

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a MEETING held at COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE on THURSDAY 28th SEPTEMBER, 2000.

PRESENT: Mrs CA Soden (Chairman), Mr PG Allnatt, Mr RJ Baddeley, Mrs LCS Bennett, Dr P Biggs, Mr RG Catton, Mr PCB Coleman, Mrs MEM Groom, Mr H Head, Mrs G Hill, Mr AJ Madgett, Mrs DJ Main, Canon L O'Driscoll, Mrs P Rugg, Mrs JBP Savage, Mrs JA Scott, Mrs JH Seager, Mrs MSN Taylor and Mrs I Throp.

The following decisions are not within the Committee's delegated powers and are recommendations to:

Policy & Resources Committee - Minute Number 65(7)
Corporate Services Sub-Committee – Minute Number 82(3)(ii)(b)

61. **Membership** The Director of Corporate Services reported the membership of the Committee incorporating any changes since the previous meeting.
62. **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from Mr BE Atfield, Mr G Bright, Mr J Hawkins, Mrs LP Morris, Mr R Nethercott, Mr C Newbury and Lt Col P Tarrant.

63. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Resolved: To confirm and sign the minutes of the Committee meeting held on 23rd June 2000.

64. **Chairman's Announcements**

- (1) **School Performance** The Chairman congratulated Wiltshire primary and secondary schools on their performance in national tests and examinations this summer and on the continuing downward trend in permanent exclusions from Wiltshire schools. These achievements reflected the hard work and commitment of everyone concerned in the Education service in Wiltshire.
- (2) **Literacy and Numeracy Schools** The Chairman was pleased to inform the Committee that summer literacy and numeracy schools have been held at some thirteen schools during August for youngsters who had just completed their primary education.

- (3) Parent Governor Elections The Chairman announced that elections for the three vacancies for Parent Governors, to represent small and large Primary Schools and Special Schools on the Education Committee, would be going ahead within the next two weeks. The Chairman thanked Mr Coleman for his interest in this matter.

65. **Budget Monitoring Statement : Revenue Budget 2000/01** On considering a report by the Chief Education Officer,

Resolved:

- (1) *To note the contents of the report.*
- (2) *To instruct officers managing the SEN, Support and Intervention and ICT budgets to re-double their efforts to manage stringently within the approved budget.*
- (3) *To review the position on ICT expenditure at the November meeting of the Committee.*
- (4) *To consider the LMS schools contingency once some large-cost items such as the 4% trigger are finalised after January 2001.*
- (5) *To request managers in the Education Department to continue to review staffing arrangements whenever it is sensible to do so.*
- (6) *To absorb the upgrading of the SIMS system in former grant maintained schools within ICT budgets.*
- (7) *To ask the Policy and Resources Committee to note the potential overspend of £0.944 million on the 2000/01 budget and to note that the position will be further reviewed at the November Committee meeting.*
- (8) *To make the DfEE aware of the impact of the continuing pressure to delegate increased resources to schools away from the central support and advise services of the LEA and of the further impact of Transport costs in rural LGAs such as Wiltshire.*

66. **Debt Monitoring Report 2000/01** On considering a report by the Chief Education Officer,

Resolved: *To note the report and to agree to receive in future bi-annual debt monitoring reports each September and June.*

67. **Capital Expenditure 1999-2000 Outturn** On receiving a report by the Chief Education Officer,

Resolved: *To note the report.*

68. **Budget Monitoring Report Capital Expenditure 2000-2001** On receiving a report by the Chief Education Officer,

Resolved: To note the report.

69. **Primary School Perceptions of the Performance of the Local Education Authority** On receiving a report by the Chief Education Officer following the issue of a questionnaire to all schools by Ofsted Inspectors,

Resolved: To note the report, particularly in relation to:

- (i) the determination of the Department's priorities for work,
- (ii) the allocation of resources to the Department and within it, and
- (iii) relationships between the Department and Wiltshire Primary Schools.

70. **Priorities for the Academic Year 2000-2001** On considering report by the Chief Education Officer,

Resolved: To approve the draft paper attached to the report to be distributed as a summary of the Department's current priorities.

71. **Revised Procedure for Appointing LEA Governors** On considering a report by the Chief Education Officer,

Resolved: To adopt the amendments to the revised procedure for appointing LEA Governors and the new form for the review/reappointment of school governors appended to the report subject to the following amendment:

Page 1 of the Procedure, No 6 – after County Councillor insert “and notified to the Governor Support Team”.

72. **Investors In People (IIP) Review Verbal Feedback Summary** On receiving a report by the Chief Education Officer informing members that the Department were successful in their IIP review,

Resolved: To note the report.

73. **School Organisation Plan** On receiving a report by the Chief Education Officer,

Resolved: To note the report and that the School Organisation Committee would be considering responses to the draft plan at its next meeting.

