

**RANGE HIGH SCHOOL**

**Minutes from the Meeting of the Governors  
held on Thursday 26 June 2014**

**Present:** Dr G Butcher, Mrs J Clark, Dr R Chapman, Mrs P Harwood, Mr A Kearney,  
Mrs J McNeice, Mr J Rimmer, Dr K Russell, Mr J Sellick, Dr M Thomas (Chair),  
Mr C Trollope, Dr R Webster, Mrs G Williams,  
Mr G Aldridge – Headteacher/governor  
Mr T Dolly, Dr C Ainsworth, Mrs G Phillips, Ms C Quinn and Mr A Pritchard –  
Associate Members  
Sadie Clulo – Pupil member

**Also Present:** Mrs J Gordon – Clerk to the Governors  
Mrs N Jump – PSHE Co-ordinator

**Apologies were received from** Mr K Grimes, Mrs S Owen and Ellis Whittingham (pupil member)

**54. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**55.** The Chair reported the resignation of Mrs Stella Owen (Vice Chair) with effect from 23 July 2014, and read out her resignation letter. Governors expressed their thanks for Mrs Owens many years of service to the school, including 10 years as Chair of Governors.

The Chair also reported that Mrs Pat Harwood (Staff Governors) was retiring from her post at the school at the same time that her term of office as a governor was ending. Mrs Harwood wished all the governors the very best, and said that Range High School was a great place to work and she hoped that the school would continue with the excellent work that was done for all pupils and especially those with SEN.

The Chair will write to both Mrs Owen and Mrs Harwood.

**56.** The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2014 were **AGREED** and signed by the Chair.

**57. Matters Arising**

Minute 47 – Proposed Admissions Criteria for 2016 onwards

Following the governors' acceptance of the new criteria relating to children of members of staff, the Clerk had received a correspondence from Jane Clark, Admissions Officer, Sefton LA. Ms Clark will ensure that the new criterion is included in the LA consultation on behalf of the school in November 2014. Once the consultation is completed the governors' will determine its new arrangements (before 15 April 2015). The new arrangements will then be included in the LA Admission booklet published in September 2015 for applications for 2016 entry.

Minute 51 – Chair's Feedback

The Chair reported that he had not yet contacted governors regarding the Skills Analysis, but would be doing so shortly.

**58. Report from the School Council**

A written report written by Sadie Clulo on behalf of the two Y10 School Council representatives was circulated to governors with the Agenda. It gave details of:

- RRSA – School Charter – punctuality was an issue and the Headteacher agreed saying that it was difficult with the layout of the school for some students to be at their next class on time. This issue forms part of the SIP and any updates will be reported back to the School Council
- Behaviour Policy / Rewards – The Assistant Headteacher (Wellbeing) reported that a new Merit system with differing rewards would be in place in the new academic year
- Uniform – Pinafores for girls will be on the uniform list for next year

The governors thanked Sadie for her well written report.

**59. Rights Respecting School Award – update**

Mrs Nadine Jump brought governors up to date with the progress of the bid for the above award:

- Awarded the Recognition of Commitment
- Training session took place with School Council / SLT / Chair of Governors
- Staff training took place on a recent Inset Day
- In the process of creating a whole school charter:
  - 5 Articles have been chosen and these now form the backbone of the mission statement of the school. They will be reviewed each year:
    - Article 12: Every child has the right to say what they think in matters concerning them and to have their views taken seriously
    - Article 19: Every child has the right not to be harmed
    - Article 23: Every child has the right to have special care and support according to individual needs
    - Article 28: Every child has the right to learn and go to school
    - Article 29: Every child has the right to be the best that they can be

**Sadie Clulo left the meeting**

The Headteacher reported that he had temporarily called a halt to the process as some members of staff have expressed concern regarding having some of the responses to the Articles written down and exhibited around the school. One union is to ballot its members over the issue and until that process has been completed the matter cannot move forward.

The following comments were made by governors:

- This is a really important issue and I would like to thank Mrs Jump for all of the information and for the work that has gone into preparing for the award and the Charter so far
- It is a very powerful thing to say to pupils that this document was produced by your peers
- If the pupils were very engaged in the process of drawing up the Charter then it is up to us to ensure that it is put in place
- This Charter is not asking staff to do anything that they are not already doing

The Headteacher believes that the benefits of having the Charter far outweigh any possible negative situations. He will report back to governors at the next meeting.

