



Trust Board Confidential Meeting Minutes

Thursday 19 October 2023 – Teams

Present: Paul Howieson (PH), Martin Copsey (MCO), Sue Bowen (SB), Brendan McCarthy (BMc), Jo Levasier (JL), Louise Ellis (LE) (Chair), Brendan Mullany (BM), Kat Hearn (KH), Les Lane (LL), Michael Crane (MCR), Martin Tiffin (MT)

In Attendance: Sue Bennett (SEB) Minutes

		Action
7.	Growth (documents circulated with the agenda)	
7a	<u>Corfe Castle Pre-School</u> PH gave a brief update: - Initial consultation on Corfe Castle Pre-School joining CLP has shown strong support from the community. - Detailed planning has confirmed that with a couple of changes, the pre-school joining CLP can be beneficial and profitable. - We would prefer to move the pre-school out of its current building and into Corfe Castle School premises. - The chair of the pre-school governing body is supportive of going forward with the changes we need to make.	
Q.	How many staff would we need to reduce and could they be redeployed elsewhere?	
A.	These are things we are currently considering, we don't know exactly what it looks like at the present.	
Q.	Agree integration into the school premises would be ideal, but what would the diocese do with the current pre-school premises?	
A.	This is something discussed at a recent meeting with the diocese and solicitor. The existing pre-school needs to approach the diocese to explore whether they can surrender the lease, which we believe the diocese will support. If this is the case, we will work with the diocese to look at alternative tenants.	
Q.	If the diocese won't surrender the lease would we walk away?	
A.	Probably not as we are trying to protect both pre-school and school as neither can survive long term on their own.	
Q.	If we could use the building for free, could it be offered to the community?	
A.	These are the sorts of things we are looking at with the diocese. If there is a community use for the building it would be better for the diocese to liaise directly with the community.	
7b.	<u>Four Schools Potentially Joining CLP</u> PH advised that the document circulated contains all relevant information. Completion is now due on 1 January 2024 and not 1 December 2023.	

		Action
	There have been no new concerns in the due diligence. PH would like to progress to the conclusion of all four schools joining unless something significant arises in the meantime. Q. St George's play area is used out of hours by the public; who is responsible if anything happens out of hours? A. [REDACTED] This arrangement at St George's has been in place for a couple of years. Q. Can we still put in two separate applications for TCaf funding? A. We have made two applications for TCaf funding which can be up to £500k for each application. We remain hopeful we will receive this money. Q. A. D. 7c. Action: PH and SEB to arrange in the next few weeks. <u>Central Team Structure</u> Trustees are asked to approve the addition of a Data & Systems Co-ordinator into the Central Team. PH explained the reason behind the need to create this new post (set out in the circulated document) Q. Are we looking for a systems manager or are we looking for a data analyst? Not sure we have the right balance on the job description? A. We are trying to achieve a role that covers all of these areas? We have looked at some existing job descriptions and carried out some salary benchmarking which has lead us to the draft job description. We didn't want it to feel like an IT network manager type of role. Q. Is this a role we need on a permanent basis or a role we need for a fixed term period? Would it be better to recruit a specialist on a contract. A. We believe we have a permanent need for this role which is common in larger MATs. Recruiting on a fixed term basis would substantially limit the pool of applications. Q. I believe the capability for us to have a stronger data analysist role centrally is important. D. Trustees approved 10:1 to recruit to a Data & Systems Co-ordinator role.	
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8b	<u>Purbecks</u> PH outlined the key issues to discuss: • Continuing falling rolls in the Purbecks, in particular Swanage • With four more Purbeck schools potentially joining we have a chance to get the structure right over time. • We will need to work closely with the local authority and the diocese. • Discussions have started with both stakeholders. • [REDACTED] • [REDACTED] A paper was circulated setting out the issues and a potential recommendations for discussion.	

		Action
Q.	Lots of local authorities are looking to sell properties; is this the plan in this instance?	
A.	[REDACTED]	
	In other areas of CLP, Old Town have leased part of their school premises for a specialist education service and a similar model may be done at Oakdale.	
Q.	Where do Dorset currently have specialist schools? Do the trust have any specialist schools?	
A.	CLP doesn't have any specialist schools currently, we could set up our own but it would need a lot of money and expertise. Dorset don't have enough special school places so they are interested in developing the possibility of leasing school premises. Specialist provision in southern areas of Dorset is poor and their appetite for this may be good.	
	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	
A.	[REDACTED]	
Q.	I don't believe the proposal to return money to the original catchment school if a child goes to school out of catchment would be viable and believe it may cause a lot of problems in the community.	
A.	This isn't something we would encourage but we are looking at all options.	

Meeting closed at 9:15pm

Next meeting: Thursday 14 December 2023

Minutes approved on: