

AGM MEETING**3rd December 2020 - 5.30PM****PRESENT - MEMBERS**

Mr Jim Rimmer (Chair)
Mr Ian Burton
Miss Catherine Morris
Dr Katrin Russell

APOLOGIES

None

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs Pauline Neilson - Clerk
Mr Mike McGarry - Headteacher
Mrs Sue Donnelly - Community Governor & Chair of Audit Committee
Mr Andy Pritchard - Resources Director

20/1 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

20/2 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Dr Russell introduced herself to those present and sought clarification of her role. The Chair explained that the Board was keen that the Members' group did not consist of purely Trustees as they moved forward. This reflected guidance outlined in the Academy Handbook.

It was confirmed that the Members usually met once a year. Members had access to an area on GovernorHub to view Minutes from full meetings etc. to ensure that they had regular updates regarding the school, and documents for Member meetings.

20/3 VACANCY FOR A BOARD MEMBER

A vacancy on the Board of Members had arisen due to the resignation of Dr Mervyn Thomas from the Governing Board.

Members were keen not to lose the expertise of a very experienced and knowledgeable Trustee and discussed appointing him as a Member. Dr Thomas had expressed his interest in joining in this capacity.

RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

The Members voted unanimously to appoint Dr Thomas to the Board of Members.

The Resources Director will ensure that the school's website is updated to reflect Dr Thomas' appointment and also inform the ESFA.

20/4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEMBERS AGM MEETING - 05/12/19

Governors accepted the minutes as a true and accurate record with the following point of clarification:

Mr Paul Povey – Staff Governor - had been approached to join the Board of Members, but clarification had been sought as to whether it was good practice to appoint Staff Governors to the Board of Members. It was decided that it was not good practice, therefore, Mr Povey was not appointed.

The Minutes were signed by the Chair.

20/5 MATTERS ARISING

None

20/6 ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

No changes were required, at this time, to the Articles; therefore, the current Articles are still in force.

20/7 FUNDING AGREEMENT

AP explained about cash flow. A new agreement must be submitted and a solicitor had been approached. The new draft had been sent to the EFSA last November, but due to pressure of work it had been put on a back burner. School was expecting a new agreement in the New Year, and was waiting to hear from the EFSA,

20/8 AUDITED ACCOUNTS

The audited accounts and annual return had been discussed in detail at the Audit Committee meeting and at the full meeting held prior.

The recommendation from both the Audit Committee and the Board of Trustees was to accept the accounts as presented.

AGREED

The accounts will now be submitted to the ESFA and to Companies House. A copy of the signed documents will be put onto the school's website as soon as it is received.

20/9 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The contract with the current auditors, Beever & Struthers, is due for renewal on 1 January 2021 following a 3-year contract. The contract could either be extended for a fixed period or could go out to tender.

This was discussed in some detail and it was decided, due to the situation with COVID-19, it would be best not to go out to tender but instead extend the contract by 1 year. This would be revisited at the next Audit Committee meeting in the New Year.

The Resources Director explained how the audit process worked and some of the difficulties experienced. The package was not costed on an hourly rate but as a complete package. The price would be slightly increased for the next year, but was within the EFSA guidance.

Members **AGREED** to extend the contract by one year to 31 December 2021.

It was noted that tendering process was a lengthy one and it would be a good idea to allow a 3-6 months lead in, with investigations starting in the Autumn term 2021 at the latest.

The Resources Director will inform Beever & Struthers of the 1-year extension to the contract.

Meeting closed 6.00pm



Signed: _____

Date: 4 February 2021