

Barton Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Minutes of the Full Governing Body meeting held on 21.07.21 at 7.00p.m.

Present

Mrs Julie Martin - Headteacher	JM	p	Mrs Caroline Parsons - Vice Chair	CP	p
Mr Laurence Evans	LE	p	Rev Marguerite Roberts	MR	p
Dr Peter Foreman - <i>attended via Zoom</i>	PF	p	Ross Stewart	RS	p
Prof Tim Lewens	TL	p	Rev Keith Tarring	KT	aa
Mrs Catherine Martin - Chair	CM	p	Mrs Anne Ugur	AU	p
Mrs Helen Papworth - Staff Governor	HP	p	Vacancy - Foundation Governor x 3		

p - present, aa - apologies accepted, na - apologies not received/accepted.

In attendance

Mrs Wendy Guest - Clerk	WG
Mrs Vanessa Farrow - Observer	VF

Abbreviations used.

DBE: Diocese Board of Education, **EDRA:** Ely Diocese Regional Adviser, **FGB:** Full Governing Body, **LA:** Local Authority, **OFSTED:** Office for Standards in Education, **YOP:** Yearly Operational Plan. **SFA:** School Financial Adviser, **SFVS:** Schools Financial Value Standard. **SIAMS:** Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools.

Documents issued for the FGB meeting.

Agenda, Draft FGB Minutes 05.05.21, Headteacher's Report 21.07.21, Barton CofE Summary SEF 2020-21, Risk Assessment September 2021, Report on meeting with English Lead 14.07.21, Maths Subject Lead Feedback 14.07.21, Draft Standards Minutes 30.06.21, Draft Resources Minutes 07.07.21, Evidencing the Impact of the Primary PE and Sports Premium July 2021, Barton Covid-19 Catch-up Premium Report July 2021, Pupil Premium Update Statement July 2021, YOP 2021-22, Annual Governance Statement, Staff Questionnaire Feedback Data 2021, Staff Questionnaire Feedback Commentary, Parent Questionnaire Responses Data 2021, Admissions Policy 2022-23, Relationships Education Policy 2021, Safeguarding Report July 2021, Barton Equality Objectives 2017-2021.

	The meeting started at 7.08pm	Action
1	WELCOME REFLECTION – Rev Marguerite Roberts	
2	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>2.1. Apologies for absence. Apologies were received from KT. Consent for absence was given.</p> <p>2.2. Quorum. The quorum for the meeting on 21.07.21 was 6. The meeting was quorate throughout.</p> <p>2.3. Vacancies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There continue to be 3 Foundation Governor vacancies. VF attended as observer with a possible interest in applying for one of these vacancies. LA Governor vacancy. The chair confirmed that she had submitted Laurence Evans' name to the LA as agreed by the Governing Body. Governors approved this nomination. LE joined the meeting and the chair welcomed him back to the governing body in his new role. The clerk will complete the formal paperwork. Parent Governor. Governors welcomed RS as the new Parent Governor. 	WG

<p>3</p>	<p>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS - 5th May 2021</p> <p>Governors approved these minutes as true and accurate. The minutes will be uploaded to the school website as a public record.</p>	<p>WG</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>NOTE OF ACTIONS COMPLETED AND MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>5.1. Actions completed following the meeting on 05.05.21 The Committees Action List 2020-21 (version 8) was available on Governor Zone.</p> <p>5.2. Matters outstanding from the Committees Action List Matters outstanding are covered on the agenda or are to be discussed at the next FGB in September.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>WELLBEING</p> <p>The wellbeing of pupils and staff has been a priority throughout the year. The Headteacher has been mindful to consider the impact of workload, behaviour and individual circumstances for all members of the school community. Wellbeing is a constant conversation, with support and advice provided for those most in need.</p> <p>The Headteacher advised governors that some pupils have displayed a range of anxieties connected with returning to school, separating from parents, coping with bereavement and dealing with difficult family settings. Some pupils who were in school during lockdown have found it challenging to re-adjust to being part of a larger class and having to share teachers' time and resources. New pupils have also had to adjust to a new school setting and expectations.</p> <p>Many pupils do not show any obvious signs of concern at school, but some pupils have been impacted by the lockdowns and circumstances following their return to school in a significant way.</p> <p>Pupils are receiving a range of support including counselling and referrals to organisations that support parenting and mental health issues. This week, for the first time since the pandemic started, the Specialist Teaching Team and Educational Psychologists have been able to come into school to observe and engage with pupils with more complex needs.</p> <p>Parents have also sought support from the Headteacher, who has provided reassurance and advice, referring families for additional support where appropriate.</p> <p>The Headteacher has endeavoured to keep communication open with families and staff at all times. It has been a challenging year for everyone, and staff have worked extremely hard to adapt to the changing restrictions, facilitating remote learning, working with pupils in school during lockdown, and providing emotional support to pupils as required. There have also been instances of challenging behaviour from pupils, which have impacted on staff, and although it has not always been possible to de-brief immediately afterwards, the Headteacher has discussed incidents with staff and provided support.</p> <p>Other issues affecting staff wellbeing include anxiety about Covid and allowing additional visitors on site, but there is a good team spirit, and everyone has done what they can to look after each other. The Headteacher has been thankful that despite the rise in cases recently, there has not been an outbreak within school, and bubbles have all remained open.</p>	

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	<p>Governors were advised that one member of staff who works as a TA and Casual Teacher is leaving at the end of term. This will have a knock-on impact in terms of colleagues having to pick up additional areas of the curriculum, but the budgetary saving will be used to maintain the same level of TA support, so that each class has at least one TA. An ECHP for a pupil has been submitted, and the Headteacher is seeking to gain additional support for other pupils next year.</p> <p>Q: In terms of staff wellbeing – is the situation for Autumn 2021 clear enough so that staff can have a good rest over the holidays or is there contingency planning and other preparations that will need to be completed over the summer? There has been a staff meeting to finalise the routines for September, as we will be removing the bubble structure and coming back together as one school with single assemblies and breaktimes. Teaching staff will no longer have to do lunchtime duty, so this will relieve some of the pressure on their working day. School is also drawing up a calendar of events for the whole school year so that we are able to plan ahead more effectively and link in with external requirements. We will be in a very different place this year to where we were last September with greater clarity concerning expectations and improvements that we would like to make. As long as the government guidelines do not change and allow schools to return to their normal ways of working, there will be the usual amount of work over the summer holidays. One of the challenges over the last year has been the constant requirement to think through the different permutations caused by the changing guidelines and restrictions. Now we need to focus on re-establishing normality, building face-to-face relationships with parents and hopefully looking forward to the future with a greater sense of certainty.</p> <p>Q: From the staff consultation, the only real criticism appears to be about communication. Yes, it has been difficult for staff as often new advice from the LA and government has come out at short notice. Whilst staff have been very responsive, it has also been difficult for them to have time to overlap with the whole team, as the bubble system has meant that each key stage has been isolated from the other. De-briefing after difficult incidents takes place as soon as possible after the event, but as noted above, depends on the availability of the Headteacher. Staff continue to receive the Barton Bulletin, the weekly staff Grapevine and have access to the school Outlook calendar and teacher planning documents which keep them fully informed. Hopefully in September it will be easier for staff to have face-to-face interactions across the whole team.</p> <p>Q: Is there anything governors can do to help align school’s activities with our plans and visits? We will include governor requirements, events and visits on the calendar that we are drawing up to ensure that staff have much more warning to prepare reports and draft policies in advance. Sometimes there will be additional requirements that will be announced at short notice, but hopefully these will be manageable if the rest of the activities are planned and timetabled carefully.</p>	
7	<p>RAISING STANDARDS</p> <p>7.1. Headteacher’s Report: Recovery, Development and Improvement Plan In accordance with advice from the LA, the Recovery, Development and Improvement Plan has been evaluated through the School Evaluation Form (SEF). This document summarises the actions that have been taken over the past year as well as areas for whole school improvement. This will feed into the new YOP will focus on the objectives that need to be achieved in 2021-22.</p> <p>Q: How have we managed delivery of the whole curriculum during lockdown and the subsequent reintegration into school? Provision was made for remote learning across all subjects. In September, we drew up a recovery curriculum which was in place until Christmas, but since then we have engaged with all subjects as fully as possible, albeit with some restrictions about group work that has been able to take place.</p> <p>Q: How has the split of Y1 pupils for September and the communication with families gone? It has all been a very smooth process. The Y2 cohort for next year is 20</p>	

pupils, so we have decided to move 5 Y1 pupils into the KS1 Class making both Kingfisher (Y1/Y2) and Robin (YR/Y1) classes a very similar size. The arrangements for September were fully discussed with parents and no objections were raised.

