

**THE DOMINIC BARBERI MAC**  
**MINUTES OF THE 11<sup>th</sup> DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
**HELD ON TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2014 AT ST GREGORY THE GREAT**

**Present:** John Hussey (Ex. Principal) JH  
David Forster (F) DF  
Angela Anderson (F) AA  
Hazel Murray (F, V.C.) HM  
Chris Bevan (F) CB  
Duncan Marshall (Company Secretary) DM  
Breda Bowles (Principal) BB  
Helen Archer (Parent) HA  
Nicole Evans (Parent) NE  
Sue McGarry (Staff) SMcG

**Apologies:** Katherine Powley (F, Chair) KP, Father John O'Connor (F) JOC

The meeting opened at 7.30pm.

The meeting was Quorate.

**1. Welcome and Opening Prayer**

HM welcomed all those present to the meeting, and opened with a prayer.

**2. Apologies and Declarations of Pecuniary Interests**

Apologies had been received and were accepted from JOC and KP. There were no declarations of pecuniary interest against any of the agenda items.

**3. Minutes and Confidential Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Being that this meeting was exceptional to cover budget and vision, the minutes of the last meeting are to be reviewed at the first meeting of the new year. Date TBC

**4. Budget**

DM presented the new year budgets for all seven academies and for the DBMAC as a whole. He explained that all academy budgets had been approved for the following year by the academy committees.

DM ran through each of the budgets and explained where the areas of concern are:

LOLO – in year overspend in year one – balanced by year 2.

OL – Balanced in year one, projected overspend in years 2 and 3 – committee have approved the first year, DM will be working with committee to balance those years.

SGTG – In year deficit in years 1 and 2, balanced by year 3. Spend on the new primary provision is more than the funding until year three.

SJF – Balanced in year 1, moving to a deficit in year 2 – due to maternity leave returning.

Steady pupil numbers – DM to work with committee on balancing years 2 and 3.

SJT – Small deficit in year 1, balanced by year 2 with pupil numbers increasing.

SJC – Small deficit in year 1, balanced by year 2 with significant increase in pupil numbers expected. One area to keep in mind is that this school may need some expansion work to meet intake in the next couple of years.

St Thomas More – This is of concern, large in year deficits for all 3 years, pupil numbers are steady as is expenditure. DM agreed for the committee to ratify the year 1 budget with the proviso that, by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014, the academy is able to identify cost saving and revenue generation areas.

DBMAC – The DBMAC carries forward a healthy balance, year 1 has a deficit due to LGPS pension deficit payments, years 2 and 3 are balanced.

DM also presented the EFA budget forecast return for 2014/2015 in which he had consolidated all the budget information from each academy to create one return for the DBMAC.

Directors questioned the deficit revenue balance at the end of the year. DM explained that, whilst this deficit exists for year 1, after that the budget is balanced as outlined in the previous statements.

Directors asked questions around the process of agreeing the budgets at committee level. DM explained that the timeline had been rather tight this year (due to implementation of the new budget planning software) and that Committees had found that rather difficult but, moving forward, the planner is in place for next year so the deadlines will be much easier to meet.

Directors questioned the large carry forward for the DBMAC. DM explained that this had come from a recent VAT refund which, due to the work at Cricket Road, is significant.

Directors questioned the capital balance. DM explained that there had been no further expenditure of capital but that work at Carterton was about to start costing £32k and the kitchen at Thame was about to start costing £45k.

Overall, the DBMAC has a balanced budget after year 1. CB proposed the budget is ratified. By Directors with a £974k revenue carryforward into the year 2014/2015. An in year deficit of £251k in the first year and a balanced second year. Directors ratified this budget and thanked DM.

## **5. MAC Development and Vision.**

CB talked the work that has so far taken place with the DBMAC vision. He explained that Directors now need to focus on the short and medium term goals. Once they are in place the long term items can be added. Within those goals Directors must prioritise the work to develop the plan and focus on the outcomes.

Directors asked about file sharing, DM explained that this is now possible through Googleapps

ACTION – DM to set up file sharing.

DF reiterated that these plans must be strategic whilst identifying some of the operational requirements for the committees to take on and must not get too caught up in the day to day operational activities.

HA would like more information about the schools in the MAC, JJH explained that the 'dashboard' that had been shared at previous meetings included most of the data she requires. Directors agreed to consider the type of information that is required and carry this query over to the next meeting.

Directors would like a stronger brand attached to the DBMAC so that everyone involved know that they are part of something bigger than just the school at which they work.

## **6. Executive Principal's Report**

**JJH presented the 'End of Year School Report' for the DBMAC and took the Directors through the achievements of individual academies and the DBMAC as a whole. Directors liked the format of the report and HA asked for some more specific detail about the academies.**

The meeting ended at 10.10pm