

Holly Park School – Finance & Premises Committee Meeting Agenda Date : 19th May 2025 @ 7.45am

Present:- Ann, Maria, Andrea, Simon, Otto, Atia, Clare H

Apologies:- Rhonda James-Valentine

Actions from last meeting (to be discussed at relevant agenda item)

- Ann & Mike to work on end of year. Mike will do the end of year return – Q4 [Done](#)
- Monitor Reception numbers [Reported](#)
- Ann to seek advice from Barnet about any possible SEND capital funding [Done – no response](#)
- Current premises issues- Roof: [Clare Hegarty will email to ask what is happening](#)

AGENDA ITEMS	KEY DISCUSSION POINTS	ACTION (who? /timescale?)
1. Policies to be reviewed: Evacuation Procedures Premises Management Legionella Governors' Allowances	Some comments received already,.	Any more comments please send in
2. Premises matters	<p>Boilers are now all off for Summer. Solar panels are now working, only heating water if sunny so we are having to boost with immersion. All boilers seem to be working ok but the control panel is not working correctly, Simon has contacted Barnet regarding this.</p> <p>Junior boiler control panel has an issue as a part is broken and parts not available anymore – junior building gets very hot when heating is on. Simon has spoken to Barnet about this but no further update.</p> <p>Governor asked if any further action could be taken/go higher up with issues – write to MP etc .</p>	

	<p>Not really anyone else to go higher up to at Barnet but maybe writing to the local MP could be an option even though unsure if they could do anything.</p> <p>Our gas and electric bills have gone from £40k to £80k in the last two years, Ann has contacted about this to see if any refunds can be given to us as bills should have been going down not up with the new boilers and solar panels. Not resolved as yet.</p> <p>Toilets still out of use after 3 years, Simon has again contacted Barnet about this issue. Now looking at turning this into cupboard space for storage.</p> <p>Ropes were fixed on play equipment, some where missed</p> <p>There is no further update regarding roof leaking.</p> <p>Summer works will be spent on The Treehouse – new walls, new toilet, new rainbow fencing and a new sink for the nursery.</p> <p>Depending on the works in the treehouse we have looked into installing a porch on the front of the foyer area.</p>	<p>Andrea volunteered to write to MP about air source heat pump</p> <p>Ann to continue to chase rebate on energy costs</p> <p>Simon will contact company regarding ropes again.</p> <p>Ann will be applying for some funding to help with the costs of the works.</p>
3. School Budget	<p>We have had to produce a 5-year outcome and why we are in deficit.</p> <p>Reasons are: increased costs with the air source heat pumps year on year - £40k, low pupil numbers, £61,372 on last year £161,798 on 29 spaces across school no bulge classes, £98,090 annual loss increased EHCP and the cost of staff salaries as funding does no cover salaries, unfunded support staff pay rises, £8,777 due to the unified reward banding increase (unfunded) Pay rise @4% this is £35,655 in 2025/6 unfunded Going forward @2% pa this is an extra £18k pa Unfunded teacher pay rises 2025/26 @2.8% is £28k @2% pa ongoing this is</p>	

	<p>£48k</p> <p>national insurance increases. £4,492</p> <p>Our year on year spending is less but costs/outgoings are higher.</p> <p>5 year plan shows year on year we are spending less however costs are going up</p> <p>Next year there will be a pension increase – as Barnet have covered this but that ends next year</p> <p>The effect of pay awards is cumulative</p> <p>We have built in some additional income in the 5 year budget – e.g the AWPUP – amount per pupil going up</p> <p>Increased numbers – assuming that by 2029/30 we will be at 98% capacity – with 410 pupils. This is optimistic. But we will be working on marketing next year.</p> <p>Making changes and cuts enables us to stand still. While we are making cuts – other costs are changing</p> <p>A governor suggested that there will be things that will go up more than the 2% we have budgeted e.g caretaker council tax</p> <p>The budget includes unknowns and is a best guestimate.</p> <p>We have assumed no funding for pay awards.</p> <p>Over 5 years the budget is getting worse cumulatively even though we are making savings</p> <p>The top line in year deficit – shows we are managing the budget and addressing issues as this is decreasing</p> <p>We are £172K deficit this year because:</p> <p>Due to energy, pupil numbers, the bulge loss, unified reward, teacher pay, NI – we are £326K worse off</p> <p>We have made savings this year of £90K and have additional income of £64K</p> <p>As an SLT we did an exercise where we assumed a budget of nothing and we looked at every expense in each CFR code and discussed what could be lost</p>	
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	<p>We also had a staff suggestion box for ideas to cut costs.</p> <p>A governor commented that it would be unlikely for Barnet to approve the licensed deficit if we haven't got it to zero.</p> <p>It has hard to see how with pupil numbers as they are how the £600k can be reduced. Even with some plans that Ann has to suggest in part 2 – it isn't going to touch anywhere near what is needed.</p> <p>Governor asked are lots of schools within Barnet going to be deficit Yes around 50% of schools will be.</p> <p>School budget discussion continued as part 2</p>	
4. Pupil numbers update	<p>October 2024 census pupils – 391 Spring 2025 census pupils – 390 Summer 2025 census pupils – 399</p> <p>49 children have been offered a place for Reception 2025, this does not yet show and SEND children.</p> <p>Ann is attending a meeting this week regarding places.</p> <p>There is no official class size anymore. We only really go over 30 if exceptional circumstances, for example no school places within 2 miles of home address or fair access where Barnet advise us we have to take a child or on appeal.</p>	
<p>5. Additional Funding (standing item)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil Premium funding & Recovery premium inc School Led Tutoring update Sports & PE grant 	<p>Pupil premium and sports grant as been spent as allocated. Pupil premium has gone up from £1480 to £1515 and looked after children has increased from £2570 to £2630.</p> <p>Pupil premium is spent on books, tutoring, TA's, teachers other members of staff , agency staff. We currently have a supply teacher in for 3 days but from September as the cost is high we will be stopping this. £19,470</p> <p>Govs decided we should continue with Tutoring for current Y3 cohort as they move into Y4. This is approx. £2,700 pa</p> <p>Sports grant has not yet been confirmed.</p>	

	<p>From September One level 3 TA will be retiring we will be replacing them for 3 days a week on a 1-year contract</p> <p>One Level 3 TA will be dropping down to 4 days a week from September – that will not be covered.</p>	
6. Review of additional fees and charges e.g. breakfast club, dinner money, nursery extended hours	<p>We will be increasing nursery fees from £8.50 to £9 an hour from September.</p> <p>Caroline's after school club will have a 2% increase which has been agreed for each year.</p> <p>A member of staff suggested opening a toddler group at the school. We would be using the hall for this and asking parents to pay a fee. We would need to buy some equipment to start this.</p> <p>Governors agreed that this was a good marketing tool.</p>	
7. Matters for FGB	The school budget	
AOB •	N/A	