

Godmanchester Community Education Trust
Trust Members Meeting
15th June 2017



<p>1. Present: Philip Mackay (Chair); Eleanor Deem; Rod Warsap; Irana Richards; Paul Askew; Rob Bridge; John Hladkiwskyj In attendance: Sarah Spira (Clerk)</p> <p>2. Apologies: Steve Penman</p>	<p>Actions</p>
<p>3. Declaration of Interests: P A is now a co-opted governor for Hinchingsbrooke School. It was noted that any Conflicts of interest will be declared as they arise.</p> <p>4. Minutes of the last meeting (10th December 2016): Minutes were agreed.</p> <p>5. Matters Arising from last minutes:</p> <p>6. Appointment of a Chair of the Trust: PM has asked the other Members to have a separate discussion about the Chair as he intends to step down as Chair to ensure a clear separation of responsibilities between Directors and Members.</p> <p>7. Report from the Board of Directors (attached): Members of the Trust- there has recently been a clarification of DfE requirements, one Director must also act as a Trust Member. PM and ED will stay as Members, IR will resign at the close of the meeting.</p> <p>Board of Directors –Rob Bridge stood down from the Board but has now joined as a Trust Member. Paul Thornton has been appointed Chair of the Godmanchester Bridge Academy Local Governing Body and has joined the Board of Directors. The Board has also advertised to the parents of both GCA and GBA for expressions of interest to become Directors and are in the process of shortlisting and interviewing applicants.</p> <p>Finance & Audit Committee: Temporarily chaired by PM, there is a plan of work being completed. IR asked about the budgets for the next year following concerns in the media over school funding. PM reported funding is static with no increase for inflation. The coming year is balanced but could be a future concern. The school leadership are continuing a cautious approach. IR asked about costs of the new GBA site, RW confirmed all construction and fit out costs are to be met by CCC & DfE. RB noted the 5% wage claim by Unison and that it is expected all unions will have an increased wage demand. F&A will continue to monitor and react to the risks arising. PA requested a synopsis risk report to accompany the signed off accounts from the Board of Directors so the Trust members may confirm risks are being identified and managed.</p> <p>P&P: Terms & conditions of employment have been modernised and developed, with thanks to ED for all her time and input. There are new T&Cs for new teaching & office/support staff. They closely follow the burgundy and green books. There are also new pay scales to give more flexibility for pay awards. Currently they will be offered to new staff and anyone who changes their role. The new terms also give the Trust mobility between sites. HR Policies are being prioritised and amended for a MAT formation.</p> <p>Finance personnel – Lindsay Wilson is retiring after 25 years, the Board are currently advertising for her replacement, SS confirmed LW will assist with audit transition.</p>	<p>SP/JH/RB</p> <p>F&A</p> <p>PM</p>

<p>New teaching appointments have been made for 2017/18 to allow for growth and maternity absences. There is a slight risk of surplus of teachers on the return of maternity staff – PA commented that risk can only improve pupil outcomes.</p>	
<p>A staff survey has been completed with many positive results. The P&P are analysing the feedback and checking for trends before responding to the staff.</p>	
<p>Standards: Anne Fisher has made a number of visits and continues to be of value. PA suggested an annual summary of her reports for the Trust members, and suggested a direct report from AF to the Board of Directors for transparency. RW is also continuing work for Ofsted and bringing that knowledge and insight to the Trust.</p>	PM
<p>GBA: Child progress is strong and the temporary site for 2016/17 has been successful. The pupil population is expected to double into Sept 2017. The temporary building will be removed in October half term and will be utilised by GCA until then. Directors & governors have been invited to tours of the new site, which is on target for partial handover 25/8/17 and full hand over 31/10/17. RW confirmed the safety features of the new building and will communicate them to parents in forthcoming newsletters. The GBA LGB is established and working well.</p>	RW
<p>Pre-School provision GBA: a tender process was run and completed with Preschool Learning Alliance (PLA) as the successful bidder. Kids club will extend their provision to preschool children during holiday periods. The Board is keen to invite Kids Club to join the Trust and will continue those discussions. RB advised communicating the new PreSchool provider to the local community.</p>	RW
<p>GCA: The second year of the new assessment framework for SATs has gone smoothly and outcomes are expected to at least match last years results. Areas for improvement include boys writing and there are strategies in place for improvement. PA and RW are working on a data analysis document of trends and outcomes for pupils. GCA is due Ofsted inspection imminently, GBA will be inspected within the first three years of opening (by 2018/19). GCA LGB have reviewed and streamlined their structure. PA commented on the positive investment in the grounds of GCA.</p>	RW/PA
<p>Swimming Pool: a new lease is due for signing this month and has been negotiated to ensure all remedial works of the building are completed by the end of the summer break.</p>	
<p>Church wall: ongoing discussions regarding ownership with CCC but they have started a tender process for the required works.</p>	
<p>Secondary schooling: GCET had previously considered the requirements/community appetite for a secondary provision, Chesterton Community College have now had a free school bid approved for a secondary school in Godmanchester and the Board are awaiting confirmation of further details. The board will develop a working relationship with the Chesterton board to ensure strong transitions are available to GCET pupils. Other growth plans for the Trust have yet to come into fruition. PA</p>	BoD

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<p>questioned the long term stability of GCET without growth, noting that the political agenda around schools will have a strong impact, the leadership and staff structure ensures sustainability for the current model and the option for growth if the opportunity arises. RW is also continuing to develop relationships with other MATs in the area. PM will ask the F&A to develop budget and growth projection estimations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Note minutes of the Board of Directors meetings: all minutes are available on the Trust area of the website, Trust members all have secure logins. 9. Points to note – none 10. Any other business: Irana Richards resigns from the Trust, with thanks for her contribution. 11. Next meeting dates: 12th January 2018 and 26th June 2018 – at the new Godmanchester Bridge site. 	<p>PM</p>
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Signed by Chairperson: Date: