

**ST IVO ACADEMY LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

**Autumn 2, WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2021**

**3.30 p.m.**

**Microsoft Teams**

**Membership:** Sam Griffin - Principal, Charles Glanville, Frank Newton, Richard Potter, Philip Speer, Elaine Warriner

**Clerk:** Emillie Newell

**Distribution:** Julie Bloor, Link Trustee Cambridgeshire,

Melanie Basson, Information and Governance Officer, Astrea Academy Trust

**Agenda**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Format</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>PS</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of the last meeting, action tracker and matters arising</b>	<b>PS</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Chair's Update</b>	<b>PS</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Principal's Report</b> - committee members questions on report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes Pupil Premium Strategy</li> </ul>	<b>Papers</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Policies to be reviewed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Policy – <b>under consultation November 2021</b></li> <li>• Anti-Bullying Policy – <b>under review October 2021</b></li> </ul>	<b>Papers</b>
<b>7</b>	Any other urgent business	<b>Chair</b>
	<b>Date of next meeting:</b> <b>23 February 2022 at 3.30 p.m.</b>	

**ACTION TRACKER – 2021 -2022**

<b>DATE OF MEETING</b>	<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>BY WHOM</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
20 October 2021	5.2	Committee to review impact statement.	Mr Speer	Item 4 8 December 2021
20 October 2021	6.2	Sharing of recruitment documentation.	Mrs Basson	Complete 21 October 2021
20 October 2021	6.2	Consideration to be given to creation of new link roles. Ideas to be shared with the LGC at the next meeting.	Mr Newton	Item 3 8 December 2021
20 October 2021	7.10	Reasons for students moving to other schools within the academic year to be shared with the committee.	Mr Griffin	Completed – 22 October 2021
20 October 2021	7.13	Clarification required for EHP data.	Mr Griffin	Completed – 22 October 2021
20 October 2021	8.7	Academy Improvement Development plan updates to be discussed at each meeting.	Mr Griffin	Ongoing throughout 2021 -2022



**MINUTES OF THE  
LOCAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2021 at 15.30 hours  
Via Microsoft Teams**

**AGENDA ITEM: 3.0**

**PRESENT:**

Sam Griffin (Principal)  
Frank Newton  
Emillie Newell (Clerk)  
Richard Potter  
Philip Speer  
Elaine Warriner (joined at 16:22)

**APOLOGIES:**

Charles Glanville

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

David Thomas OBE, Regional Director  
Melanie Basson, Governance Lead, Cambridgeshire

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.0	<b>Election of Chair</b>	
1.1	Due to the reduction of members of the committee since the last academic term and plans to recruit to vacancies, Mr Griffin proposed that Mr Speer continues as Chair on the basis that committee members did not object to this proposal.  All committee members agreed to this proposal, Mr Speer to continue as Chair.	
2.0	<b>Apologies</b>	
2.1	Apologies received from Mr Glanville. The committee consented to the apologies.  Mrs Warriner forwarded apologies for the first part of the meeting due to covering the after-school detention session.	
3.0	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
3.1	There were no declarations of interest.	
4.0	<b>David Thomas</b>	
4.1	Following introductions, Mr Speer asked on behalf of the committee how Mr Thomas sees the role of the Local Governance Committee for St Ivo and Astrea and in addition to this, committee members were keen to hear Mr Thomas' assessment of St Ivo in terms of where St Ivo is, where it needs to go and how it needs to get there, together with how the role of the LGC and committee members can add value to the school.	

4.2	<p>All members, past and present have spoken openly about how they struggled to understand how to be useful as a committee in the same way in which the old governing board had been. Mr Speer added that all members would like to make a more positive contribution; most importantly with regards to holding SLT and the Principal to account. The committee is aware that Mr Griffin meets on a weekly basis or more often with Mr Thomas to hold Mr Griffin to account as well as monitoring progress, Mr Speer, on behalf of the committee, welcomed any guidance from Mr Thomas as to what the LGC could do to be useful in supporting St Ivo.</p>	
4.3	<p>Mr Thomas informed the committee of his background and role within Astrea. Mr Thomas acknowledged that Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) are good for the school system but from this there is a risk of negative consequences, in particular, on joining a MAT a school ceases to exist as a legal entity, everyone involved is legally bound to act in the best interests of the MAT. Therefore, the MAT manages a range of schools across the whole trust taking away the concentrated focus on St Ivo, this results in the LGC being valuable to Mr Griffin, as well as advocating for the school and representing the community. The LGC can focus on St Ivo and can overlap with the work of Mr Thomas and what Astrea want as a trust.</p>	
4.4	<p>Mrs Basson stated that the LGC must still hold the school to account against its policies and objectives and should challenge the school in a supportive way. Mr Speer accepts that the LGC is to challenge but what is the usefulness of such challenge if Mr Thomas is challenging twice per week?</p>	
4.5	<p>Mr Thomas stated that the LGC add to the process. There are certain issues and topics that do not come up in discussion between Mr Griffin and Mr Thomas and an effective LGCs have been strong advocates for students and parents in the community both on an individual and collective role basis. For example, careers and how linking into the local economy can assist students in gaining employment.</p>	
4.6	<p>Mr Speer referred to the vacancies on the committee and discussed the recruitment of parents and members in the community with appropriate skills and backgrounds.</p>	
4.7	<p>Mr Thomas suggested that links would be beneficial; other LGCs have created link members roles that tie in with school priorities. For example, a school struggling with social media and electronic devices created the role of online safety link member to work with the school, building approaches with a member of staff, this was a successful and powerful link. Elsewhere there was a push on STEM and engineering with a member working in a university. This relationship allowed Key Stage 4 students with a desire to follow a career in STEM to be involved in work placements and support was available from the university.</p> <p>Mr Speer thanked Mr Thomas for his ideas.</p>	
4.8	<p><b>St Ivo journey</b></p> <p>Mr Speer asked Mr Thomas for his views on where he sees St Ivo, how it is doing, what it will be doing and how it is going to get there.</p>	
4.9	<p>Mr Thomas advised that St Ivo is sitting on a huge amount of potential. Moving forward out of Covid there is a window of opportunity this academic year to redefine what we want St Ivo to be and what it wants to achieve.</p>	
4.10	<p>Mr Thomas commented that when first looked at St Ivo, he noted the attendance rate and the fact that it is very rare to see schools with consistent attendance. Children vote with their feet; they turn up if they feel they are learning. Children want to be in that school and this provides ground to build something exciting, we should be bold in believing that St Ivo can be excellent in everything.</p>	