**Mrs Jump left the meeting**

60. **Minutes from the Finance & Buildings meeting on 13 March 2014**

The above Minutes were sent to governors with the Agenda for information.

61. **Minutes from the Finance & Buildings meeting on 12 June 2014**

The above Minutes had only been finished in draft form and had not yet been circulated to governors. There were two items from the above meeting, which had been recommended to full governors for approval:

- (i) Car Allowance - With effect from 1 September 2014, implement the HMRC recommended mileage rate of 45p regardless of the car engine size, total number of miles and whether you have travelled out of Borough. This will apply to all staff.

Proposed: Mr Trollope  
Seconded: Mrs McNeice

**AGREED**

- (ii) Health & Safety Policy (which had been sent to governors with the Agenda) – to accept the policy as presented on the recommendation of the Finance & Buildings Committee

Proposed: Dr Chapman  
Seconded: Dr Thomas

**AGREED – the Chair signed the Statement**

62. **TLR Update**

A copy of the proposed TLR for September 2014 was circulated to governors with the Agenda.

The changes are as follows:

- Curriculum Area Leaders
  - New – AHOF ICT + Strategic Leader
  - New – ACAL – IT
  - Consider to delete – AHOF – Business Education
  - Consider to delete – AHOF – ICT
  - Consider to delete – Specialism Co-ordinator
- Learning Development – ECM
- Consider to delete – SENCO – SENCO has to have qualified teacher status - currently buy in the services of Michelle Thompson as SENCO (1.5 days per week) -
- Curriculum Support Staff
  - Associate SENCO – VA (HLTA)

**AGREED**

63. **School Improvement Plan 2014-15**

The above plan was circulated to governors with the Agenda.

The Plan was split into three parts:

- (i) Section 1 Introduction
- (ii) Section 2 Report on Previous Year's Priorities 2013-143 (some targets will be completed during the summer term 2014) – some are included in the 2014-15 plan – this section of

the plan is colour coded to allow ‘at a glance’ information to be noted – written explanations were given where targets had not yet been completed, some will carry forward to 2014-15 and others, that have not been completed, have been superseded by other priorities.

- (iii) Section 3 The School Improvement Plan June 2014 – July 2015 (including a glossary of terms)

The priority areas for 2014-15 are identified as follows (with the initials of the SLT member with overall responsibility):

- 1 **Achievement**
  - 1a Outcomes KS3 GP
  - 1b Outcomes KS4 GP
  - 1c Outcomes KS5 CA
  - 1d Tracking GP
- 2 **Behaviour & Safety**
  - 2a Safeguarding CQ
  - 2b Attendance & Punctuality CQ
  - 2c Behaviour CQ
  - 2d PSHE / SMSC CQ
- 3 **Teaching & Learning**
  - KS3 + KS4 TD
  - KS5 CA
- 4 **Leadership & Management**
  - 4a Curriculum GP
  - 4b Leadership & Management GAA
  - 4c Finance AP

Dr Ainsworth reported that she is currently working with three curriculum areas. Knowledge of the AS / A2 results in August will inform her decision on which departments to support next academic year.

Governors were invited to comment and ask questions of the SLT. The Headteacher thanked the SLT for their help in producing the SIP. The Governors commended the comprehensive plan.

**Proposed to accept the plan as presented by: Mr Rimmer**

**Seconded by: Dr Russell**

**AGREED**

#### 64. **School Budget 2014-15**

The Budget forecast for 2014-15 and projections for 2015-17 were sent to governors with the Agenda. It was **AGREED** that the projections document would be designated as confidential to the governing body.

It was reported that forecasting the budget for 2015 and beyond has proved challenging. Changes, to be introduced in 2015-16, to pension and National Insurance contributions mean an increased charge with no increase in funding. This issue has been discussed with other Sefton Headteachers’ at SASH. Arrangements are also being made to meet with local MPs and with the Senior Leaders’ professional association ASCL, so that the effect of this rise on schools like ours in metropolitan areas is made clear to ministers and officials at the DfE.

