



AYLESBURY  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

*Founded 1598*

COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES: THURSDAY 25 MARCH 2021 AT 8AM held via Google Meet due to  
Covid-19

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Mr S Winman (Chair)	Mr K Hardern
	Mr L Cobley	Mr C King
	Mr J Collins	Ms J Moore
		Mr M Sturgeon
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Mrs C Cobb	Clerk
	Mr G Dallas	Assistant Headteacher
	Mr E Walter	Governor Observer
	Mr R Williams	Chair of Governors
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	Mr Y Odukoya	Apologies received and accepted

## 1 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items were tabled under any other business.

## 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Winman declared he is running the leadership programme for Challenge Partners. Mr King declared an interest in items 5 and 8 on the agenda.

## 3 PRESENTATION ON SCHOOL COUNSELLING AND SEND SUPPORT

*Ms Richards and Ms Dines joined the meeting.*

Governors received a presentation on the work being undertaken on Counselling to support students and staff. To date 32 students are being seen and there are 3 students currently on the waiting list. Ms Dines communicates with them directly. Eighteen students are seen each week and there is an opportunity for staff to see her if they wish. **Governors asked if there are any Year groups and topics arising more often than others?** Ms Dines responded there are more referrals from Years 12 and 13, generally the concerns are around low mood and depression noticed by staff and for some there are underlying reasons for this. Ms Richards reported another Counsellor is joining the school after Easter. They are currently doing a level 4 course at Aylesbury College, having worked in industry, and as part of their training must come into a school setting. Ms Dines has a CAMHS

## ACTION

background and has worked in special school for boys with social and emotional needs.

Ms Richards reported termly coffee mornings continue to be held for parents whose child is on the SEND register. The parents have a SEND WhatsApp group and they share a lot of information, which everybody finds really helpful. The WhatsApp group includes parents whose child has left AGS, and they engage very well and provide really useful information about the next stage post AGS. **The Chair thanked Ms Richards and Ms Dines for how far the school has come in such a short amount of time, and also thanked Mr Hardern in his role as SEND Governor.** The Headmaster reported Ms Richards and her team are doing amazingly well and having an in-house Counsellor has been testament to the commitment to the support we are able to give students and staff. From a governance perspective it demonstrates that we carry through with our values and we support the students to be the best they can be.

*Ms Richards and Ms Dines left the meeting.*

## **4 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

### **4.1 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2020 having been previously circulated were agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

### **4.2 ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

The progress on the actions from the last meeting had been previously circulated, there were no matters arising.

## **5 REPORT ON PUPIL PREMIUM**

Mrs Farmborough gave Governors a presentation on how students who attract pupil premium funding are supported. There are currently 51 students and most of them are not in need of any academic support. The focus is on building the relationship between Tutors and the students. Tutors meet with their students at the beginning of the year to discuss a student's needs holistically and discuss enrichment, extra-curricular activities, what access they have to a device, connectivity and opportunities. The completed form is shared with all staff, which allows any issues to be picked up and enables conversations with parents. **Mr Hardern asked how much funding has been received?** Mr Dallas responded this year £43,500. The funding has increased and this is likely to be because of the pandemic and family's financial situations changing abruptly. In a typical year there are between 50-65 students. **The Chair asked how students are tracked so that the effect of the support they are given can be measured?** Mrs Farmborough responded mainly through assessments, however pupil premium students are

inclined to be ahead of their peers for academic achievement but the “whole” person is tracked not just their academics. Mrs Farmborough shared with Governors an anonymous report which demonstrates the level of data, which is shared, student targets, solutions and possible funding requirements.

