



## **BCPS Resources Committee Meeting**

Tuesday 1st May 2018

### **Present:**

Sue Brown (SB), Co-Head Teacher  
Nichola Morse (NM), Co-opted Governor  
Sam Spreadbury (SS), Co-opted Governor  
Sarah Oliver (SO), Staff Governor  
Pippa Sutcliffe Parent Elect Governor

### **In attendance**

Sam Derrett (SD), Finance Secretary

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Robin Brouard (RB) apologies were made and accepted. A quorum was present.

#### 2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

SS's previous declaration of employment by Kier was noted.

#### 3. Minutes of last meeting (22nd March 2018) were approved.

#### 4. Matters arising from the minutes

Staff costs were discussed; further work on the budget has shed more light on these (see below). Also noted were national increases to support staff pay.

Laptops have been encrypted for £300 (rather than £3000 as quoted). Some older laptops cannot be encrypted. SB has approached LA for further funding. However, SB noted that the school needs more laptops and to improve the wifi access points in Year 5 classroom. SB to investigate.

No easy solutions to the Portacabin heating problems have been found. Fans have now been bought to mitigate the heat.

Finance policy to roll over – SD to investigate.

#### 5. Catering contract

SB reported that LA has advised on points to raise regarding the proposed contract with the new caterers. Once the definitive draft is ready, it will be presented to the Resources committee for approval. SO reported on a visit to Cottenham to see how the caterers work. Cottenham reported being very happy with the caterers.

#### 6. Budget for 2018/2019

Last year's budget was underspent and led to a small surplus. This was as a result of tight cost control following a high number of large one-off expenses in the first six months of the year.



SB updated the committee on a recent meeting with the LA in which BCPS requested an increase to KS1 by one class. BCPS have agreed to this request on the grounds that the LA will fully fund this additional class. This has been agreed in principle and the school are awaiting written confirmation. As a consequence, the class structure will be:

- 2 R
- 2 Y1
- 2 Y2
- 1 ½ Y3
- 1 ½ Y4
- 2 Y5
- 2 Y6.

Staff costs in the budget have increased to reflect the increased size of the school. The number of full time teachers will increase by 2 (both currently from PT teachers). Staffing seems to be almost resolved apart from recruiting one new teacher. BCPS will also advertise for another half day PPA cover.

The budget also shows increased HLTA opportunities. This will give additional flexibility, and budgetary control, to cover Teaching absences and provide additional family liaison time. There will be a small increase in office staff to support the changes.

There will be relatively small classes in Y2 and Y5. To ensure an equitable level of resource allocation these years will have a reduced TA present. However, the two School Direct students will be in the classrooms where no TAs.

Currently there are spaces in all years, except Years 3 & 4, for 2018, including for any barracks children. Some communication from the barracks has been received advising a small number of children arriving, but there it is likely that this number will increase. There remains a great deal of uncertainty about numbers and when BCPS will know.

The budget is based on existing numbers of children; not allowing for increases which would fill in gaps and so reduce the currently predicted deficit for years 2 and 3. Also increased funds are expected from LA for the new class and for a one-to-one TA for a named pupil.

The new class will go into the BOSC room and BOSC will move to a new portacabin (location tbc). BOSC will be in the Activity Hall until the portacabin is installed.

SS raised the issue that the school's budget based on two-form entry is largely based on children coming from outside the village, which is subject to vulnerability if there are changes to school provision in neighbouring communities.

At a high level the budget for 1819 is reflective of 1718 actuals with the key differences being £105K additional revenue and £104K additional to be spent on staff. Therefore, the additional funds the school received will be spend directly pupils in the form of additional staff.

**Next meeting – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 7pm**