4pm, Bearnas

DRAFT