**The Chair thanked Mrs Farmborough for a very comprehensive report.**

*Mrs Farmborough left the meeting*

## 6 PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Mr Dallas had previously circulated the collated results from the parent survey. Governors noted they were the best results the school had received on the main questions and where comments have been made an action plan is being drawn up to address them. Parents will be communicated with on the results. **Mr Walter congratulated staff as the outcome is outstanding.**

## 7 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- **Covid-19 – Monitor and resource welfare and pastoral support** – The Headmaster reported additional pastoral support has been put in place and Governors previously heard from the Counsellor. A survey has been carried out with the Heads of Year about the level of pastoral support and their responses have been very positive. Mr Dallas also reported the PTA have carried out a fundraising activity £2k for 2K, which was a really good community event and the money raised went towards supporting welfare. The Headmaster further reported the catch-up funding the school received of £78K has been allocated to support both the curriculum and pastoral care.
- **Implement a whole school welfare strategy** – Mr Dallas reported the MIND index has now been completed. An employee survey, which received a response rate of 68% was carried out and has been submitted. MIND will evaluate the responses and give a steer to the school on the way forward. An early draft strategy has been shared with the Headmaster and Mr Dallas thanked the Chair for his support with this.
- **Meet the Gatsby benchmarks (for careers) by December 2020** – Mr Dallas had previously circulated an update report from Ms Adams. Ms Adams will update Governors at the next meeting.
- **Review of personal Development Curriculum (PSHE and personal development)** – Mr Dallas reported the pandemic has delayed this work and it will hopefully start in the summer term. **The Chair requested that a review, if possible, is carried out before the next meeting.**
- **Develop and implement an Eco-school’s strategy** – a report had been previously circulated. Governors noted the next step was to achieve green flag status. One garden area has been created, growing vegetables and fruit trees. The second “urban” flower garden has been fully funded by the PTA and a Year 8 parent, who is a landscape gardener, is going to build it over the Easter holidays. The flowers grown will provide specimens for biology. The gardens are excellent for engaging students who are less sporty.

## ACTION

- **Develop and implement a successful coordinated outreach plan** – Mr Dallas reported Mrs Beckley is working with primary teachers on how they can be supported with certain subjects.
- **Develop and implement a marketing and communications strategy** – The brand reputation strategy had been previously circulated. Governors discussed and agreed the reference to the Foundation Trustees should be removed as the Foundation is a separate charity, but there should be a reference to the Foundation. Governors agreed the Members of the Academy Trust profiles should not be included on the website. **Ms Moore had previously circulated a podcast by Chris Hemming (Influencer) on lad culture. Mr Hemming has indicated that he might become an advocate of the school going forward, which would enhance the nurturing priority. The Chair also raised male and female relationships and asked what education is being given on this?** The Headmaster responded as a boys school there is a lot of education on appropriate male and female relationships and it is built on the values, vision and purpose, which we strive to live up to. Following the recent Everyone's Invited movement, we are not aware of any issues but there maybe things we are not yet aware of. The school has a strong female presence, 60% of the staff are women and therefore if there was a cultural issue around women, this would have been raised, Mrs Beckley is expanding her role around diversity to include male and female relationships. Ben Mulholland, Head boy, has recently taken an assembly on gender equality, which the Headmaster agreed to share with Governors. Ms Wilson, Head of Year 8 is currently carrying out a leadership qualification on this topic, and her project is to be done with AHS and how we collaborate pastorally and have a common message. Governors agreed a communication piece should be prepared to respond, if necessary, to the recent press coverage. Ms Moore agreed to further consider how communications with parents can be increased potentially through social platforms and sending a termly message from the Chair of Governors. Governors also discussed Governor engagement with parents, as it has been challenging to do this during the pandemic with everything being carried out remotely. All agreed this should be further discussed in the autumn term. The Clerk suggested and Ms Moore agreed to talk to Governors at other schools to see how this is being achieved.

Headmaster

Ms  
Moore/Mr  
Williams

Agenda

Ms Moore

## 8 POLICIES FOR REVIEW

Governors approved the following policies as circulated and agreed they should be recommended to the FGB:

RSE Policy

FOI Policy

Child Protection Policy

FGB  
Agenda

## 9 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Progress report on the work being undertaken on Diversity and gender equality (Mrs Beckley)
- Mrs Adams to update Governors on Careers

Agenda

**10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 8 July 2021

The meeting ended at 9.50am

Signed.....  Date.....8 July 2021.....