



**MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
OF BRYMORE ACADEMY
HELD ON
TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2020 AT 5.30pm
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Actions from Brymore LGB Meeting held on 6 October 2020

Item Reference	Action	Person Responsible	Due Raised



**MINUTES
FROM THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY
OF BRYMORE ACADEMY
HELD ON
TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2020 AT 5.30pm.
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Members

✓	Helen Bradford	(HB)	
✓	Ann Dyer	(AD)	
✓	Richard Graydon	(RG)	
✓	Jason Gunningham	(JG)	(Chair)
✓	Mark Thomas	(MT)	(Headteacher)
-	Eve Watt	(EW)	
-	Shane Plowright	(SP)	
✓	Stuart Bacon	(SB)	
✓	April Lee	(AL)	
✓	Bryony Sadler	(BS)	

**In
Attendance**

✓	Fran Davis	(FD)	(Clerk)
✓	Greg Jones	(GJ)	(Company Secretary)

✓ those present

1. Procedural Matters

It was noted the meeting was to be recorded and there were no objections to this. Protocols for recording meetings had been forwarded out prior to the meeting.

JG welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.1 Apologies for absence and acceptance/non-acceptance

Eve Watt and Shane Plowright sent apologies, work commitments which were accepted.
Ann Dyer and Richard Graydon arrived later in the meeting

1.2 Declarations of Interest – new forms to be completed.

Signed.....

Four forms have been completed. Forms from AL, SP, EW, MT and HB to be forward on.

1.3 Election of Vice Chair

Ann Dyer agreed to continue in the role as Vice Chair. JG proposed and AL seconded the appointment.

1.4 Election of Officers

Safeguarding & Boarding - Eve Watt
SEN – April Lee
H&S Jason Gunningham

1.5 Governor training

GJ explained the Trust would be offering central training based on Governor feedback. The first will be Induction training for new Governors which will be available later in the term.

1.6 Code of Conduct

All Governors have read and agreed to the Code of Conduct

1.7 Keeping Children Safe in Education (part 2)

All Governors have read and understood the KCSiE (part 2) document

1.8 Minutes from the last meeting on 16 June 2020

Agreed as accurate

1.9 Matters arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda

Action outstanding

- JG to write to Vicky Davis wishing a speedy recovery from the LGB – **Completed**. MT advised Vicky is back to work.

2 **Head teacher update**

2.1 Brymore Vision and Values

The Chair noted the amount of hard work that was necessary to instill a culture in a school whereby it is outstanding. In this current situation it is even more difficult to impart as school life is not same. However, it is important to remain focused and aware of what makes this such a fantastic school for the boys.

MT highlighted the main points from the PowerPoint on Vision and Values and explained how the vision was originally formulated 10 years ago but this was now the time to review it.

The key elements of focus are what set us apart from other schools and what makes a Brymore Boy.

- A centre of excellence in the four vocational cornerstones of agriculture, horticulture, design technology and sport
- The 3 R's - A learning culture which promotes traditional values of resilience, resourcefulness and responsibility
- Protecting the ethos and values of the school – this is more difficult at the moment as a lot of the ways we instill the ethos has been lost and we need to consider how we introduce them to it in the current way of life.
- Embedding Growing Great Teachers and support staff equivalent – this has been put on hold temporarily by the Trust, to help alleviate workload.
- If we look after the boys the results will look after themselves.

Philosophy: real strategic aims

- Boys come first – all boys (vulnerable are a key focus)
- The whole boy – 3 R's (/Diligentia et Labore - not just results
- Once a Brymore boy always a Brymore boy (experience to last a lifetime).

MT outlined examples of what a Brymore Boy is and what curriculum we want to provide and aim to give the boys. Although we have been told we are the most oversubscribed school in Somerset, we must not sit back, we must continue to put the boys' first.

Governors were very supportive of the vision and values and felt it summed up what a Brymore boy is and what the ethos of the school is. MT was congratulated on the amount of interaction that had taken place, over the lockdown, with the families during this difficult time.

MT agreed that staff had worked extremely maintaining contact and giving support to families and students.

A Governor felt, that as a parent,, the support and communication for their child and for year 7 students had been fantastic.

It was asked what the key events in the school calendar will look like now

MT advised the Harvest festival is not easy to replicate that special feeling of being in together.

We are trialing face to face parental consultations with Year 7 students, this involves staggered times and if we can offer this safely will extend it to years 8 and 11.

Reopening Update

- A number of new staff have joined Brymore or changed role since the last LGB meeting. However, we are

struggling to get a deputy for Boarding which is leaving us very short staffed.

- Farm building has been completed. The SEN room has moved and this has freed up office space for safeguarding.
- Admission numbers are good.
- Covid 19 arrangements are going as well as expected. Where they can be done safely we are still doing activities.

A Governor asked about attendance

We are currently just under 94%. A little down than where we would want it to be.

Have any parents been keeping their son at home

Only one is shielding on the advice of their doctor, but we are offering online learning to this student.

It was asked about GCSE grades

Exams were based on predicted grades or the algorithm which ever was the highest. The P8 score could have been +0.82. Had we got this it would have been the highest score any school had ever got in Somerset. We had strong grades across all subjects.

The Chair felt that had the standard of teaching and learning not been in place such high grades could not have been possible. The boys deserved huge congratulations on their hard work.

It was asked if there was any news on how exams would be taken this coming year.

MT advised there were three possibilities:

1. Exams but delayed by three weeks.
2. Exams but with more choice
3. Assessed grades

We are therefore sending out grades, as at today if we went into lockdown, to parents. Year 11 have responded really well and are working very hard.

It was noted that the decision needs to be made rapidly by government, as you would be able to make the teaching more valuable.

MT advised HT's are pushing for this decision to be made by Christmas, however we are preparing for it to be exam based. I have been advised that English and Geography will be up to date soon. Students are working extremely hard. We are also doing assessments just in case.

The LGB wished to thank MT and the staff for all the hard work they are doing.