

# ACES ACADEMIES TRUST

**Minutes of the Meeting of Directors held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 5.15 pm  
Community Reception Meeting Room, Hinchingsbrooke School**

Present:	Andrew Goulding (AEG), CEO
	Brian Message (BM), Chairman
	Dave McMillan (DRM), Finance Director
	Gary Weston
	Paul Fenney
	Bev Curtis
	Charles Glanville

<b>1.</b>	<b>Introductory remarks from the Chairman (BM)</b>
	BM opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Apologies were received by Cliff Fluet and Robin Gildersleeve.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of last meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (BM)</b>
	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed off by the Chairman.
<b>3.</b>	<b>CEO Report (AEG)</b>
	<p><i>Update on Cromwell</i> AEG went through the report provided by Lauren Blyth (Acting Headteacher) which had been circulated prior to the meeting. AEG acknowledged the school had made great achievements in just one year. The latest data showing the outcomes at KS2 SATs were also in the report. David Sykes, Year 6 teacher, came out well in the moderation process. There was a successful induction session for Hannah Connor-James at Hinchingsbrooke School on 19/7/2018. She also arranged a "Meet the New Headteacher" session with parents which went very well.</p> <p><i>Update on Hinchingsbrooke</i> AEG confirmed that Jane Lancaster-Adlam – SENCo has been appointed 3 days per week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) and will work between Hinchingsbrooke and Cromwell. Additionally, a trainee SENCo post, a 2 year course, has been offered to Charlotte Burnell. AEG held a meeting with the SEND department to keep them updated of the proposed restructure.</p> <p>AEG also advised that Meryl Chisholm, Chair of Governors, has stepped down as Chair due to a move to Oxford. Matthew Ryder has agreed to be the new Chair with Mark Coles as Vice Chair.</p> <p>AEG thanked the Trustees for agreeing to sign off the expenditure for the IT upgrade which will take place over the summer holidays.</p> <p>AEG and DRM visited UCA in Farnham which was a very impressive day.</p> <p>AEG and BM attended a meeting with Spotify which was an encouraging first meeting. The MAT is interested in pursuing apprenticeships offered with a view to benefiting Hinchingsbrooke students and this will be looked at further in the new year.</p> <p>Another meeting at ARM (chip manufacturing co) had been contacted by the MAT but unfortunately do not wish to pursue a relationship with individual organisations, they are willing to discuss further and this will be looked at again in January.</p>

Signed  
Date



	<p>AEG reminded the Board that the ACES website is now live <a href="http://www.acesacademies.co.uk">www.acesacademies.co.uk</a>. New signage for both Hinchingsbrooke and Cromwell has been ordered.</p> <p>AEG referred to the pitch at St Ivo School and circulated the documents which were submitted for the process - Action and Improvement Plan, Scheme of Delegation and Business and Growth Plan. AEG acknowledged that a lot of work had gone into producing these documents. AEG, DRM and AN attended a 30 minute presentation on 18<sup>th</sup> July. St Ivo's Chair of Governors advised AEG that it had been a close decision and will feedback to him on why ACES was not successful.</p> <p>Discussion followed on future plans for the MAT. AEG to contact feeder primary schools at the beginning of September now that the MAT is up and running.</p> <p>AEG to produce a brochure detailing what ACES has to offer.</p>
4.	<p><b>Finance update/Budget submission (DRM)</b></p>
	<p>DRM advised that Hinchingsbrooke are forecasting an end of year surplus of £120,000. This includes staff pay rises and the IT upgrade. The total cost of the IT upgrade is £100,000. The ACES total surplus is approximately £380,000 outside the sinking fund which is a healthy carry forward for next year. Capital funding for Hinchingsbrooke has improved by £20,000 due to the iMac Suite being acquired by leasing rather than purchasing equipment.</p> <p>DRM referred to the capital fund and advised that the astro turf would need to be replaced within the next 12-18 months which will be a significant cost.</p> <p>DRM asked Directors if they had read the budget documentation submitted prior to the meeting and Directors confirmed they are happy for the budget to be submitted.</p> <p>A discussion followed about possible short and long term income generators and opportunities. Options for Sixth Form were discussed including increasing student numbers and online learning courses. Increasing the PAN is also an option which should also be considered.</p>
5.	<p><b>AOB</b></p>
	<p>AEG informed Directors of the proposed change to the admissions criteria for Hinchingsbrooke School. This will involve a consultation from October to February for implementation in September 2020. It was noted that St Ivo have already been through this process.</p> <p>BM informed Directors of the need to appoint members to various committees, particularly the audit and risk committee. It was also noted that, at present, there are only 2 members on the Board.</p> <p>As per the Scheme of Delegation, the appointment of Matthew Ryder as Chair to the Local Governing Board was ratified by the Directors.</p> <p>BM explained that, now we had received confirmation that St Ivo will not be joining the MAT, there should be further discussion on succession planning in the new year. AEG explained that it is difficult to predict his workload in the short term but is still keen to work on growing the MAT.</p>
6.	<p><b>Date of Next meeting</b></p>
	<p>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September, 5.30 pm</p>

The Meeting closed at 7.30 pm