

	<p>All of these documents indicate that our staffing costs are high (almost everyone is at the top of their pay scales) and our pupil numbers mean that as we have a small reception class our average class sizes are smaller than the government's recommendation.</p> <p>Our reception number for Sept 2021 is 9 at the moment. Governors discussed this and queried if there was anything we could do to attract children in their early school years. The clerk advised that according to the figures we receive from Dorset Council we are receiving the amount of children that is expected. We do receive more children in Key Stage 2 but this tends to be because they are having problems with the current school.</p> <p>If our budget does not improve for 2023/24 then we will need to approach the finance team at Dorset Council in Oct 2023 to discuss a possible deficit budget. The documents were all agreed by the governing body.</p> <p>Next year the budget will be presented to the governing body in April. Some of the SLA costs are still not available when presenting this budget.</p>	
21/021	<p>Policies Approved at this FGB Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maths Policy approved. ● E-safety Policy – it was agreed that this should be reviewed annually due to the rapid changes taking place with remote learning. Daniel Ingles agreed to co-ordinate with Dorset Police - Safe Schools & Communities Team to arrange a visit to school to discuss eSafety ● Health and Safety Policy approved. 	KMc DI
21/022	<p>Governors' Strategic Development Plan Please see appendix 2</p> <p>Meeting for all governors at 3.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021 at Jax's Barn and will take approximately 3 hours</p> <p>It was suggested that this may be a good opportunity to look at training to get an overview rather than everyone doing it separately. The chair suggested that this could be added to the next FGB agenda.</p>	EG-J
21/023	Closing Prayer	
	Meeting closed at 6.53pm	

Date of next Meeting : Monday 24 May 2021 at 6.00pm

Signed.....Dated.....

Appendix 1

Chair's Report March 2021

Kathy & I continue with weekly catch up. The teachers and children are all very tired but seem to be positive being together as opposed to learning online. They're 'done' with online learning.

Website review - by Dorset Council, updated by Kathy, reviewed by me.

NGA reported 19/3 Ofsted inspections will not return this academic year
Ofsted are planning 'sensible and proportionate monitoring' only.

Since last meeting Linda has confirmed that she is no longer able to be a governor at Sticklands. She's enjoyed her association with the school and hopes to be able to continue in some form or another once covid restrictions relax. Can we note our appreciation for all that she has done for the school. She will be missed in her role as governor.

We now have vacancies for two foundation governors and need to start thinking about the skill sets of the people we would like to have in those roles. My feeling is we need individuals with IT and buildings skills. It's not urgent, but if anyone has any 'lightbulb' moments do please let me know.

I'm going out of my comfort zone here as I'm not very happy about 'nagging' and I'm speaking in the role of chair.

We have spoken before about non-attendance of meetings. It is very important that as part of our commitment to the board, and as a matter of basic good manners, if a governor is unable to attend a meeting they let the clerk know in advance. There are obviously times when it isn't possible for a governor to attend and an apology should be sent to the clerk as soon as possible. Depending on the reason, the governing board may be able to help out, for example if child care is an issue we can pay for babysitters. However, as an effective board we cannot go on accepting apologies if none are given, or if the reason is not acceptable. We are all volunteers, and this role has a weight of responsibility. If a decision is taken with or without a governor at a meeting, we are all still responsible for that decision. The school and most importantly the children deserve a board who are dynamic, present for them and constantly raising the standards.

Second nag, is training. For those who have done online training this year, many thanks. You will have some empathy with the children's difficulties for learning from a screen. As a board, we have an obligation to be up-to-date with training and expect it of the staff. My favourite website, The NGA, has many different courses, not least 9 separate courses on good governance. We should be attending these courses. We pay for them. Kathy and Lisa spend their lives trying to eek out the resources for the school and we, as governors are not using our membership of the NGA fully.

Formally welcome Emma Garner Jones to our team. Emma has a wealth of experience in administration and Kathy and I both feel she's a great fit for the school. Lisa is kindly helping Emma settling into the role. I would also like to take the opportunity of thanking Lisa for her outstanding and sterling work as a clerk. I think she'll be mighty pleased to get back to focus on her role as finance officer and Support Services Manager.

Finally, there is a new part time member of the team at the school. Kathy has completed a risk assessment to ensure that he is a safe member of the team. The children have taken to him immediately, he is definitely good for mental health and an added bonus is that he's free! Ladies and gentlemen I present Ralph Cracknell.

Signed.....Dated.....

Appendix 2

Governor Strategic Planning

Apologies to those who have already heard me mention this already but to make sure everyone is up to speed.

As a board we need to work on Governor Strategic Planning. Richard has kindly forwarded to me the Governor Action Plan which has been followed in the past as part of moving the school from an RI in the 2017 Ofsted report to Good by 2019.

This strategic plan needs to be brought up to date and implemented.

Our first priority is to work on a vision. Once that's agreed it's easier to focus on how we achieve this by working on a strategy. What is our aim for the school? We have a Vision and Values page on our website, but is it a vision that will allow the board and school leaders to set and implement a strategy to drive the school forward, working together for the benefit of the pupils and the school community?

My vision is that in 3 to 5 years an Ofsted report moves from Good to Outstanding. We have had a solid foundation and excellent teaching staff. But we, as a board, have to be dynamic and moving with the school. Everyone that I've spoken to is passionate about the school. I know we can do it.

With this in mind, I've asked Mike Randall to come and facilitate a session for us so we can define school's values and set a clear vision and strategy plan.

So can you put a date in your diary of 3pm Monday 28th June, in Jax's Barn. It will be for about 3 hours, off site focussed planning.

If anyone has any thoughts beforehand, please do let me know.

Signed.....Dated.....