The forecast balance at the end of 2014-15 is £64,705, which is 1.14% of the formula funding. Work/planning will start now to ensure a balanced budget in 2015/16.

- Q. Do we know if the decision to become an academy was the correct one with regards to the financing of the school?
- A. There has been a reduction in income; this has affected all schools regardless of their designation, e.g. maintained, academy etc. We would still be showing a decline and, in addition, starting from a lower base point. Redundancies would have taken place in 2011-12 had we remained a maintained school.

Governors were asked to accept the budget for 2014-15 and it was:

Proposed by: Dr Chapman  
Seconded by: Dr Butcher

**And AGREED to accept the budget as presented**

## 65. **Governing Body Effectiveness**

### Link Governor Reports

The following written reports were either sent out with the Agenda or emailed to governors prior to the meeting:

#### Design Technology - Dr Chapman

- Curriculum for KS3 has been finalised
- Y9 assessment results were excellent
- All 3 GCSEs in DT will continue to be taught in September 2014
- HOF has liaised with 2 primary schools (and will contact a third before the end of term) with regard to the new KS2 curriculum
- It is hoped that the new laser cutter will be in school for the new academic year

#### Safeguarding - Dr Russell (date of visit: 19/06/14)

- Update on Attendance
- Update on Behaviour
- Independent Quality Assurance visit commented on 'the good behaviour of pupils .... and pupils general enthusiasm and thirst for learning'
- Parent Panels to be planned into calendar for new academic year
- New SEN code of practice to be introduced in September 2014

#### SEN – Mrs McNeice

- Met with Michelle Thompson SENCO and Mrs Alexander, Associate SENCO
- Preparations are underway for new intake in September

#### Sixth Form - Dr Butcher (date of visit: 12 June 2014)

- Additional BTec – Sport – will be offered in September 2014
- Study Skills book has been developed and used by Y12 students – feedback is awaited
- Extended project – anticipated that 30 students (up from 16) will take part next academic year
- Permanent Head of Sixth Form to be appointed

#### Science – Dr Thomas (met 3 times this academic year)

- Changes to KS3 National Curriculum are being implemented – current Y8 will be the first to be examined under the new curriculum

- The three CALs under Science have all attended several sessions of the Middle Leaders training course
- Visit by 16 Sixth Form students to CERN - hoped to repeat this visit next year
- 3 students won the NW heat of the Royal Society of Chemistry Schools' Analyst competition – final will be held at UCLan in July
- It is hoped to arrange a joint Science/Humanities visit to Iceland next year

**As at previous meetings, the full Link reports have been designated as confidential**

Governor Development Plan (GDP) 2013-14 final update

ISSUE	CURRENT	TARGET	
<b>Links with Faculties and areas of school life</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointed Link Governors in place</li> <li>• Clear guidelines on role and reporting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All link governors keep in regular contact with the school and submitting three reports a year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On each Agenda</li> <li>• Governors reminded to send reports to Clerk prior to Agenda going out</li> </ul>
<b>Ensure GB effectiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governor Mark - Reaccreditation autumn 2012 (Area for development)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenge and accountability more clearly represented in Minutes of meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair reviews draft Minutes prior to them being sent to all governors</li> <li>• Challenge highlighted in blue</li> </ul>
<b>Ensure GB effectiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governor Mark - Reaccreditation autumn 2012 (Area for development)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen use of occasional external reports provided directly to governors from qualified educational professional providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Audit report goes to F&amp;B Committee</li> <li>• Draft RO reports now sent to Chair of F&amp;B Committee as same time as received by school</li> <li>• LINCS Quality Assurance (T+L) took place on 5 June – report to FG</li> </ul>
<b>Ensure GB effectiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governor Mark - Reaccreditation autumn 2012 (Area for development)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More business in published rather than confidential Minutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing</li> </ul>
<b>Efficient Committee Structure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two main Committees with terms of reference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move to a Committee structure aligned to the Ofsted areas of inspection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Committees in place in September 2013 – terms of reference reviewed and amended as necessary</li> <li>• Terms of Reference for each Committee reference the areas to address</li> <li>• Committee structure matches the Ofsted Evaluation Framework</li> </ul>
<b>Accountability to the school community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complaints Procedure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual report for the academic year to September business meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statistical analysis of complaints received by Headteacher / Chair / Complaints Panel all reported to Business meeting in September 2013</li> <li>• Reviewed 07/05/14 – to full governors in June for ratification</li> </ul>

Governors Development Plan (GDP) 2014-15

Two Aims were identified for the 2014-15 GDP (BOTH CARRIED FORWARD FROM 2013-14):

- To improve the effectiveness of the Governing Body to hold the school to account
- To support the SLT to raise standards

Four targets to help achieve these aims had been identified by the GDP working party and were outlined in the plan.

