

SCHOOL ORGANISATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES of a meeting of the School Organisation Advisory Board held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Wednesday, 14 July 2010.

PRESENT: Mrs V J Dagger (Chairman), Mr P J Homewood, Mr D L Brazier, Mr C J Capon, Mr I S Chittenden (Substitute for Mr M J Vye), Miss S J Carey, Mr M C Dance and Mr M J Northey

ALSO PRESENT: Mr G Cooke and The Reverend N Genders

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs A Osborne (Area Education Officer Canterbury & Swale), Mr D Adams (Area Children's Services Officer, Ashford & Shepway) and Mr G Mills (Democratic Services Manager (Executive))

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

1. Minutes - 17 March 2010

(Item 3)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2010 be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

2. Proposed Change of Age Range for Newington CE (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, Sittingbourne (from 3 - 11 years to 4 - 11 years) by the Closure of the Maintained Nursery Unit (and its Replacement by a Voluntary Pre-School Provision)

(Item 4 – report by Ms R Turner, Managing Director for Children, Families and Education)

(1) The report explained the need to consider a proposal to close the maintained nursery unit at Newington CE Primary School in Sittingbourne and to change the age-range of the school from 3-11 years to 4-11 years with effect from 26 April 2011.

(2) The Rev Genders said he welcomed these proposals and supported the findings of the report and its recommendation to go out to public consultation. During the course of discussion members of the Advisory Board raised a number of points of detail to which officers responded accordingly.

(3) **Resolved** that a consultation exercise should be undertaken on the proposal to change the age range for Newington CE Primary School, Sittingbourne, by closing the maintained nursery class.

3. Proposed Primary School at Repton Park - Modification of Proposal

(Item 5 — report by Ms R Turner, Managing Director for Children, Families and Education)

(1) This report informed Members of the latest position relating to the proposed primary school at Repton Park, Ashford.

(2) **Resolved** that the Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education be recommended to:

(a) agree the change to the named individuals to promote the planned primary school at Repton Park, Ashford, as detailed in the report, and ;

(b) agree to the addition of Mr Wayne Wills, as promoter/partner to the Homewood Trust

4. Update on Proposed Changes to School Organisation

(Item 6 - report by Ms R Turner, Managing Director for Children, Families and Education)

(1) This report informed Members of the latest position relating to Government announcements on Academies and Free Schools and the consequent changes this is likely to have for the County Council in its role of local education authority.

(2) **Resolved** that the report be noted.

5. Schools Applying for Foundation/Trust Status

(Item 7 - report by Ms R Turner, Managing Director for Children, Families and Education)

(1) This report informed Members of the current situation regarding Foundation/Trust proposals.

(2) **Resolved** that the report be noted.