Q: Both Lower KS2 and Upper KS2 classes will be pretty big – will they both have access to Skylark Room? Skylark will just be used as a second classroom for UKS2, as LKS2 pupils already use the staff room as a small group room. We will also use the library, hall and learning hub for extra space. EYFS/Y1 class will also have a timetabled slot in Skylark as they need an interactive whiteboard for phonics.

Q: Will the TAs be supporting specific children? There will be a general TA support in all classes with a second qualified teacher in EYFS/Y1 to help support two key stages. This is in addition to the 1:1 TA support for the EHCP pupils.

Q: Should we consider a cap on the size of UKS2 class given the extra needs of the Y5 cohort? There will be 32 pupils in UKS2 class in September, but the same cohort has been part of a class of 34 pupils in LKS2. Ideally, we would like to keep the numbers in UKS2 class at 32/33, but we have to consider all future applications as they are made. If a prospective parent contacts school and explains that their child has SEN, we can discuss how this could be managed within our setting (for example, if specific adaptations need to be made), but we cannot and would not want to turn away pupils on the basis that they have particular needs.

Q: Are we formally required to consider all applications until we reach our publicised maximum roll of 120? Yes, although there is a limit of 30 pupils for KS1 classes. We also consider factors such as physical space within the classrooms ensuring that health and safety, and fire regulations are not compromised by fitting in additional tables, for example.

Q: It appears that Barton is continuing to be a school of choice for parents from surrounding villages as numbers have increased over the last 2 years. Yes, there will be 111 on roll in September. There are fluctuations in the size of the YR intake which affects the composition of classes as the cohorts move up the school. Ideally, it would be good to have KS1 classes of 26/27 to maintain a steady number of pupils and allow in-year applications to be considered. This year the Y6 cohort is only 11 pupils, but when a cohort of 20 pupils reaches Y6, if the YR intake is small the following September, the numbers on roll will significantly reduce.

Q: If numbers continue to grow, do we need to consider adding a classroom? Some village schools have done exactly that and installed a portacabin which has then led to a permanent structure. We have always managed to find a way of accommodating fluctuations in class sizes so this is not something we would consider at the present time.

7.2. COVID-19 Risk Assessment

The latest version of the Risk Assessment was available on Governor Zone. The document summarises the amendments for Step 4 of lifting the Covid-19 restrictions, and will take effect from 1st September 2021.

The main changes are that the bubble system will be suspended, allowing the whole school to come together for assemblies and breaktimes. The buddy system will be reintroduced and houses will be relaunched so that there is better integration across the school.

It was noted that having a greater mix of ages at playtimes can bring a calmness to the playground as the older pupils are more mindful of their actions and look out for the younger children. It was also noted that the buddy system has been very successful in the past for building self-esteem for older pupils.

7.3 Catch-up Funding

The reports following the meetings between governors and the English and Maths Leads were available on Governor Zone.

The governors who had met with the **Maths Lead** were very appreciative of her time and enthusiasm, and felt that their discussion had been very helpful. The main points from the meeting were:

- **Small group work:** this has proved to be the most effective method to provide support to help pupils to catch up. Although staff are very good at utilising all available spaces within school, challenges remain in terms of **the number of staff** and **the layout of the school**.
- **Resources:** a full audit of Maths resources will be carried out over the summer, but school appears to be well equipped.

The Headteacher advised governors that new cupboards will be installed in the learning hub over the summer specifically to store Maths resources. Part of the library area will also be revamped to create more learning space, and more use will be made of the Hall (as mentioned above).

