

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER – CHILDREN'S SERVICES** held on 8 December 2015 at County Hall, Matlock.

PRESENT

Councillor J Coyle (in the Chair)

In attendance - Councillor C Bisknell

103/15 **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2015 be confirmed as a correct record.

104/15 **NEW INSTRUMENTS OF GOVERNMENT** Under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012, proposals had been received from school Governing Bodies for an amendment to their Instrument of Government.

RESOLVED that approval be given for new Instruments of Government to be made for the three schools detailed in the Director of Legal Services report.

105/15 **APPOINTMENT OF PERSONS TO SERVE AS LA GOVERNORS ON SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES** **RESOLVED** to approve the nomination of the following persons to serve as Local Authority Governors under the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 20012:-

S Marshall-Clarke – Alfreton Park Community Special School
R Baynham – New Bolsover Primary School
N Longos – Padfield Community Primary School
C Fanny – St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Glossop)
J Evans – Litton CE Primary School
D Harrison – Tupton Primary School
M Brough – Eckington Camms CE Primary School

106/15 **ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUSPENDING THE RIGHT TO A DELEGATED BUDGET FROM A SCHOOL'S GOVERNING BODY** Approval was sought to delegate the decision to suspend the right to a delegated budget from an individual school to the Strategic Director for Children's Services.

Schools' funding was becoming increasingly tight as the government had confirmed that the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) will remain cash flat over the lifetime of this parliament. Schools would therefore find it increasingly difficult to balance their budgets each year.

Schools which were either already in deficit, or were at significant risk of going into deficit in the near future, were supported by the Authority's specialist services e.g. adviser, HR and Finance. However, it could take significant time (several years) for schools to eliminate their in year deficit and then repay any accumulated debt. The timelines involved presented a significant risk to the Authority not least because of the changing financial landscape for schools.

The key concern was that, should a school become an academy, there was an increasing risk that any deficit would remain with the local authority. The Authority therefore needed to be able to respond to changing circumstances quickly to minimise its financial exposure. An example would be where a school is unwilling or unable to restrict its spending in the period prior to conversion; in these circumstances the Authority would have to consider quickly whether or not to suspend the school's right to a delegated budget.

Given the time-lines involved, and in order to help protect the Authority's financial interests, it was proposed that the decision to suspend the right to a delegated budget be vested in the Strategic Director for Children's Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

RESOLVED to approve the delegation of the decision to suspend an individual school's right to a delegated budget to the Strategic Director for Children's Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

107/15 BUILDING OF BUILDING CONTRACTS RESOLVED to note the recent building contracts awarded by the Strategic Director for Children's Services in accordance with Financial Regulations.

108/15 ST PHILIP HOWARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL – DISPOSAL OF PLAYING FIELDS The Cabinet Member was informed that on 1 September 2015, St Philip Howard Catholic School became an Academy. The school previously leased the playing fields from the Council and decided, following its adoption of Academy status, that it no longer required the use of this land.

The Department has not identified any alternative use for the premises and it was therefore recommended that the land be declared surplus to needs and that the Corporate Property Department manage the property in future. Any decision to dispose of some or all the site would be subject to approval by Cabinet and may require approval of the Secretary of State for Education, as any playing field that had been used by a school within the last 10 years was subject to Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

RESOLVED to approve that the former playing fields at St Philip Howard Catholic School be declared surplus to the requirements of the Children's Services Department

109/15 HADFIELD ST ANDREWS CE JUNIOR SCHOOL, LANGLEY MILL CE INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL – SECTION 106 FUNDING

Approval was sought for the allocation of Section 106 funding to St Andrew's CE Junior School and Langley Mill CE (Controlled) Infant & Nursery School.

In response to a Section 106 Planning Agreement relating to a development of 15 dwellings at Paradise Street, Hadfield, approved in October 2007, a sum of £20,016.00 had been received from RedRock Homes Limited to be used to enhance the facilities at St Andrew's CE Junior School.

