

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE AGENDA



10 December 2012

at 2.00 pm

in Committee Room A, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, Cook, Fisher, James, G Lilley, Richardson, Simmons, Sirs and Wells.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12 November 2012

4. ITEMS REQUIRING DECISION

4.1 Appointment of Local Authority Representatives to serve on School Governing Bodies – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1 Update from Issues Arising from General Purposes Committee Training – *HR Business Partner* (to follow)

6. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT





GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

12 NOVEMBER 2012

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Rob Cook (In the Chair)

Councillors: Christopher Akers-Belcher, Keith Fisher, Marjorie James, Geoff Lilley and, Kaylee Sirs.

Officers: Ann Turner, Governor Support Officer
Derek Gouldburn, Governor Support Officer
David Cosgrove, Principal Democratic Services Officer

94. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Carl Richardson, Chris Simmons, and Ray Wells.

95. Declarations of interest by Members

Councillors C Akers-Belcher, G Lilley and Sirs declared prejudicial interests in aspects of Minute 97 and left the meeting at the appropriate point.

96. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2012

Confirmed.

97. Appointment of Local Authority Representatives to Serve on School Governing Bodies (*Director of Child and Adult Services*)

The report provided Members with an update in respect of vacancies that currently existed for Local Authority representative governors serving on school governing bodies. A schedule of vacancies was attached at Appendix 1, **this item contained exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to any individual (para 1).**

Members considered the vacancies as follows:

Brougham Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest
Catcote School	2 vacancies	No interest
Eldon Grove Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest
Fens Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest
Golden Flatts Primary School	2 vacancies	No interest
Grange Primary School	2 vacancies	No interest
Holy Trinity CE Aided Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest
Jesmond Gardens Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest
Lynnfield Primary School	2 vacancies	No interest

Councillor G Lilley left the meeting at this point.

Manor College of Technology	1 vacancy	Alderman A Preece Councillor A Lilley
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The remaining Members considered the two applications for the vacancy at Manor College of Technology and recommended that Councillor A Lilley be appointed to the vacancy.

Councillor G Lilley rejoined the meeting.

Owton Manor Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest
Rift House Primary School	1 vacancy	Cllr Paul R Beck

Members considered the application for the vacancy at Rift House Primary School and recommended that Councillor R Beck be appointed to the vacancy.

Rossmere Primary School	1 vacancy	No interest
Springwell School	1 vacancy	No interest

Councillors C Akers Belcher and Sirs left the meeting at this point.

St Cuthbert's RC Primary School	1 vacancy	Cllr C Akers-Belcher Councillor K Sirs
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The remaining Members considered the two applications for the vacancy at St Cuthbert's RC Primary School and recommended that Councillor C Akers-Belcher be appointed to the vacancy.

Councillors C Akers Belcher and Sirs rejoined the meeting.

Members discussed the remaining vacancies and the Chair encouraged Members who had not been appointed in this instance to seek appointment to other school governing bodies where vacancies existed.

Decision

That the following nominations to vacancies for Local Authority Representatives on governing bodies be submitted to the Portfolio Holder for consideration: -

Manor College of Technology - Councillor A Lilley
Rift House Primary School - Councillor R Beck
St Cuthbert's RC Primary School - Councillor C Akers-Belcher

98. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

The Chairman ruled that the following items of business should be considered by the Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Section 100(B) (4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 in order that the matter could be dealt with without delay.

LA Governor Attendance and LA Governor Training

The Committee discussed in some detail the issues of LA appointed governors attendance at school Governing Body Meetings and also the need to provide some training and support to LA appointed Governors.

In terms of attendance, the meeting agreed that good attendance was an issue that the committee should have regard to but rather than receiving attendance statistics for a given time period, it was suggested and agreed that when LA appointed governors seek reappointment to a governing body at the end of their term of office, their attendance record should form part of the consideration to reappoint.

In terms of training and support the meeting considered that the LA appointed governors had an increasingly important role to play in promoting the LA and its services to school governing bodies. The potential for schools to transfer to Academy status could place a significant threat to local authority jobs and services if schools did not 'buy-back' services such as schools meals, grounds maintenance and cleaning services for example. Members considered that the LA representatives needed to act as the voice of the local authority in promoting these services.