Mr Sellick, Staff Governor, agreed to be the nominated governor to co-ordinate the Governors' Award 2014-15

Following a discussion it was **AGREED** to accept the GDP 2014-15 as presented.

Proposed by: Dr Russell  
Seconded by: Mr Rimmer

66. **Policies**

The following 2 policies were sent to governors with the Agenda:

(i) Behaviour & Discipline Policy – reviewed by the Safeguarding & Leadership Committee

The Headteacher reported that following the Safeguarding & Leadership Committee meeting in May 2014, the staff had met to formulate their responses to the 5 Articles from the UNICEF Convention on the Rights of the Child Charter. A small number of staff were not happy with those responses and their union representative decided to hold a ballot on whether to accept the Charter as it had been presented. The results of that ballot are not yet known.

Governors felt that they could not accept the policy as it had been presented as it may change following further discussions with staff.

(ii) Complaints Policy and Procedure – reviewed by the Governor Development Plan Working Party

The above policy was **ACCEPTED** by the full governing body with one change:

- Change Person responsible for Policy from 'Headteacher' to 'Governing Body'

The Headteacher suggested that a Policy Working Group be formed to review the Behaviour & Discipline Policy when it had been finalised along with the suite of Safeguarding Policies which have to be updated and in place for 1 September 2014.

**AGREED**

**Dr Chapman, Dr Russell, Dr Thomas, Mr Trollope, Headteacher and Clerk will meet before the end of this academic year to review the above policies. All of the policies will also be presented to the next full meeting (25 September 2014) for full governor approval. (Clerk to arrange)**

67. **KS3 History Curriculum**

This item was discussed at the last Teaching and Learning meeting on 5 June 2014. The Curriculum Area Leader (CAL) - History had asked to disapply the History Curriculum for KS3 from September 2014. Governors at that meeting had asked for more information before coming to a decision.

A report from the CAL – History and AHT (Curriculum), outlining the reasons for disapplying was sent to governors with the Agenda. Concern has been expressed by the CAL at the narrow focus on facts and dates and elements of it being 'dry' and uninspiring. The History department believes it currently has the right balance to provide sufficient breadth in KS3 as well as a basis for those who continue with the subject at GCSE and A level.

Further points raised in the report:

- History department already covers much of the content in the new curriculum
- Already deliver 'world history' (to Y9 through the study of black peoples of America)
- New curriculum states students must study an aspect of history that is pre 1066, e.g. Britain's changing landscape or the changing nature of political power since the Iron Age – concern that such topics would neither inspire or interest students when compared to the varied curriculum already offered
- Current curriculum has key concepts explicitly stated whereas new curriculum has aims rather than key concepts and these are more vague
- Significant enrichment activities have been developed which tie in with the currently curriculum content in KS3
- Department wants to focus its energies on developing schemes of work (SOW) in support of delivery of new curriculum for A level and GCSE (2015 and 2016 respectively) rather than making changes to the KS3 curriculum which is already fit for purpose
- SOW are in place for KS3; resources have been built up over a number of year and it is felt that it is both unnecessary and counter-productive to abandon these to teach new units.
- Cost implications for purchasing resources – felt to be wrong to use the department's budget

The discussion raised a number of questions and comments from governors:

- Will pupils who transfer in or out of KS3 be disadvantaged by not following the National Curriculum?
- Will pupils be disadvantaged when they move to KS4 (GCSE)?
- Do we believe this is the best way forward?
- Will it have implications if:
  - the GCSE changes?
  - if we are inspected by OFSTED?
- How does it advantage pupils?
- Are there financial implications?
- When we converted to academy status we gave assurances that, in all school related matters, we would maintain the status quo, e.g. pay and conditions, school name, uniform etc. and now we are being asked to look at disapplication which we can only do because we are an academy
- Are any other academies considering disapplication?
- Can we reverse the decision after a period of time and go back to the National Curriculum?
- Presumably discussions have taken place with other members of the History department before taking the decision



