



An Daras Multi Academy Trust

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Executive Head Teacher – W Hermon
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10/03/17

Minutes

An Daras MAT Members' Meeting

Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 2pm at St Stephens Community Academy

Note that actions are highlighted in bold and red, and will be carried forward to the next meeting and questions or challenges during the meeting are highlighted in bold and blue

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Present: Paul O'Brien (Acting Chair), Diana Easter, Ann Nicholson and Will Hermon
Apologies: Eva Paynter, Margaret Young
In Attendance: Clerk

2. **Declarations of Interest/Pecuniary Interests Relevant to this Agenda**

None less WH is employee of An Daras MAT

The Members agreed the last minutes, from which there were no actions, and the Chair signed.

3. **Confidential Agenda Items**

See items 4, 5 and 9.

4. **CEO's Report**

The CEO gave an update on school performance and is reasonably confident that attainment should hit national averages, and maybe above. Members will be given sight of the QA monitoring visit reports. Members and the CEO discussed the report.

DE challenged numbers for Werrington. WH explained the current situation and that Werrington is likely to be under PAN on pupil numbers. **DE and AN challenged whether these spaces will fill when town schools are full or when the new houses are built.** WH explained the financial challenges with running Werrington on low numbers.

CEO pointed out that the MAT will be judged on the average of results across the MAT, so lower results from a small cohort, can have a big impact on MAT wide average outcomes.

DE challenged the exclusion figures. See confidential minutes.

5. **An Daras MAT Strategic Update**

Confidential minutes.

6. **Low Trenchard Progress**

XXXX. The Members approved the new Articles of Association by written resolution (subject to approval by the Board of Education of Diocese of Exeter). The Members signed the written resolution; the Clerk will file and send a copy to Companies House. The conversion

date on the formal Director minutes is 1st April 2017 but it may slip to May. The CEO briefly talked about Lew Trenchard and the Head Teacher/Head of School replacement options.

7. Risk Register Update

The CEO explained the risk register mechanisms and what the key risks are. The expansion limits and lack of funding opportunities are a big risk. **DE challenged whether the Directors are happy with the direction that the MAT is taking?** CEO stated that Directors are content with the current plans. P O'B discussed that there is balance between expanding and maintaining our "local geographical" ethos.

AN challenged that it is feasible to be successful as a 'local' MAT if we can recruit and retain the good quality staff. DE challenged that managing finance systems is a huge commitment and needs careful managing. CEO gave some detail on risk mitigation to Members.

8. Visible Learning Update

CEO briefed that Visible Learning training is on-going – by the end of term, all teaching and leadership staff will have had the initial training. It will help teachers because they have more tools to make their way of working much easier. **DE challenged if it was happening at St Catherine's** and the CEO confirmed yes.

9. Budget Update

The CEO confirmed that a 3 year MAT budget is now being set and the last annual accounts were presented on time. There were no queries. See confidential minutes for the remainder.

10. Director Appointments and Recruitment

The Clerk explained the requirement for Directors from the Articles of Association, and recommended the changes required to fill the appointments. **AN challenged regarding a potential new Director and that Members should know who they are appointing. DE agreed and the Members stated that if there is a chance that the new Director could be the Chair, then he should be appointed under article 50 and not co-opted under article 58.** P O'B will arrange for Members to meet the potential new Director.

Currently Graeme Barriball, Claire Paul and Amanda Jefferies are appointed under Article 58 (co-opted). However, there are currently 3 vacancies under Article 50 (a minimum of 5 Directors appointed by the Members) and the Members confirmed that they wished to appoint the above named Directors under Article 50. Their term will re-start as of 7 March 17 for 4 years; the Clerk will inform them and change the details on the register and Edubase.

11. Any Other Business

AN challenged the Director full Board minutes that stated that LGABs conduct visits and that Directors only need visit for specific purposes. She stated that all Directors should visit each school at least once and all Members agreed.

DE agreed that regular training is a good idea and the networking opportunity is good. **DE challenged whether membership to The Key has been renewed.** CEO confirmed it has. **DE challenged whether there was data available for the Members to view.** The Clerk will forward the Exceptions Reports.

After-note: Proposed date for next meeting is Tuesday 4th July 17 at 2pm

Meeting closed at 3.30pm

TJH Martin

Clerk to Members

Distribution List:

P. O'Brien – Member

D. Easter – Member

E. Paynter – Member

A. Nicholson – Member

M. Young – Member

W. Hermon – CEO Director/Executive Head