After a lengthy debate the meeting agreed that some form of annual training programme delivered through training events/seminars should be given further consideration to ensure that LA appointed governors in particular were given up to date information on their role and the Council's position in relation to services to schools.

Decision

1. That when considering appointments of LA Governors to school

- governing bodies, attendance statistics of those seeking reappointment be reported.
2. That a report be submitted to a future meeting setting out a potential training / information programme targeted at the role of LA appointed school governors.

The meeting concluded at 2.55 p.m.

CHAIR

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

10th DECEMBER, 2012



Report of: Director of Child & Adult Services

Subject: APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY
REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON SCHOOL
GOVERNING BODIES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update members of the General Purposes Committee in respect of vacancies that currently exist for Local Authority representative governors serving on school governing bodies where some interest has been expressed in the vacancies, and to request members to make recommendations to the Children's and Community Services Portfolio Holder in respect of the appointments to school governing bodies.

2. BACKGROUND

Applications are invited from members of the general public, elected members and those governors whose term of office is about to expire or has expired and who are interested in serving, or wish to continue to serve as a LA representative governor on school governing bodies.

The following criteria were agreed by the Borough Council for the recruitment of LA representative governors in 2000. LA governors should be able to show:

- demonstrable interest in and commitment to education;
- a desire to support the school concerned;
- a commitment to attend regular meetings of the governing body (and committees as appropriate) and school functions generally;
- good communication/interpersonal skills;
- ability to work as part of a team;
- a clearly expressed willingness to participate in the governor training programme.

3. PROPOSAL

A schedule (**Appendix 1**) is attached setting out details of vacancies which currently exist for LA representative governors, where interest has been expressed in the vacancies together with applications received in respect of the vacancies (**Appendix 2**). **This item contains exempt information under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006) namely, information relating to any individual (para 1)**

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the recommendations for the appointments set out in the confidential section of the minutes, of LA representative governors be referred to the Children's and Community Services Portfolio Holder for approval.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Schedule of vacancies
- Applications
- General Purposes decision record 12th November 2012.

6. CONTACT OFFICER:

**Ann Turner, Governor Support Officer, telephone 523766
email ann.turner@hartlepool.gov.uk**



Children and Adult Services

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

NOVEMBER, 2012

**Contact Officer: Ann Turner
01429 523766**

VACANCIES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES ON GOVERNING BODIES

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Barnard Grove Primary School			
Councillor R. Cook	1 vacancy	Councillor R. Cook	
(Term of office expires 11 th January 2013)			
Councillor J. Robinson			
Mr. M. Kay			
Brougham Primary School			
Mr S Marshall	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Mr S Thomas			
Catcote School			
Mr S Wallace	2 vacancies	No interest expressed	
Eldon Grove Primary School			
Mrs J Butterworth	1 vacancy	Councillor J. Lauderdale	
Mrs P Vaughan			
Fens Primary School			
Mrs P Heward	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Alderman A Preece			
Golden Flatts Primary School			
Councillor C Hill	2 vacancies	No interest expressed	
Grange Primary School			
	2 vacancies	No interest expressed	

SCHOOL INCLUDING LA GOVERNORS	VACANCIES	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST	RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENTS
Holy Trinity CE Aided Primary School	1 vacancy	Councillor Kelly Atkinson	
Jesmond Gardens Primary School Mrs S Saint (Term of Office expires 12 th January 2013)	3 vacancies	Mrs. Sandra Saint	
Lynnfield Primary School Councillor C Richardson Councillor C Simmons	2 vacancies	No interest expressed	
Owton Manor Primary School Mrs J Thompson Mrs M Raine Councillor M James	1 vacancy	Councillor Paul Beck	
Rossmere Primary School Mrs M Smith	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Springwell School Mrs L Barraclough	1 vacancy	No interest expressed	
Throston Primary School Mr Kevin Shears (Term of office expires 12 th January 2013)	1 vacancy	Mr Kevin Shears	