The CAL History and the Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum) made the following comments:

- Much of content of the new curriculum is already covered by the History department
- The History curriculum has had greater changes enforced in the past than other subjects
- Currently believe that we provide a broad and inspiring curriculum
- History department has made many changes since the OFSTED subject inspection, including trip for years 7-9
- The first teaching of the new KS4 curriculum is September 2016, first teaching of the new KS5 curriculum is September 2015

Headteacher's comments:

- Have discussed this for some time with the CAL History
- Do we throw out what is working, or
- Do we take safety in doing what everybody else is doing

The Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum) stated that she felt uncomfortable moving forward on this decision when governors had expressed so many concerns.

#### Way Forward

- History department look to see if there was sufficient overlap of the two curricula that could cover the Autumn term to buy extra time
- AHT (Curriculum) to ask all-schools group (meeting on 2 July) if any other academies have disapproved
- Governors were asked to send any questions they may have to the Clerk so that answers could be prepared for the next full meeting
- The Clerk was asked to email governors not present to give them the opportunity to ask questions

#### 68. **Local Government Pension Scheme**

A report was sent to governors with the Agenda with the purpose to seek agreement on the school's policy for discretionary pension awards as part of the amendment to Local Government pension arrangements. It gave the background to the request:

- In April 2014 a new Local Governing Pension Scheme (LGPS) was introduced for all associate staff
- Legal requirement for all LGPS to agree to, and publish, their decision regarding various discretionary awards permitted under the new scheme
- Decisions have to be lodged with the pension provider (Merseyside Pension Fund) by 1 July 2014

The following statements on the various discretionary awards were circulated to governors with the Agenda:

- (i) Funding of Additional Pension – An employer may fund wholly, or in part, a member's additional pension contract (APC). The payment can be made by regular contributions or a lump sum.

**Decision - the school will provide a shared cost scheme with the employee to purchase 'lost pension' for any authorised unpaid leave as long as the elections is made within 30**

**days of the unpaid leave. After 30 days the whole cost will be the responsibility of the employee**

**AGREED**

- (ii) Early Payment of Pension – Whether to grant application for early payment of deferred benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60; and  
Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to deferred benefits paid early under Regulation 30(2)

**Decision – This will be considered on a case by case basis**

**AGREED**

- (iii) Early Payment of Pension (Tier 3 – ill health) – 30A (3) – Whether to grant application for early payment of a suspended tier 3 ill health pension on or after age 55 and before age 60 (30A (5) – Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits paid early under Regulation 30A [B]

**Decision – Both 30A (3) and 30A (5) will be considered on a case by case basis**

**AGREED**

- (iv) Flexible Retirement – Employer’s may give consent for a member, aged 55 or more, who reduces their grade or hours of work (or both) to receive all or part of the LGPS benefits immediately even though they haven’t left their employment

**Decision:**

- **Applications for flexible retirement will be considered on a case by case basis**
- **The School will not agree to Flexible Retirement unless it is operationally and financially viable (i.e. there is a sound business case)**
- **An employee must reduce their hours or grade in order to take Flexible Retirement**
- **Where Flexible retirement is agreed, any pension benefits payable may be subject to the appropriate actuarial reduction in accordance with the LGPS Regulations**

**AGREED**

- (v) Waiving of Actuarial Reduction – Whether to waive, in whole or in part, actuarial reduction on benefits which a member voluntarily draws before normal pension age

**Decision – The School will not waive any reduction in whole or part, unless there are exceptional circumstances, and it is the financial and/or operational interests of the School to do so**

**AGREED**

- (vi) Awarding Additional Pension – Employer may increase a member’s benefits by awarding additional pension up to a maximum of £6,500 p/a from April 2014

**Decision – Additional pension will not be awarded**

**AGREED**

- (vii) To apply 85 Year Rule before age 60 – Whether to ‘switch on’ the 85 Year Rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 69; and  
Whether to waive, on compassionate grounds, the actuarial reduction applied to benefits from pre 01/04/14 membership where the employer has ‘switched on’ the 85 Year Rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60