The governors who had met with the **English Lead** were also very positive about their meeting. The main points raised were:

- **Release time for subject lead work:** fixed, regular release time for the English Lead to work on initiatives, carry out observations or help support other staff would be extremely beneficial.
- **Bought in schemes:** the English Lead is investigating schemes by CLPE and Jane Considine to ensure consistency across the school, but is also mindful of the benefits of allowing teachers the flexibility to plan their own lessons

The Headteacher advised governors that the general TA support in place next term would help to release the English Lead to carry out subject specific tasks, and ensure that her class is covered appropriately. Literacy planning schemes are being trialled across school to determine which might be the most suitable for Barton. A phonics scheme is already in place as recommended by the DfE.

PF left at 7.56pm as difficult to hear via Zoom.

Q: It was very useful to read the updated PP report on Governor Zone. Are schools asked to report their PP projection for the next 3 years? Yes, new paperwork has come out from the LA and DfE for next year, so this will be started in September in line with the new guidance.

7.4. Standards Committee Draft Minutes – 30th June 2021

The minutes were available on Governor Zone. Governors did not have any questions on the minutes.

7.5. Resources Committee Draft Minutes – 7th July 2021

The minutes from were available on Governor Zone. The following points were made:

- The report **“Evidencing the impact of the Primary PE and Sports Premium”** is to be published on the school website by 31st July 2021. Governors welcomed the report and the visits that had been able to take place this term including Sam Ruddock (Paralympian) and Mike Mullen (BMX workshop) who both led inspiring assemblies, engaging the pupils and helping to build confidence.

Governors had no further questions on the report and agreed that it should be published as it stands.

JM

- **The Covid-19 Catch-up Funding Report** is also to be published on the website.

	<p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;">Governors agreed that the report should be published subject to amending the headings for the tables on pages 6-8.</p> <p>7.6. YOP 2021-22 for next year The Headteacher and Staff Governor have worked together on the YOP 2021-22 which was available on Governor Zone. The document has been shared with all staff, and the baseline data will be completed at the start of next term.</p> <p>Q: The document makes reference to “Phase Leads” – could this be explained? Yes, the Robin Class Teacher is the Phase Lead for EY, the Kingfisher Class Teacher is the lead for KS1, and the Senior Teacher/Staff Governor is the lead for KS2.</p>	JM
8	<p>GOVERNOR AUDITS</p> <p>The Chair reminded governors that the audits usually take place at the second FGB of the Summer Term to identify the skills available within the governing body and highlight any training/recruitment needs. Due to the additional pressures created by the pandemic, the audits will be carried out in September.</p>	CM/CP Next FGB
9	<p>ANNUAL GOVERNANCE IMPACT STATEMENT</p> <p>The Chair advised governors that the Annual Governance Impact Statement was a new requirement from the LA. The statement is a standardised document which all schools complete to evidence how the governing body is enhancing and advancing the opportunities for pupils at their school.</p> <p>The Chair has completed the statement which has been approved by the Headteacher and Vice-Chair and was sent to the LA by their deadline (16th July).</p> <p>Governors welcomed the content of the Annual Governance Statement, and felt that it provided a good reflection of the impact of their work over 2020-21.</p>	
10	<p>GOVERNING BODY STRATEGIC PLAN</p> <p>10.1. Governing Body vacancies We now have our full complement of LA and Parent Governors, however, the Governing Body continues to carry 3 Foundation Governor vacancies.</p> <p>In addition, the two Principal Officiating Ministers Foundation Governors (KT and MR) have both served for a long period of time. KT will be stepping down at the end of the Summer Term and MR, although deeply committed to Barton, is finding the governor responsibilities and travelling more difficult due to her health.</p> <p>The Chair has been in contact with the Diocese again to express the difficulties that Barton is having in recruiting Foundation Governors and to make them aware of the additional potential vacancies for Principal Officiating Ministers. The Chair has written to the incumbents of Barton and Grantchester churches inviting them to take up their ex-officio positions and is awaiting their responses.</p> <p>The Foundation Governor vacancies have been advertised across both Parish Councils, on village noticeboards and in the village newsletters, the school bulletin and recommended governance websites. The Governing Body are unable to reduce their allocation of Foundation Governors as Barton is a Church of England Voluntary Aided School and is therefore required to have 2 more Foundation Governors than any other category. If the allocation was reduced, this would result in having to lose governors from other categories.</p>	

