

**Lowick and Holy Island C of E First School**  
**Meeting Minutes**

<b>Meeting Type:</b> STAFF KEY STAGE SLT <b>GOVS COMMITTEE</b> OTHER	
<b>Resources Committee Meeting</b> <b>4pm 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022</b>	
<b>Present:</b> NG, JM, CH, RS & BT (observing and supporting)	
1. Apologies for Absence	CO, MC, SH and AH
2. Pecuniary Interests in this Agenda	None other than staff (RS & BT) who benefit from school pay.
3. Consideration of Pay Policy	
The governors had reviewed the Pay Policy shared earlier and it was approved. They noted that it follows the model pay policy from NCC which has been through a robust consultation process.	
4. Consideration of Admissions Policy for Holy Island	
The governors noted that Holy Island updates it's Admissions Policy each year as a VA school. They have reviewed the policy shared earlier and it was approved. It was noted that we are inclusive school and that equality is an important value so that we do not discriminate, including not discriminating by faith, with regard to our admissions.	
5. Overview of indicative budget December 2022	
RS & BT shared that we have had the indicative budget meeting on 28 <sup>th</sup> November with an accountant from NCC.  The Holy Island budget is consistently in the black and a small in year deficit in one year is easily offset by the previous year carry forward. Other years have an in year surplus.  The Lowick budget also anticipates a good surplus at the end of this financial year. Although it had more difficulties at the meeting with a jump in expenditure hitting the bottom line in the financial year 2023 – 2024. The accountant reviewed this after the meeting and found a mistake with a double entry of a £30,000 debit and with a salary rebate.  It was agreed that, to be on the safe side, we would ask someone with excellent school business manager experience to come into school and give BT and RS in depth budget training and also have a look to make sure there are no more errors in the Lowick budget as part of this training and review.  <b>Action:</b> BT to check what training and advice would be available and arrange a time and date.	
6. Consideration of improvements to the Holy Island site	
BT explained that we had a certain amount still to spend on Holy Island site improvements carried forward from previous years. We have quotes in which have been shared prior to the meeting. It was agreed that we should go ahead with quotes for painting, carpets, joinery work and outdoor music provision.  The governors noted that the school had successfully bid for free trees from the Woodland Trust to be used to help create hedging for the Holy Island field – linked to work in school on habitats and nature.  CH mentioned that NCC also has a scheme for free trees which may be more hardy and resilient for our local climate and conditions.	

AOB

We then thought about the need for a tree to replace the two ash trees at the front of the Lowick site which have been condemned due to ash die-back. It might be that through the NCC free tree scheme mentioned above we can ask for a more mature tree.

It was briefly discussed whether we should get a tree which matches the school colours (green and yellow) – ruling out laburnum on safeguarding grounds as it is poisonous, but considering a rowan with yellow berries.

**Action:** CH to share link to free tree scheme with the school and offering to support if there is a financial cost for a more mature tree.

Lastly, it was noted that the school had a £165 grant through the Ogden Trust for science books. We had already bought books on biomes and on Science through Storytelling and there was a brief discussion about other areas of science which may be appropriate, including on dinosaurs.

**Action:** RS to explore book options with science lead in school.

The meeting closed at 4.30pm