



**MEETING OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY  
WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018 AT 5.30 PM – 7.30 PM  
CRICKHOWELL HIGH SCHOOL (LRC)**

## MINUTES

**Attendees / Non-attendees:** Mr S. Bennett (SB), Mr N. Brown (NB), Mrs H. Dunne (HD), Mrs R. Dykes (RD), **Mrs S. Farmer (SF)**, Mr A. Fryer (AF), Mr C. Jones (CJ), Miss C. Jones (CIJ), Mr D. Jones (DJ), Mrs J. Kiernan (JK), Mr P. Lindoewood (PL), **Cllr J. Morris (JM)**, Mrs J. Parker (JP), Mr M. Rhydderch-Roberts (MRR), Mr S. Roberts (SR), Cllr K. Silk (KS), **Mrs N. Thomas (NT)**, **Mrs H. Waggett (HW)**, Dr G. Williams (GW).

**Highlighted Name – denotes Governor not attending**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Apologies were received from JM, NT and HW.  Also absent was SF.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Student Voice</b>  AG reported that for Y13 leavers a celebration was held now exams are over. With a focus on sustainability the Eco Committee has organised a whole school beach clean, working with all facilities on our save the ocean from plastic waste project. This proved very successful. Bat boxes and other ecological items have been put up around the school site and litter clean up continues to be a high priority in the school. A Pause sex education peer mentoring is going extremely well and has had very positive results for KS3 and 4.  The profile of the Senedd, Eco Committee and Student Council is higher now and more students are coming forward to join.  JP thanked AG for his input throughout the academic year as the Student President and wished him well for the future.  CJ asked what the results of the beach clean-up trip were. GW explained that they are currently doing the calculations and gathering data as to what weight was gathered. This will be reported at the showcase on 16 <sup>th</sup> July.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Minutes of the Last Governors Meeting / Matters Arising</b>  The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate representation of the meeting. Matters arising are all covered in the agenda.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Ratification of School Policies</b>  The following policies were tabled: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health &amp; Safety Policy 2018</li><li>• Homework Policy 2018</li><li>• Instructions for Conducting NEAs 2018</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet Appeals Policy for External Qualifications 2018</li> <li>• IT Asset Disposal Policy 2018</li> <li>• Medical Needs Policy 2018</li> <li>• Mobile Phones &amp; Devices Acceptable Use Policy (staff) 2018</li> <li>• Mobile Phones &amp; Devices Acceptable Use Policy (students) 2018</li> <li>• Procurement Policy 2018</li> <li>• School Trips – Finance 2018</li> </ul> <p>AF referred everyone to the process as discussed during the last full Governors. This is the last batch of policies and they have already been discussed at the sub committees. We just need to agree them as a group. No issues were raised, and all policies were accepted.</p>
<p><b>5.0</b></p>	<p><b>Minutes of Committee Meetings / Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Quality Assurance – 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018:</b> The minutes were accepted.</p> <p><b>Curriculum &amp; Policy – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018:</b> In the absence of the chair and vice chair of the committee, HD took the meeting through the minutes in detail. The minutes were accepted.</p> <p>JK asked about the portable defib. JP explained that although we have a static one in school, we need a portable one for a particular student with a serious heart condition to enable them to go out on trips.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to delete paragraph 2 of item 6 in the minutes and replace it with “JP outlined support for a particular member of staff who has medical concerns.”</p> <p><b>Staffing &amp; Pay – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018:</b> SR took the meeting through the minutes, which were accepted.</p> <p><b>Quality Assurance – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018:</b> SR took the meeting through the minutes, which were accepted. There were a few articles in the local press causing concern by laying the blame for financial ineffectiveness on the schools and there is a very important role for governors in the year ahead to highlight the poor funding allocation CHS from Powys. PCC have requested a meeting with the heads of secondary schools on a regular basis to discuss budgets.</p> <p>JP said we’re reviewing the Assessment for Learning Policy in line with Welsh Government changes and Faculty-specific needs.</p> <p>We met with the Estyn inspector this morning regarding our formal complaint.</p> <p>JP stated that whilst our budget has been licensed, the Estyn report has recommended that it be revisited as the Powys funding model for the school does not seem sufficient.</p> <p>Sixth form numbers for Sept were discussed and it was agreed to update governors in the first meeting in Sept.</p>
<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p><b>Community Library / Sports Centre Update</b></p> <p>NB gave a vote of thanks to TR for taking the lead on the development of the Library. We’ve now started issuing library cards to students and 90% of Year 7s have been issued with one. Library usage is on the increase, the Friends of Crickhowell Library have been busy and the garden to the side has been redeveloped to make it an attractive space for all.</p>