	<p>10.2. Succession planning for Chair of the Governing Body The Chair has been in her current position for a significant number of years. The Vice-Chair has been shadowing the Chair throughout 2020-21 with a view to succeeding her in September. It will be up to the Governing Body to decide who to appoint as Chair, and the Clerk will send out the usual request for nominations in September.</p> <p>The Chair advised governors that she would be prepared to step down to Vice-Chair to support the new chair if it was felt appropriate for her to do so.</p> <p>10.3. Terms of Office The Chair advised governors of the expiry dates of the following terms of office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CP can continue to serve as Parent Governor until 2023 at which time she will need to be re-elected or co-opted on to the Governing Body (if there is a vacancy for a Co-opted Governor). • TL can continue to serve as Co-opted Governor until 2023. • AU and CM can both continue to serve as Foundation Governors until 2024. • PF has agreed to reapply as Foundation Governor and the Diocese are in the process of ratifying his position. He will therefore be able to serve until 2025. <p>TL advised governors that he is intending to leave at the end of his tenure.</p> <p>Governors welcomed the discussion around succession planning, and were reassured that steps were being taken to fill existing vacancies as well as to plan for the future.</p>	<p>WG Next FGB</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>QUESTIONNAIRE/CONSULTATIONS FEEDBACK</p> <p>11.1. Staff The data and commentary from the staff consultation were available as separate documents on Governor Zone. The Chair and Vice-Chair have met with teachers and TAs to discuss the issues that have been highlighted from the consultation, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Wellbeing • Curriculum • Forward planning - creating a single calendar to coordinate school and governor activities <p>Q: Was the level of responses different from previous years? No, there were 14 responses, which is about the same as previous years. As the questionnaire was followed by a face-to-face consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair, all staff have been involved in the process and have had the opportunity to raise comments in one or other format.</p> <p>Q: What have been the main difficulties surrounding communication? Unfortunately, Covid has meant that plans have had to be changed at short notice following government announcements. In addition, the bubble system has made it more difficult for staff to communicate regularly as they may not see each other face-to-face. It appears from the face-to-face discussions that communication may not be as concerning an issue as it appears from the questionnaire, as the majority of staff felt that Barton was a good team, and staff were able to discuss issues and resolve them together.</p> <p>11.2. Parent Governors were concerned that only 14 responses were received from the Parent Consultation, and that the sample size meant that issues raised did not accurately represent the views of the wider community.</p> <p>Governors felt that the low response rate may be due to the fact that parents have already been consulted several times this year (remote learning, lockdown provision, LA questionnaires). It was also noted that the Headteacher and Class Teachers have been</p>	

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	<p>in regular contact with families throughout lockdown and since re-opening and that parents have therefore been able to express their views throughout the year.</p> <p>Governors agreed that it was difficult to draw any firm conclusions from the parent consultation this year, but that the exercise was still important in giving families a formal opportunity to raise issues for further discussion.</p> <p>11.3. Pupils The results of the Pupil Consultation were discussed at the last Standards Committee Meeting on 30.06.21 which representatives of the School Council also attended. The issues that were highlighted are being addressed as part of the school learning plan for next year.</p>	
12	<p>POLICIES</p> <p>12.1. For review</p> <p>12.1.1. Admissions Policy 2022-23: Governors were reminded that the Diocese had provided two updates and clarifications on the policy which governors had already adopted by email, but were also required to ratify formally at FGB.</p> <div data-bbox="323 786 1235 882" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Governors approved the amendments to the Admissions Policy 2022-23.</p> </div> <p>12.1.2. Freedom of Information Policy: Governors were advised that this policy will be deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>12.1.3. RSE Policy: Governors were advised that this policy was approved at the last Standards Committee meeting, but is actually a policy that is usually approved by the whole Governing Body.</p> <div data-bbox="336 1126 1287 1223" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Governors approved the RSE Policy and agreed to discuss the issue of a link governor for PSHCE in September.</p> </div> <p>12.2. Deferred in line with agreement at FGB on 20.01.21 Governors noted that the following policies will not be reviewed at this meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour • Collective Worship • Critical Incidents • Data Protection • Governor Induction • Safeguarding and Child Protection • Single Equality and Equality Schemes • Volunteer Helpers <p>12.3. Policy Review Planner for 2021/22 Governors were advised that it would no longer be possible to defer policies due to the pressures caused by Covid-19 from September. The majority of personnel policies have been updated by EPM and adopted by the Governing Body, but there are a significant number of Barton-specific policies which are written by school which will need to be reviewed in 2021/22.</p> <div data-bbox="240 1877 1289 1973" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>It was agreed that the Headteacher, Chair and Vice-Chair would discuss how to plan and review policies for 2021/22 outside of this meeting.</p> </div>	<p>Next FGB</p> <p>Next FGB</p> <p>JM/CM/CP</p>