74. **Asset Management Plan** The Committee considered a report by the Chief Education Officer and a later supplementary report with the revisions to the Local Policy Statement and a Statement of Priorities 2001-02, following a meeting of the School Organisation Committee on 25th September, 2000.

Resolved:

- (1) To note the good progress in the implementation of the Asset Management Plan requirements in Wiltshire.

- (2) *To note the outcome of the consultation given in the supplementary paper and approve the revised Local Policy Statement.*
- (3) *To note the Statement of Priorities and top ten non-voluntary aided condition led projects.*
- (4) *To inform the DfEE that the LEA would welcome local discretion on expenditure priorities.*
- (5) *To ask the Chief Education Officer to report further progress in due course.*
75. **District Audit Report: Planning of School Places** On receiving a report by the Chief Education Officer,
- Resolved: To note the report and the positive confirmation by the District Auditor of the good practice by the Authority in this area.*
76. **Calne New Primary School Designated Area** On considering a report by the Chief Education Officer,
- Resolved: To adopt as the designated area of the new Calne primary school the area shown on the map attached as an Appendix to the report.*
77. **Devizes: New School at Brickley Lane** On considering a report by the Chief Education Officer,
- Resolved: To pursue a revised plan for the new school at Brickley Lane, Devizes in which the school would be a seven class primary school, following the recent consultation.*
78. **Nomination to Board of Corporation of Wiltshire College** On report,
- Resolved: To appoint the Chief Education Officer as the Council's representative on the Board of Corporation of Wiltshire College.*
79. **Healthy Schools Board** On report and receipt of additional information,
- Resolved: To appoint Mrs DJ Main as a representative to the Board and to agree that attendance at the meetings should be an approved duty for the purpose of claiming attendance, travelling and subsistence allowances.*
80. **School Standards and Framework Act 1998: Exclusion and Admission Appeals** On report,
- Resolved: To note the following Appeal Panel decisions:*

<u>School</u>	<u>Appeal</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Decision</u>
Minster CE Primary	8 Admission	14/15 June	2 Allowed, 6 Dismissed
Stanton St Quintin Primary	3 Admission	20 June	Allowed
Ramsbury Primary	2 Admission	21 June	Dismissed
Hilmarton Primary	1 Admission	21 June	Allowed
Shaw CE Primary	3 Admission	26 June/14 August	Allowed

<i>The John of Gaunt</i>	<i>2 Admission</i>	<i>30 June/24 July</i>	<i>1 Allowed, 1 Dismissed</i>
<i>St Mark's CE Junior</i>	<i>3 Admission</i>	<i>5 July/30 August</i>	<i>Allowed</i>
<i>Gomeldon Primary</i>	<i>1 Admission</i>	<i>5 July</i>	<i>Allowed</i>

81. **Reports of Sub-Committees and Working Parties**

(a) **Scrutiny Sub-Committee**

Resolved: To receive the minutes of the Sub-Committee meetings held on 29th June, 24th July and 6th September, 2000.

(b) **Awards Sub-Committee**

Resolved: To receive the minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting held on 8th September, 2000.

(c) **Three Tier Review Working Party**

Resolved: To receive the minutes of the Sub-Committee meeting held on 24th July, 2000.

82. **Urgent Items** The Chairman was of the opinion that the following matters had arisen after the agenda had been prepared and that they required decisions before the next meeting of this Committee.

(1) Appointment to Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education On report,

Resolved: To appoint Mrs JBP Savage as a representative to serve for a term of three years and to agree that attendance at meetings of the Board be an approved duty for the purposes of attendance, travel and subsistence allowances.

(2) North of England Education Conference On report,

Resolved:

(i) To agree that one member from the Conservative Group and one other member attend the North of England Education Conference to be held from 3rd to 5th January 2001.

(ii) To agree that attendance at the Conference be an approved duty for the purpose of claiming attendance, travelling and subsistence allowances.

(3) (i) **Exclusion of the Public**

Resolved: To agree that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting for the business specified in Minute Number 82(3)(ii) because it was likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 9 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

- (ii) Hilmarton School On considering a confidential report by the Chief Education Officer regarding the location of an additional temporary classroom at Hilmarton Community Primary School,

Resolved:

- (a) *To note that Hilmarton Governing Body had indicated that they were not in a position to contribute towards the costs.*
- (b) *In the light of the above, to recommend the Corporate Services Sub Committee to agree that the project still proceed on the basis of the estimated costs stated in the report to be funded through the additional accommodation budget, in the educational interests of children using the existing temporary classroom.*

(Duration of meeting: 9.30am - 12.00pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Lee Gallagher, of the Committee Services Unit, direct line (01225) 713058.

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115.

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