	<p>The Sports Centre is in good shape. We've run a couple of successful tennis events over two weekends to promote the sport. Both were well attended and funded by Tennis Wales.</p> <p>Questions have been raised about the accessibility of the astroturf. The temporary surface will need to be tarmacked to make it wheelchair-friendly, but this is dependent on funds being sourced. We're seeing an uptake on the usage of our facilities, but we remain limited until the floodlighting issue has been resolved.</p>
<p><b>7.0</b></p>	<p><b>Community Focused School</b></p> <p><b>New Build / Floodlighting Plans:</b> JP reported that a meeting was held on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June with PCC. We've put in some strongly worded complaints and they're now looking at what may have to be a larger development. They're looking at significant expenditure on mobile classrooms, but we've said the space is insufficient for our needs. Another meeting is to be held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July. We have put questions to Welsh Government relating to why we're being treated in this way.</p> <p>Due to resident's objections, we've submitted a new planning application to the planning authority of National Parks for the astroturf floodlights and will submit a separate one for the 3G pitch. The reason for this is to get at least one pitch floodlit as soon as possible.</p> <p>AF reported to the meeting that he has been approached regarding a £3.3m plan to redevelop Clarence Hall to upgrade it to a greatly improved auditorium, with a view to the school designating it as our official performance space. This follows a change of trustees for the hall. They need to raise the money for this project, but the belief is that they'll be able to get lottery funding. The size of the project has much to do with the fact that Clarence Hall is a listed building. KS asked whether there was any question of the school contributing to that cost and AF said no.</p> <p><b>The Future of CHS as a potential Church in Wales School:</b> JP said we talked in our last meeting about the concept of the school becoming a Church in Wales school. A meeting is soon to be held with a representative of the local diocese to explore possible next steps. If in the future, the school moves forward in this direction, there will be a full consultation with both parents and Governors. The partnership with the Church in Wales could be very positive indeed.</p> <p>A discussion ensued about what such a change would mean for the school.</p> <p>AF said it's important to note we're not intending to drift into this by mistake. We're merely exploring options which need to be discussed in detail.</p> <p>CJ said PCC have a duty to provide the funding we need, but if we go with the church that would change. AF said the issue is how decisions are made and the independence of the decision-making process, but the funding would still come from PCC.</p>
<p><b>8.0</b></p>	<p><b>Budget Update and Actions for 2018-2019 Budget Planning</b></p> <p>JP went through the budget spreadsheet with governors and outlined the deficit position and the reasons for it. Without doubt we're the lowest funded English medium secondary school in Wales and therefore in the UK. We're now looking at a significant impact on what we can do, as we do not know when the Fair Funding Formula currently used in Powys will change</p>