13	<p>HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT</p> <p>The Home School Agreement will be updated to remove references to Covid-19 and issued to all pupils before the Class Essentials Evening in September.</p>	JM
14	<p>SAFEGUARDING</p> <p>14.1. Child Protection Audit The Headteacher reported that Child Protection Safeguarding Audit has been completed. There will be some additional training to update knowledge concerning domestic violence.</p> <p>14.2 Single Central Record The Chair has viewed the SCR and confirmed that it was up-to-date.</p>	
15	<p>SCHOOL STREETS</p> <p>The School Streets scheme was initially introduced to improve the safety of pupils and families on School Lane by preventing vehicular access at drop-off and pick-up times. This was particularly important while Covid-19 restrictions were in place as parents were not allowed to congregate on the school site. The Headteacher was still supportive of the principles of the scheme and expressed her appreciation of the volunteers who have given up their time to help man the road closures. However, the scheme has unfortunately resulted in the following difficulties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of community engagement: it has fallen to a very small number of volunteers to operate the road closures, and there have been significant challenges in finding personnel for the afternoon slots. This has resulted in school staff being taken away from their duties to help. • Lower awareness of road safety issues: pupils have become more careless in crossing the road as they have not had to think about traffic. Concerns have been raised that this may be habit-forming and result in complacency around other roads in the village. <p>The Headteacher advised governors that it was unsustainable to continue with the scheme in September due to the additional pressures of operating the road closures. In addition, the arrangements for morning drop-off will change with families being allowed back on to the playground. This will prevent a bottle-neck of families waiting on School Lane to drop off their children. The Headteacher is also planning a focus on road safety in assemblies to ensure that pupils are aware of the dangers, particularly around the school gates on both School Lane and New Road, and in The Hoops car park.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Governors agreed that the School Streets scheme had served a useful purpose, but that it was no longer sustainable to continue with the scheme in the Autumn Term.</p> </div>	SA/JM to inform LA
16	<p>EQUALITY</p> <p>16.1. New objectives Governors were reminded that the Equality Objectives are usually renewed after 4 years. As the current objectives were set in 2017, they should be replaced by a set of new objectives this year. However, due to the successive lockdowns, the Chair proposed that the objectives should be kept for a further year and renewed in 2022.</p> <p>16.2. Report on progress of current objectives Objective 1. To narrow the gap in English and Maths between identified groups: this is continually being reviewed in pupil progress meetings. Boys and girls have different strengths in different cohorts so it is not as simple as boys</p>	

