**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNING BODIES**

**Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday, 25th November 2020 via Microsoft Teams**

**6.00 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

Angela Dunkerley welcomed everyone to the meeting. Angela thanked Pam and Amy from Governor Services for all their support throughout this year and said it was much appreciated during these difficult times. Paperwork for this meeting had been e-mailed out. Emma Balchin from the NGA should have been giving a presentation to this meeting but unfortunately, she is ill and has sent her apologies. Instead, Simon Richards, Development Manager at NGA has kindly stepped in.

1. **Apologies** had been received from Rob Smith and Liz Brown.
2. **Minutes of the AGM (13th November, 2019)**

The Minutes had been circulated by email and also posted on the NLAGB website. D.West proposed and E. Wasley seconded that these be accepted. This was agreed.

1. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

1. **Report from the Chair**

This had been circulated in advance. However, Angela wanted to pay tribute to Angela Kipling who had passed away recently. She had always been very supportive of governance and had been a member of the Association. Angela had also been a Head Teacher and her efforts will have had an impact on thousands of children. The Head Teacher at St. Barnabas school is compiling a Book of Remembrance to give to Angela’s husband.

The Chair thanked everyone who has worked with the Association. There have been challenges as to how we operated this year. The Association is an independent body who works on behalf of all Governors, but we have developed close links with others who support governance.

This year has led to Governors having to rethink how they ‘do things’. Tonight we will be looking at what we can do rather than what we cannot do. We are guardians of our vision for the next five years. Covid has made us reflect on how we work. It is still important to work on improvement and accountability and how we can work together.

On the NGA website there is a joint letter from the NGA/NAHT which states there has to be flexibility and also emphasising the duty of care to staff.

The Association will keep our website up to date with any relevant information brought to the attention of the executive committee.

Our Executive members still sit on various groups within the Local Authority e.g. Standards Board and various advisory groups and thanks go to those who do this.

Peter Raspin thanked Angela on behalf of the Executive and all Governors for the help, leadership, support and expertise that she gives to us all.

1. **Report from the Treasurer**

Mrs. West confirmed that the accounts had been audited and that they were available if anyone wished to look at them. To date, there is £3,737.81 in the Bank. Mrs. West stated that there had been no expenses recently and due to this, schools already affiliated to the NLAGB would not be asked to pay affiliation fees this year as the Association could pay the annual fees of £159.00 to the NGA from monies already held in the account. However, any new member schools would be asked to pay a fee. The NGA are very keen to develop links with local Associations and have kept subscriptions low in an effort to further support their work. There were no objections to NLAGB continuing to affiliate to the NGA.

The Chair said that there would still be a significant amount of money in the Bank and if anyone had any suggestions as to how this money could be used, please contact the Association.

1. **Election of Officers and Committee**

The current Officers and Committee indicated a willingness to be re-elected. It was unanimously agreed that the following Officers and Committee be elected:

Angela Dunkerley – Chair Peter Raspin – Vice Chair

Denise West – Treasurer Barbara Spencer – Secretary

Committee – John Speyer, Eleanor Wasley, Rob Smith, Pet Whittaker and Shelley Thomas.

(Pet Whittaker and Shelley Thomas also sit on the NGA advisory group for SEND, representing North Lincolnshire governors).

1. **Present at the meeting**

Angela Dunkerley (Chair), Denise West (Treasurer), Barbara Spencer (Secretary),

Peter Raspin (Vice-Chair), John Speyer and Eleanor Wasley

Alvin Chapman, John Veal, Jocelyn Cole, Michelle Lally, Maureen Collette, Mary Allen

Chris Darlington ,Jackie Rae, Damian Batley, Richard Martin, Kate Moir, Caroline Kupfers David Whiteley, Richard Martin, Trudy Harvey ,Ian Haywood, Micahel Puczylo,

Caroline Kupfers, Justine Smith, Jackie Kelly, Vincent Grimes, Janice Moran, Hilary Beverley,

Di Hobson, Jo West, Maria Potter and Catherine Kemp, Malcolm Smith.

North Lincs Council – Jemima Flintoff, Tracey Sawyer, Pam Hodge, Carmen McHale, Tracey

Hamilton

1. **Simon Richards of the National Governors Association** was welcomed by Angela to the meeting. She expressed our appreciation of the support given to our Association by the NGA.

The presentation covered:

* Immediate priorities for the term
* Monitoring activity and Board reporting
* Monitoring plans and implementation of remote education
* Information can also be found in Learning Links and the Knowledge Centre on NGA website.

The main points:

Monitoring – we cannot monitor everything

1. Focus
2. No need to re-write anything. Virtual monitoring is acceptable.
3. Feedback is important – a written report should be produced.

NGA feel that meetings by e-mail are not a good idea. Conversation threads can be lost.

Virtual meetings have issues – board dynamics may not be apparent and scrutiny may not be

so robust.

The Board must focus on important issues and stay strategic. Avoid creating unnecessary

workload. Focus on quality rather than quantity. Various methods of triangulation are still

available but data dashboards FFT may be two years out of date now.

Remote learning – it is a legal requirement that all children who are self-isolating need

immediate access to remote learning.

Simon has kindly agreed that his presentation slides can be shared so these will be sent out and also published on the NLAGB website.

Angela thanked Simon for his presentation.

Pam Hodge (Governor Services) said that remote learning should be used when individual children are self-isolating, when a bubble has been sent home or indeed for whole year groups. The DfE has an expectation that remote learning will be used but it need not be virtual and it does not have to be on-line.

The school curriculum is to be followed so there are no gaps. Remote learning must be of high quality and there should be interaction, assessment and feedback. Staff should receive CPD to allow this to happen if necessary and if learning is on-line there should be hard copies available. Schools should work with families of younger/SEND pupils. Provision must be made for children still shielding.

Can the ICT platform support the offer?

Plans need to keep evolving and are the plans published on the school website?

Safeguarding still needs to be managed.

Plans needs to take account of the workload and impact.

At the present time the local picture is positive. Some schools have bubbles isolating and local public health are working with schools in all cases. All schools have worked hard in response to COVID. As an authority we are doing comparatively well to other regions.

Angela commented about the number of ideas explored tonight and stressed the importance of recognising the positives that have come from these difficult times as well as acknowledging the challenges. New ways of working and learning have necessarily been trialled and in some cases people have been forced to overcome their fears.

Jemima Flintoft acknowledged that there have been problems with broadband width for some people because of the increased number of people working from home. Paper packs have been effective as well as staff knocking on doors.

1. **Any other business**

None

1. **Date of 2021 AGM**

10th November 2021

Angela brought the meeting to a close by thanking everyone who had contributed to the evening. Positives have come out of the situation over the last year and many things are still achievable. It is important to create a kind and supportive environment and well-being has to be at the forefront of considerations.

Simon thanked everyone who worked in schools including Governors.