

**WOODLANDS MEED GOVERNOR STRATEGY MEETING**  
**ON**  
**Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 4.00pm**  
**VENUE: Woodlands Meed, Chanctonbury Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 9EY**

**Governors present: Adam Rowland (AFR), Sandra Boyd (SB), Peter Clinch (PC), Simon Virgo (SV), Marion Wilcock (MGW), Matt Stuart (MS), Rose Griffiths (RG)**  
**Associate member present: Justina Pughe Morgan (JPM)**

**Clerk: Louisa Rydon (LR)**

**BUILDING UNIQUE FUTURES TOGETHER**

<b>MINUTES</b>	
<b>1. Welcome &amp; Apologies</b> Permission was given to record the meeting as LR would join the meeting late. Apologies were received from Nola Bennet, Tom Brown, Anna Hull and Alan Robinson.	
<b>2. Declaration of Interests</b> None.	
<b>3. Election of Chair</b> LR had asked MGW to run the election. PC agreed to be nominated for a further term and he was duly elected as chair for the next year.	
<b>4. Approval of Minutes dated 20th June 2022</b> After a correction to Justina Pughe Morgan's name the minutes were approved and signed as a true record.	
<b>5. Matters Arising</b> a) <u>Strategy</u> Amendments had been made and a further review was required following the July FGB. Further amendments had now been made and governors had the two versions, one displaying track changes and one final version. To be discussed under item 6. b) <u>Cottage</u> SV confirmed teachers had submitted ideas for the cottage use. At the last P,H&S meeting, the committee had agreed on asking for FGB approval for an application to be made for change of use from residential to educational. SV reported on the degree of urgency due to the implications of council tax. The garden is now being used educationally and there were exciting plans to use the house for home skills. Report to FGB. <div style="text-align: right;"><i>LR and RG joined the meeting</i></div>	SV 5/12/22
<b>6. Strategy changes – modus operandi</b> PC felt that now the strategy was in place, governors should formalize how changes were submitted. It was agreed it was the governors' key document and should be live. PC recommended a regular agenda item at each strategy meeting. Governors would be asked to submit a form in advance of the meeting detailing the proposed change, reasons and impact. Governors would then receive two copies of the strategy at each meeting, one with tracked changes and one with the changes accepted. The footer would note the date and that it was a draft. Governors would also receive the updated tracker with progress made. PC to draft form for governors to complete.	PC 6/3/22
<b>7. Discussion of proposed changes to Strategy document</b> Governors studied the updated version 3. They carefully discussed the vision, where the school currently was and how achievements were measured. They considered communication, autism and SEND careers individually and agreed on	

	<p>the importance of all three to result in better outcomes for students. The final sentence was approved as:  <i>To be a nationally recognized best practice generic special needs school with particular expertise in autism, communication and SEND careers education.</i>  Governors then went through the document and discussed, recommended and approved changes. PC noted the decisions made and amended the document showing the changes and reasons for wording changes. (Attached.)  The final document to be sent to FGB for approval. Once approved, changes to update the tracker would be made.</p>	
<b>8. Fundraising report</b>	To next meeting.	
<b>9. Update on government / West Sussex communications on MATs</b>	<p>MGW/AFR and JPM had been investigating the options for WM following the government's white paper on academization. They were working towards the current deadline of 2030. AFR reported on the three options:</p> <p>Join a mainstream MAT  Join a current SEND MAT  Set up SEND MAT with other similar SEND schools</p> <p>Governors saw the difficulties in joining a mainstream MAT as the WM ethos and vision would not match. The Alternative Provision MAT was not compatible due to funding methods.</p> <p>AFR and MGW had met with the Chair of Governors &amp; Head at Ford Water (Chichester) to discuss forming a SEND MAT with other similar special schools. AFR felt this was an exciting possibility giving the opportunity to form an organization using the SLAS that work for schools such as WM.</p> <p>RG asked if this option would meet the minimum number of pupils and schools required in a MAT. AFR confirmed the schools would have to go to the RSC for special permission for this model. RG asked if this format could include schools in East Sussex which AFR believed it could but did note funding differences of schools such as Chailey Heritage which did not currently need to join MATs.</p> <p>MGW/AFR/JPM to continue working on best options for WM.</p>	MGW/AFR/JPM
<b>10 Impact on pupils</b>	<p><b>Strategy completed as a live document to ensure optimum outcomes for pupils.</b>  <b>Ongoing work to seek best options on academisation.</b></p>	
<b>11 Dates of next meeting</b>	<p><b>Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm</b>  <b>Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm</b></p>	

SIGNED.....*Peter Clinch*..... DATE.....6<sup>th</sup> March 2023.....

ACTION GRID October 2022			
6	Standard agenda item at each meeting. Suggested changes to strategy (received in advance) for discussion. PC to draft form.	PC/LR	Constant ✓
7	Amend strategy with recommended changes. Submit to FGB for approval and then process tracker changes.	PC/LR	✓
9	Continue working on best academy option for WM.	MGW/AFR/JPM	Ongoing