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	<p>doing well in one subject and girls in another. The data shows that progress in this objective has been made.</p> <p>Objective 2. To ensure that girls' take-up of sport continues as they get older: in the past this was measured by the parent questionnaire which provided information about whether pupils access sport out of school. Although the low return rate of questionnaires means that it has been difficult to evidence this in 2021, the clubs attended by pupils at school (dance and Premier Sports football) have a significant number of girls taking part. The Grafham trips and visits from successful athletes have also encouraged participation in sports.</p> <p>Objective 3. To promote cultural development and understanding through a rich range of experience, both in and beyond school: although it has been difficult to arrange school trips over the last 16 months, there were visits to a synagogue and Sikh Gurdwara prior to the pandemic. In addition, events such as Young Voices, movements such as Black Lives Matter and visits from disability campaigners have helped to raise awareness of different issues and cultures. The reorganisation of the RE curriculum ensures that 50% of learning focuses on all faiths of the world including humanism. Governors acknowledged the lack of racial diversity at Barton, but welcomed the number of families from European countries, and felt that Barton recognised and celebrated difference whenever the opportunity arose.</p> <p>Objective 4. To increase opportunities for parental interaction and communication for those who are unable to come in to school on a regular basis: during lockdown, teachers made sure that there was some form of contact with every family at least once per week (either via Zoom, a phone call, emails or work submitted online).</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Governors felt that all of the objectives had been achieved to some extent, but agreed to keep them for another year so that success could be measured in more normal circumstances.</p> </div>	
<p>17</p>	<p>GOVERNOR TRAINING</p> <p>Prior to the meeting, the Training Governor circulated information about the NGA Course "Managing Staff Workload and Wellbeing" and the EEF Covid-19 Support Guide for Schools. Governors were encouraged to access the NGA training online.</p> <p>The Headteacher confirmed that Barton is implementing the majority of suggestions contained within the EEF guide, and that she had also read the EEF document "Communicating Effectively with Families"</p>	
<p>18</p>	<p>NETWORK CB23</p> <p>Network meetings are continuing to take place remotely for Headteachers and Subject Leads. It is hoped that face-to-face meetings will resume next term.</p>	
<p>19</p>	<p>FOBS</p> <p>Although it has not been possible to hold the usual fundraising events this year, the Headteacher welcomed the support that FOBS have provided in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshments for the Y6 Leavers' Party • Refreshments for the UKS2 Class Production • Snacks for class end of term parties • Funding the Y6 Photobook as a leaving present <p>The main priority for fundraising continues to be Chromebooks, as ideally school could benefit from 5 more devices (in addition to the 6 that FOBS purchased recently). This would ensure that larger classes do not have to share equipment.</p>	

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	<p>Other possible fundraising objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PA system for outdoor events. • A replacement projector for the Hall. <p><i>MR left at 9.10am.</i></p>	
20	<p>COMMUNICATION</p> <p>20.1. Governors' Bulletin The Chair confirmed that submissions for the Governors' newsletter had been received and that this will be issued to all parents tomorrow.</p>	CM
21	<p>ITEMS ADVISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY</p> <p>None.</p>	
22	<p>REVIEW OF THE MEETING</p> <p>What have governors done at the meeting to make sure standards are being raised?</p> <p>Governors have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed the wellbeing of pupils and staff, including the support that is being provided to pupils and the strategies that governors can take to help manage staff's workload and wellbeing. • Evaluated the Recovery, Development and Improvement Plan for 2020/21 and the summary of actions contained in the Self Evaluation Form. • Looked at catch-up initiatives in English and Maths, and identified post-recovery issues that will be incorporated into next year's YOP. • Considered the impact of expenditure relating to Pupil Premium, Sports Premium and Catch-up Funding. • Monitored and reaffirmed the Equality Objectives for one further year. • Considered stakeholder consultations and how they feed into future planning for school priorities. • Developed a calendar initiative to cover all stakeholders and improve the timeliness of communication between governors and staff. • Considered governor succession planning for 2021/22 and beyond. 	
23	<p>OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>23.1. Budget 23.1.1. Steriliser: Governors were informed that the steriliser in the kitchen needs to be repaired or replaced with a dishwasher. The quotes had just been received prior to the meeting.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Governors examined the quotes and agreed that the equipment should be repaired, and if necessary, a replacement planned at a later date.</p> </div> <p>23.1.2. School Condition Allowance: Governors were informed that the Diocese has granted "permission in principle" for the SCA. The Property Manager has been instructed to obtain tenders, and to complete a lengthy questionnaire which forms the next stage of the process. The deadline for paperwork to be received has been extended to 10th September 2021 to take account of school holidays.</p> <p>23.2. Burwash Planning Application The Chair advised governors that the response to the latest planning application from Burwash was discussed at the Resources Committee meeting on 7th July 2021, and a letter summarising school's position had been sent.</p>	JM/SA

Barton Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

19	DATE OF NEXT MEETING – the Clerk and the Headteacher will schedule meetings for 2021/22 taking into account events in the school calendar and the timing of data drops. Provisionally the next FGB will take place on Wednesday 15th September at 7pm. The meeting ended at 9.21pm	
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