	<p>HD said we had the extraordinary meeting with PCC in January and we said if they don't deliver we need to go public. Months later we haven't done this. We must do so now. Parent voice makes a big difference.</p> <p>JP said we should release the letter we received from PCC regarding non-payment of the £348k they owe us. We had the auditors in and they said all was well. We then received a very different audit report, which said our deficit position was entirely our responsibility. Now PCC have told us they'll monitor our budget from September onwards.</p> <p>AF said the bottom line is that our 5-year budget plan makes no assumption that we'll get any funding. We're as well positioned as anyone. When the Fair Funding Formula gets kicked into touch because it's not working, the current acting Chief Executive of PCC is positioning himself to say that secondary schools must restructure. However, there are some schools with huge deficits totally unrelated to student numbers and PCC has made no effort to challenge this. They cannot tackle us unless they deal with these schools.</p> <p>HD said we must let parents know what's going on. JP asked HD to help her to word a letter to be sent out to parents but that that letter should come from the Governors. HD recommended that once the letter has been sent in September, we should run an open evening for parents to garner support and to gather ideas and contacts. This was agreed.</p> <p><b>ACTION: HD / JP</b></p>
<p><b>9.0</b></p>	<p><b>ALN Funding</b></p> <p>JP explained the legal and moral imperatives of ensuring students with statements of special needs can only be taken on in school with appropriate additional funding. As this is proving very difficult to achieve with Powys when no additional funding is being allocated, it may be increasingly difficult to meet the needs of ALN students in the future.</p>
<p><b>10.0</b></p>	<p><b>Staffing Update</b></p> <p>JP said we've appointed staff where needed to meet subject and maternity timetabling requirements.</p> <p>We have a member of staff going on maternity leave in September. Our Rugby Officer is leaving us at the end of July. A member of the admin staff is on long term sick leave and is being managed as per the Absence Policy, which has resulted in extra costs.</p> <p>We're being innovative and have reorganised the leadership portfolios, with the addition of AH and HOF to facilitate additional capacity in the SLT. JP gave a vote of thanks to the SLT for their tremendous support throughout the academic year, without whom she would not have managed.</p> <p><b>Requests for Special Admissions:</b> AF reported that two members of staff have moved into the area and they both have a child who is eligible to come to the school, but cannot get in. Our admission number is 146 but with five form entry it'll be 150, although this may change in September. AF recommended that Governors vote to accept these two students as extra students into Year 7. A vote was duly held and carried unanimously. RD abstained from voting.</p>

<p><b>11.0</b></p>	<p><b>Headteacher's Report</b></p> <p>JP said the HT report is on SharePoint and this covers the salient points in the Estyn report headings. A copy of the Estyn report was circulated to Governors.</p> <p>Standards in KS3 have been maintained and KS4 targets are as targeted.</p> <p>In KS5, we've been doing a lot of work and AH and CIJ will be taking on a supervisory role for all sixth form students.</p> <p>The new curriculum is working out well and the Save Our Oceans project is flying along.</p> <p>JP asked for the minutes to record the extraordinary work done by CIJ in wellbeing and how lucky we are to have her.</p> <p><b>SLT Portfolios 2018 / 2019:</b> JP will send the new portfolios out to Governors as soon as they are complete.</p> <p><b>ACTION: JP</b></p>
<p><b>12.0</b></p>	<p><b>SIP Progress</b></p> <p>JP said a full review of the SIP is taking place</p>
<p><b>13.0</b></p>	<p><b>QA Calendar</b></p> <p>This is in progress</p>
<p><b>14.0</b></p>	<p><b>Curriculum / Timetable Update</b></p> <p><b>Status of BTEC Sport Funding:</b> JP reported that funding will hopefully be provided by Cardiff College.</p> <p><b>Response to Estyn Report:</b> JP said a letter of complaint was sent to Estyn on behalf of the Governors.</p> <p>AF explained the detailed nature of the complaint which is now under investigation.</p> <p>SR said we felt that they hadn't done a balanced review and hadn't taken representative samples of teaching. AF said one example is the assessment of sixth form, which was excellent all round, but this is not reflected in the overall result. Also, remarks that were in the draft report have been removed from the final report.</p> <p>JP said we've now taken on board every recommendation made and will follow it through. If Governors have any concerns about the report or would like to highlight areas they'd like us to focus on, please do so and we will include this in our new school improvement plan.</p> <p><b>Curriculum Changes in Line with New Performance Measures:</b> The Current Year 10 will be judged on either English Language / Literature, Maths or Science and whether they've dropped subjects.</p>

15.0	<p><b>Inclusion / Health &amp; Safety</b></p> <p>Students are now in PE kit due to the heatwave. We've reviewed our protocols regarding another defib.</p> <p>There were no RIDDOR incidents.</p>
16.0	<p><b>Exclusion of Press and Public – Confidential Items: The Education School Government (Wales) Regulations 1999, Section 55</b></p> <p>Staffing &amp; Pay minutes and the Estyn discussion.</p> <p>AF and JP gave a vote of thanks to the Governors for their support throughout the year.</p>

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm.