



PLYMOUTH ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNORS
 Meeting at
Windsor House, Ground Floor Conference Room 1
 on
Monday 11 January 2016 at 6.00 pm

Present: Pat Lopez (Chair), Sara Orchard, Gordon Cryer, Roger Galloway, Lorraine Southcott, Nick Evans, Mike Thomas, Pat Holwill, Mary Aspinall, Jon Goulder (Guest), Carrie Wills (Guest), Pat Gould, Nick Rich (Clerk)

Apologies – Ruth Weaver, Linda Bell.

	Action
<p>1. Welcome – The meeting commenced at 6.00 pm. The Chair welcomed all to a new Year. Chair welcomed Carrie Wills and Jon Goulder to PAG who were invited as guests with a view to joining PAG.</p> <p>2. Apologies – Apologies had been received from Linda Bell and Ruth Weaver (PAG members agreed that if Ruth does not attend the next meeting, her position on the executive would be questioned due to non-attendance at several meetings) and were accepted.</p> <p>3. Minutes of last meeting on 17.11.2015. Members scrutinised the minutes. Chair thanked all who attended Ann’s Funeral, and reported that a cheque for £50 had been donated to the chosen charity, all agreed it was appropriate.</p> <p>4. Matters Arising – The Clerk reported they have arranged administration access for Lorraine Southcott for the website through the website providers, which has taken some time to come through due to their slowness of response. The chair reported that Karen Powell has a meeting re the Chairs training and more information will be reported following the meeting. The Chair had sent a hand written letter to Carole Burgoyne and Judith Harwood regarding governor services provision going forward, and as yet has not had a reply.</p> <p>The chair and vice chair have a meeting arranged with Judith for 18th January and it will be followed up at that time. Cllr Aspinall informed PAG members that following Budget Scrutiny there would be one permanent member of staff going forward, as Karen Powell is currently supporting the department. The Chair had spoken to Karen Powell who reported that the service is planned to continue until 2017.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>Chair/Vice Chair to raise with JH.</p>

Members debated rigorously the importance of a service supporting governors in the city and the requirements for training as well as advice and support, both of which are vital as a level of support for governors. Points raised included the level of professionalism required moving towards a MAT framework.

Pat Holwill reported that the Early Years situation was of some concern with staff leaving that service also, as early Years Rep the meetings had gone well, although the service has been wiped out following changes to personnel in the service.

5. Chair's Urgent Business

Chair raised with Members Awards as it is unsure what is taking place, expressing the view that something should be done to thank governors in the city. Mentioned the form for Headteachers – Members to look at the form and get back to Chair by Feb 14th with responses.

Chair mentioned SW regional conference 5th March 1130-2pm – 3 places, if members wish to attend inform chair

NGA Spring Conference in Birmingham, 19th March – 3 places available to PAG members.

Badges are to be ordered for all PAG members detailing their name and "PAG Executive Member"

Chair had heard from Emma Knights re the conference who would be available for 2017 if required. The chair reported they had sent details to the NGA regarding Years of Service and reports submitted and that the NGA had also showed interest in the Safer Recruitment training. In following up, the Chair informed PAG members they had received a letter from DfE (18/12/2015) with an invitation to a Garden party at Buckingham Palace, all expressed congratulations to Pat on the invite on behalf of PAG. PAG agreed to finance the train fare and hotel expenses for the event.

Chair raised that her governing body are looking for Secondary governors to join them if possible for 12 month period. PAG members to consider and inform her.

6. Finance Report –

The report had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting for scrutiny. In the absence of the Treasurer, the chair fielded questions which covered safer recruitment and those outstanding. Members agreed that any schools where fees remained unpaid, would be informed they would be unable to attend until fees had been paid. Members expressed thanks to

PAG Members to feedback on info in HT Form.

Clerk to arrange the order.

PAG Members to consider and contact chair.

Linda for her work.

Re the banking aspect, Nick Evans updated members on the progress with the banking arrangements.

7. **PAG Website** Lorraine Southcott is to receive access to PAG online and the website. The goal set is to get the PAG website out to a wider audience and to market it further.

8. **Safer Recruitment Training –**
New dates 9/10th March have been arranged – To be held at Sir John Hunt CC in Conference room 4.30-7.30pm. Bookings through Pat Lopez or Linda Bell (phone or email).

9. **PAG Membership –**

Membership – Vacancies – Clerk to update following new members joining at this meeting.

10. **Member Reports – Schools Forum –**
No questions were raised re Schools Forum report.

Gordon Cryer informed Members he was unable to attend the Schools Forum, Pat Gould would be attending so a representative from PAG would be present.

Pat Holwill mentioned Early Years and a session being run by Marion Dowling on 29/2/2016, flier has been sent out by Early Years Association.

Gordon Cryer expressed concern regarding appointment of new staff and pay increases, finances for post 16 children is proving very difficult to manage financially.

Proposed that the issue is raised in meetings regarding the issue of pay across schools, academies and maintained schools. Members agreed that the issue should be looked at a little closer and considered and added to the agenda for the next meeting. Letter would also be drafted that could be used by schools if they feel there is an issue.

11. **Spring Conference –**

Date is likely to be late Spring, members agreed that need to establish who and what is wanted as content for the Conference. MAT conversion Positives and the pitfalls. Carrie Wills – to speak to her Principal as a possibility. Sponsored/MAT joining. Analysis required to look at who in the city has been or is involved in the process.

Clerk to update membership info and circulate.

PAG members To consider and Clerk to add to next agenda.

LS (PG to join) to arrange to speak to David Madisson at PLP.