The replacement of a double Medway Classroom was approved in the 2008/09 CAYA Modernisation Capital Programme at St Andrew's CE Junior School, due to the existing building being in a poor state of repair. The replacement building included enhancements in anticipation of the receipt of the S106 funding. In addition to the classrooms that were being replaced, a group room was included in the replacement scheme.

A sum of £12,489 had also been received in relation to a development of 70 dwellings at North Street, Langley Mill from Wheeldon Brothers Limited, to be used to enhance the facilities at Langley Mill CE (Controlled) Infant & Nursery School. This development was approved in 2002.

A remodelling project was approved in the 2008/11 as part of the CAYA Extended Services Capital Programme at Langley Mill CE (Controlled) Infant & Nursery School to create an extended services/community room from non-teaching space. Pupil forecasts at the time predicted a rising pupil roll and the need for an additional classroom to accommodate the additional numbers. On May 10th 2011, Cabinet approved a project to incorporate the extended services project into a larger remodelling scheme to relocate the library, reorganise toilet provision and enclose an outdoor veranda in order to create an additional classroom.

The initial budget for the replacement Medway Classrooms at St Andrew's, Hadfield was £675,000 funded from the CAYA Capital Programme (Modernisation). It was proposed to allocate the £20,016 Section 106 income to the St Andrew's Hadfield Medway Classroom scheme and reallocated the saving back to the Children's Services Capital Programme.

The initial budget for the extended services scheme at Langley Mill CE (Controlled) Infant & Nursery School was £72,000 and the cost of the larger scheme totalled £190,000. The additional funding was met from the CAYA 2010/11 CAYA Capital Programme (Basic Need). Now that the S106 contribution has been received, it was proposed to allocate the £12,489 Section 106 income to the remodelling scheme at Langley Mill CE (Controlled) Infant & Nursery School and reallocated the saving back to the Children's Services Capital Programme.

As a consequence of these changes, an additional £32,505 will be available in the Children's Services Capital Programme.

RESOLVED to approve a Section 106 contribution of £20,016 to the replacement Medway Classroom scheme at St Andrew's, Hadfield, and a Section 106 contribution of £12,489 to the remodelling scheme at Langley Mill CE (Controlled) Infant & Nursery Scheme.

110/15 KILLAMARSH INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL – BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS FUNDED BY SALE OF SCHOOL HOUSE Approval was sought to approve a package of building improvements funded through the sale of the school house.

Approval to dispose of the School House was given at a meeting, on 3 December 2013, by the (then-named) Cabinet Member for Children and Young People. 50% of the capital receipt from the sale was to be made available for the school to spend on building improvements. The other 50% would be retained by the County Council to fund future capital programmes.

The sale of the school house in 2014 brought in a capital receipt of £132,000, of which £66,000 was available for the school to spend on building improvements.

A package of building improvements, costing by the Director of Property for £66,000 and including a full refurbishment of the school office, school reception area, head teacher's office and ICT room had been received by the school.

RESOLVED to approve a package of building improvements at Killamarsh Infant School, at a cost of £66,000 funded from the school's share of the capital receipt received from the sale of the school house.

111/15 CHILDREN'S SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015-16 JOINT FUNDING INITIATIVE FOR SCHOOLS **RESOLVED** That approval be granted to the joint-funded projects as detailed in Appendix 1 to the Strategic Directors report, with funding being split equally between the schools and the Authority, resulting in a charge of £75,805 against the Children's Services Capital Programme Joint Funding Allocation.

112/15 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC **RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of the kind of exempt information detailed in the following summary of proceedings:-

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

- (1) To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member – Children and Young People held on 10 November 2015 (contains exempt information).
- (2) To consider the joint report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services and Director of Corporate Resources on Children's Services Capital Programme 2015/16 – Schools Access Initiative – (contains Information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individual)
- (3) To consider the report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services on Business Services Support to the Intensive Family Support Services (contains Information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individuals)
- (4) To consider the report of the Strategic Director for Children's Services on Leyfield House – (contains Information which is likely to reveal the identity of any individuals)