**Decision (both parts) – This will be considered on a case by case basis**

**AGREED**

Proposed to agree the above statement:

Mr Trollope

Seconded:

Mr Rimmer

The Chair signed each of the statements

69. **Meeting Dates 2014-15**

A list of the 2014-15 meeting dates – full and all Committees – was circulated to governors with the Agenda for information

70. **Overnight Stays**

Details of the following overnight stays were sent to governors with the Agenda:

**2013-14**

Depart	Return	Venue	Reason	Transport	#: Pupils	Year	#: Staff	Staff i/c
20/07/2014	22/07/2014	Yorkshire Dales	Silver Practice	Minibus	9	Y11	2	PZM

**2014-15**

Depart	Return	Venue	Reason	Transport	#: Pupils	Year	#: Staff	Staff i/c
12/09/2014	13/09/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
14/09/2014	15/09/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
14/09/2014	16/09/2014	Snowdonia	Silver Final	Minibus	9	Y12	2	PZM
19/09/2014	20/09/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
21/09/2014	22/09/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
26/09/2014	27/09/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
28/09/2014	29/09/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
03/10/2014	04/10/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
05/10/2014	06/10/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
10/10/2014	11/10/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
12/10/2014	13/10/2014	Waddow Hall	Bronze Final	Minibus	10	Y11	2	PZM
24/10/2014	28/10/2014	Feyenoord FC Rotterdam	Football Coaching/develop skills	Coach/Ferry	25	Y7+8	4	SD
<b>Jul-15</b>	<b>Aug-15</b>	<b>Morocco</b>	<b>Silver Final - Outlook Expeditions</b>	<b>Coach / Plane</b>	<b>8 approx</b>	<b>Y11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>PZM</b>
<b>Jul-16</b>	<b>Aug-16</b>	<b>Peru</b>	<b>Gold Expedition</b>	<b>Coach / Plane</b>	<b>8 approx</b>	<b>Y12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>PZM</b>

Further details will be made available to governors regarding the two overseas trips nearer to the time of departure.

The football trip to Feyenoord, Rotterdam and all of the Duke of Edinburgh award trips were approved and the Chair signed the appropriate form.

71. **Chair's Feedback**

The Chair has continued to attend fortnightly meetings with the Headteacher.

The Chair informed the meeting that all governing bodies of maintained schools have to reconstitute by 1 September 2015. Governing bodies (in maintained schools) are no longer based on the stakeholder group principle where the different categories of governor have to be in proportion to the size of the governing body. The governing body of Range High School is currently based on the stakeholder group principle.

As there will be three vacancies at the end of this academic year – one parent, one staff and one community governor, and a further parent governor vacancy at the end of September 2014, the Chair thought that the time was right to review the needs of this governing body. Government policy is that governing bodies (of maintained schools) should be no bigger than necessary to secure the range of skills they need. The size and structure of the governing body should be designed so that every member actively contributes relevant skills and experience. Although Range High School has academy status there is nothing to stop the governing body reconstituting if it was felt by the current full governing body that it would be in the best interests of the school. The Chair suggested that a working party be formed to look into the needs of the school in relation to the governing body and the possibility of reconstituting with a smaller governing body.

A short discussion followed during which governors expressed their concern that if the number of governors was reduced then the workload of the other governors would increase significantly, especially as staff governors are not able to be part of certain Committees, e.g. Pay & Performance, Complaints, Personnel, Pupil Pastoral Support and Pupil Discipline or to be Link Governors with Faculties/departments.

It was decided that a working party was not required at this time. The Chair agreed to continue with his Skills Analysis of the current governing body and report back to the full governing body to discuss the issue further.

73. The Chair reminded governors that the posts of Chair and Vice Chair of the governing body would be up for renewal in September 2014. The Clerk will write to all eligible governors (not staff) during the summer holiday to ask for nominations – governors may nominate themselves.

72. **Date and times of next meetings**

Full governors	-	25 September 2014	4.30 p.m.
Safeguarding & Leadership	-	9 October 2014	5.00 p.m.
Teaching & Learning	-	16 October 2014	5.00 p.m.
Finance & Buildings	-	20 November 2014	5.00 p.m.
Pay & Performance	-	6 November 2014	time tba

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date 25 September 2014