

CBAT BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the Trustees' extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday 18th August 2020 at 2pm via videoconference

Present: Nigel Riglar (Chair), Graham Ayre, Debbie Bird, John Gilbert, Emma Gray (Finance Director), Barbara Green, Ruth Hollier, Stuart Wilson (Chief Executive Officer).

In Attendance: Hannah Kelly (Clerk).

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair explained that this meeting was being conducted via videoconference due to the continued restrictions advised under the current Coronavirus emergency. It was an extraordinary meeting to consider urgent matters in relation to the reopening of schools at the beginning of September.

The risk assessments for the three schools and opening plans had been shared with Trustees prior to the meeting. These will be communicated to parents after the meeting if Trustees are in agreement with the proposals.

The recommendation is that all three schools open.

2. Apologies received and accepted:

There were no apologies.

3. Declarations of Interest:

There were no new declarations.

4. School reopening

The CEO briefed Trustees on the latest Government advice published on 11th August and on the reopening plans and risk assessments prepared by the schools. He noted that these plans and risk assessments had been considered by the SDBs who were now recommending that the Trust approve the plans.

The CEO reported that he has been in regular contact with the Headteachers since further advice was published.

The FD gave further details about the practical arrangements set out in the risk assessments including one-way movements, site restrictions, maximum toilet numbers, cleaning arrangements during and at the end of the school day, and personal protective equipment for staff.

Trustees asked a number of questions about how the arrangements would operate in practice and how they would be monitored to give assurance that the risk assessment was robust and how the wellbeing of staff and students would be monitored.

Following a thorough discussion, it was proposed by RH and seconded by JG that:

Having discussed government guidance for the reopening of schools, the Headteachers' reopening plans and risk assessments, and any points raised by the trade unions and the NGA, Trustees are in agreement with the recommendation of the School Development Boards that the Trust's schools

should reopen fully in September. Trustees have given detailed consideration to the mitigation actions set out in the risk assessments and believe that these will protect the health and wellbeing of staff, students, and visitors to the schools. This resolution was **agreed** unanimously.

The Trustees expressed their thanks to Headteachers for their thoughtful effort in producing impressive sets of reopening proposals.

5. Budgets 2020/21

The FD reported on the financial position of the three schools. The School Development Boards have all seen their own budgets and these will need to be approved by them before the 12th October.

Trustees asked a number of questions about the income and expenditure and the impact of the teaching staff pay increases and the National Funding Formula.

The Trustees **approved** the 2020 /21 budget.

6. Any other Business

6.1 Marling Y7 Admissions 2021

The Government released guidance to delay the Y7 Admissions test so that children could get back into the rhythm of education before sitting the test. Gloucestershire Grammar Schools have agreed to move it back to the 17th October. Candidates have been notified. The Admissions Policy has been updated with this amendment and it has been sent to the RSC /ESFA for approval.

6.2 Complaint re Admissions Policy

Ongoing. The second submission has been sent back to the adjudicator.

6.3 Request to change funding agreement due to an increase in capacity

The Regional Schools Commissioner has requested that the school capacity figure is formally changed from 800 to 1150, following increases to Y7 and Y12 PAN in recent years.

6.4 Marling premises

The FD explained some of the work being undertaken to refurbish the site in readiness for September.

6.5 Exam Results

The CEO explained the situation for Marling regarding the A Level exam results, and outlined what measures they have put in place regarding GCSE results and 6th Form entry.

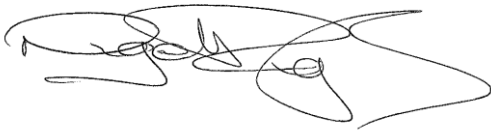
➤ *DB left the meeting at 2:55pm*

6.6 Internal Assurance

The FD explained that Bishop Fleming, the auditor, has asked for Marling to undertake an internal process audit. A meeting with Trustees who are willing to be involved, will be arranged in September.

The meeting closed at 15.05.

Date of next meeting – 30th September at 4.00pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and lines, positioned at the top left of the page.

Chair of Trustees
30th September 2020