

FGB Meeting 29 April 2025

Part One - Minutes

Present:

Victoria Abbott (VA)	Ben Cross (BC)
Amy Betterton (AB)	Kyra Mumford (KM)
Tim Hingston (TH)	Lucy Smith (LS)
Aaron Twaits (AaT)	Kerry Dixon (KD)
Nigel Freeman (NF)	

In attendance:

Pam Langridge (Clerk)
Carolynne Ballard (SBM)
Jara Pizarro de la Calle (guest)
Tom Crees (guest, awaiting LA appointment)

Welcome / Apologies/ Declarations

Governors welcomed Jara as an observer expressing an interest in joining the board.

No apologies.

Aat, AB, TC & KD declarations.

Constitution

Governors thanked TH for his time as governor and wished him well in new promotion.

Recruiting for two vacancies, with some expressions of interest to be followed up. LA application in progress, panel meeting 9 May 2025. Governors agreed to the reappointment of T Crees. If application is successful term will commence 15 May 2025.

Chairs Update

The appointment of Co-Chair was discussed to help balance workload.

It was agreed BC to be appointed to Co-Chair with KM going forward.

BC and KM will meet to discuss and agree distribution of workload.

HT requested same person attended GLP meetings for consistency.

Resources Update

Governors were advised SFVS complete and submitted, similar to previous needs with SEND need on increase and pupil numbers on decline.

Governors were advised School Fund Accounts for 2022/23 and 2023/24 have been audited and signed off.

Governors were presented with a copy of the draft budget, based on 158 pupils on roll.

Governors noted the potential increase in teacher salaries could be impactful, budget based on 2.8% rise currently.

Will use capital to complete refurbishment of Year R wet room.

Security gates will be fitted to playground in May half term.



Governors were reminded there is no provision in the budget for supply staff, this will be covered internally by the HT or HTLA as required.

Governors asked for an update on internal cover and were advised this will commence in September and any training will be booked in twilight hours to reduce demand.

Governors asked if the training provided by GLP was impactful and advised that staff benefited from training from LPT with little staff turnover so demand for training isn't high currently. Benefitted from paediatric staff training.

Governors were advised the school is hoping to be full next academic year which isn't the same for neighbouring schools.

Governors asked if Surrey had contacted the school about low birth numbers and were advised that place planning meetings no longer take place.

It was noted some local schools will need to consider reducing PAN going forward.

Governors were advised that the school has a strong PTA committee currently who are helping to raise the profile of Moss Lane at events such as the Spring Fair, Town Carnival.

The school have launched a facebook page and hope to liase with local library and nurseries for story time events.

Governors recognised and thanked CB for her hard work on preparing a balanced budget.

Playground Update

Governors were advised that parts of the playground have been deemed unsafe after a recent Sports Safe audit.

The playground provider was invited to survey the component parts and prepare a new design.

School and PTA are fund raising and have applied for local funding the results of which will be available on 9 May.

Governors asked why we are using the same provider and what will be different this time and were advised that funds will be put aside yearly for playground maintenance to avoid it falling into disrepair.

If the bid for funding is successful the new playground will be installed during the summer holidays and will enrich the provision for the children, and will be accessible to all.

Head Teacher Update

Governors asked as the SEND need is increasing, is there an opportunity to apply for funding to set up own nurture centre / hub and were advised St Marks had been successful in the past.

Governors were encouraged to refresh knowledge around attendance and the exclusion process as the school have implemented penalty notices and fines which may result in complaints and challenge from parents.



Governors were advised there will be a focus on year 1 writing curriculum to embed basic skills.

Governor Strategic Lead Updates

Governors thanked BC for his reports.

All Governors reminded to book termly visits in line with strategic lead / roles / responsibilities.

Governors agreed to run the BBQ at the school summer fair and supply the gas. It was suggested families pre order food so there isn't an excess.

Governor Action List

Reviewed

Policies

School Complaints and Admission Policies both ratified.

Confidential Items

None

Dates of Next Meetings

18 June 2025

8 July 2025

10 September 2025

12 November 2025

4 February 2026

22 April 2026

8 July 2026