

# BOARD OF EDUCATION, (BoE), MEETING.

## MINUTES

For Meeting *Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, at 515pm.*

### **Present:**

Paul Armorgie (PA), Acting Chair; Rosalie La Trobe-Bateman (RL), Vice Chair; Zoe Adams (ZA), Student Rep; Adam Turner (AT), Parent Rep.; Helen Walsh (HW), Home & Off-Island 13+ Education; Nick Wolfe (NW), Head Of School (until 630pm); Lorraine Southern (LS), Clerk to the Board; Michelle Brady, new HoS from 09/22 present virtually.

### **Apologies:**

Rev.David Stolton (DS), Pastoral Care.

*Part 1 minutes will be made available by publication on the school website, following approval of the minutes by the Board (prior to approval all draft minutes are confidential); Any Part 2 minutes are confidential, available only to the Committee Members and may not be circulated, printed or published without written permission from the Chair of the Board.*

PA opened the meeting at 520pm.

### **Part 1 Minutes.**

**1. Welcome and Apologies.**

Apologies were received from DS.

**2. Pecuniary Interests.**

HW declared she is now Assistant Chief Secretary for Chief Pleas' Committee Offices. She would like to remain a Board member and has sought the advice of the Gsy Law Offices. They have advised that she can remain a member, but she needs to remain neutral in public where political issues are concerned.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

Approved by all present and signed by PA.

**4. Matters Arising (and not covered in the Agenda).**

(I) *Letter re curfew for children on licensed premises.*

Roll over as Conseiller Joe Donovan was dealing with this.

**5. Chair's Action.**

None.

There was some debate regarding the need for this ability, and it was decided that Board members should consider their opinions and that it would be reviewed at a later date.

**6. Constitution and Make Up of the Board Update and its Self Evaluation Form (SEF).**

It was decided to complete the Board's SEF before a recruitment drive and preferably before Gsy Ed's visit to Sark School on the 27<sup>th</sup> May.

HW will construct the SEF and asked all members to email her asap with what they believe to be the Board's strengths and weaknesses, for inclusion in the SEF. LS offered to assist HW if needed. RL said she is having issues with emails being mixed up with the Chair's. NW will investigate and sort the problem. He will also put a temporary tab on the school website with Board member information available. *HW / NW*

**7. Board Recruitment Drive.**

See agenda item 6.

**8. Service Level Agreement (SLA) and School Assessment.**

NW has still not seen an agenda for the visit on 27<sup>th</sup> May, and has had no contact from the EC or Gsy Ed. He also has not yet been given the name of the single point of contact for the SLA. MB also would like an agenda for the day. Time will be precious and needs to be managed strictly. LS will email Conseiller J Donovan and ask for agenda/update. *LS*

Concerns were again expressed by Board members in connection to whether the SLA will provide the level of support and guidance needed by the Board, the lack of a single POC, how it is seemingly a reactive and not proactive agreement, and as to the legalities involved. The Board would like clarification as to Gsy's acceptance of responsibility and how Sark would be liable for any possible errors made.

Comfort was taken from the fact this is a rolling annual agreement and so, if it doesn't work in its current format, it can be reviewed in a year's time.

**9. Home & Off-Island Education 13+ Education.**

HW still needs to make contact with the Knight family, the only family currently home schooling on Sark, ZA will accompany her as support.

There is one other family with a young child now coming to school age, and HW will also make contact there.

Contact has been made by a parent in connection to online learning and 13+ education in Gsy. The Board need clarification as to the legal standing and their obligations going forwards. HW will seek SLA input in drawing up a solid Home Education Policy.

**10. Term Time Host Families Update.**

RL gave a general update on the current situation. She will email Chief Pleas on behalf of the Board outlining the Board's support for a Sark House in Gsy. It was also suggested that a survey for the other parents would be a good way to gauge their opinions.

HW said the children due to go to school in Gsy in September would also like to contact CP with their opinions, and this was thought to be a good idea.

Board members have been approaching Sark residents who may have Gsy property and be in a position to assist with a Sark House.

**11. HoS and Teacher Recruitment Update**

NW updated the Board and said all has progressed well and a decision has been made and the job offered to the chosen candidate.

Emma Galley has tendered her resignation as cover teacher, so a new cover will need to be found. Concerns were expressed by members regarding the lack of administrative time allocated to the Head of School, and the lack of time available for performance reviews within the school. All agreed they would like to see the school over-staffed initially so a steady footing can be found going forwards.

MB and NW need to update the existing staff as to the plans for this next school year. MB has all this in hand. NW will get copies of existing contracts for CJ and EM so they can be updated.

**12. Any Other Business.**

None.

**13. Date of Next Ordinary Meeting.**

*Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, 5pm.*

PA closed the meeting at 715pm.

**Part 2 Minutes.**

**1. Education Committee Chair Resignation.**

Ahead of PA formally opening the meeting, Nichola McHugh announced her resignation from the Education Committee and the Board of Education.

She cited her lack of in the future success of 13+ education in Guernsey and the prospect of a 'Sark House' as her reasons, feeling that as a result of this she is not best equipped to steer the way forward for Education on Sark.

She informed the Board of her intention to update the Education Committee//Chief Pleas of her decision via email overnight.

ZA requested it be minuted that it is her belief that we would not be in this situation we're it not for NMCH and Conseiller Makepeace targeting the island's Director of Education, Beverly Gates, and making her position untenable.

NMCH left the meeting and LS was asked to email Conseiller Joe Donovan and ask him to attend tomorrow night's Board Meeting. **LS**