



Stamford Green Primary School



Minutes from the Parents' Forum Meeting Friday 18.7.14

In attendance:

Chairing the Meeting:

Governors:

Parents:

Louise Druce

Karina Singh (Vice Chair)

Leigh Fleeman (Chair of PTA)

Rebecca Jennings

Emma Burton

Moffat Jeanette

Moffat Ian

Julie Cornwell

Sophie Jones

Staff:

Jo Lee

Kathryn Dray

Vicky Swann

Ulrike Houston

Miller Construction

Jamie Wilson

Maze representing SCC

Robert Petifar

3FE:

The meeting started with a discussion around 3FE. Planning permission had been given on Wednesday 16 July 2014 and Mrs Lee confirmed that building works will commence on Monday 21 July 2014. Over the summer works will be focused around the main entrance, fencing and adjustments to the current main building due to the building site. The completion date for these works and the all-weather sports pitch will be 1 September 2014.

Mrs Druce explained that from September 2014 there will be a staggered entry and exit to school, whereby YR – Y6 will go straight to class. For parents using the East Gate school gates will open at 8.40am for children to go straight to the classroom. For parents using the West Gate there will be a West Gate drop off area with a temporary path across the field linking the existing path to the West Gate drop off point. Teachers and a member of the office staff will be at the drop off point at drop off and pick up time.

The building site will be fenced in with spyholes for children to enable them to see the building site. On the path there will be a level crossing that will block HGVs from getting on the path. A member of Miller construction will monitor child movement and disallow any traffic during break times. In addition to this there won't be any deliveries during drop off and pick up times as well as break times.

Some parents were concerned about noise and dust during the building works. Mr Wilson from Miller Construction reassured parents that the worst disruption will be when breaking down the existing playground, all of which will all be done during the summer holidays.

Mrs Druce explained that it would be possible to rotate the classes that are most affected over the year for some lessons.

One parent asked if it was possible to work weekends and early mornings / late evenings. Mr Petifar explained that planning restrictions only allowed work between 8.00am and 5.30pm on weekdays and Saturday morning.

The expected finish date for the new building is the end of June 2015.

The works planned to the existing building are scheduled for the summer holidays 2015.

Mrs Druce said that there will be disruption during the extension work however this was only temporary and the result would be an additional 30 school places for local people at their local school.

A parent was concerned that no additional staff car parking spaces will be available. Mrs Druce explained that like many other schools in the area, staff will double park and thereby increase number of car spaces onsite.

Mr Wilson explained that he was a very experienced Project Manager and that he was confident it will be a successful project. Mrs Druce followed this up by confirming that this was a great school and will continue to be a great school during the works and beyond.

Another parent enquired about the size of the hard playground after the extension. Mrs Druce explained that in 2021 when the school is full there will be slightly less hard playground but still more than most schools in the local area have. It will also still have more than the current recommendation of square footage per child if you include the field space. The school will make more use of the top field which has been underused in the past.

The current playground equipment will be removed and replaced if deemed necessary.

There will also be a number of activities to involve the children into the building works, ie a design competition for Health & Safety Posters which will be published on the fences or the design of a centenary garden.

TA Restructuring:

Some of the attending parents wanted to address the recent TA Restructuring as they felt it had not been communicated well.

Mrs Druce explained that 4 TAs had been made redundant because of a reduced budget by the Government. It is the responsibility of the Headteacher and the Governing Body to ensure the school does not run a in year deficit budget. Mrs Druce explained that despite the reduced budget over several years the school results are up and the quality of teaching has been continuously improving.

She also explained that any staffing restructure follows a process set by Surrey County Council and that it should be kept private and confidential for the people involved. It is with great sadness that the information had been made public.

Mrs Druce continued to explain that staff had been given optional compassionate leave and that it is untrue that they were asked not to come in.

Parents asked how the school would cope with less TAs and what impact it will have on the results. Mrs Dray explained that the school currently has no statemented children and therefore less TA support is needed and less funding is coming in too.

Mrs Druce explained that the people were selected in a competency based selection process reviewing the baseline (what job needs to be done) and taking into consideration the individuals qualifications, experience and professional development after a consultation with all affected and their union. During the process the Governing Body listened to ideas/solutions that the TAs had and if viable the process was changed.

One parent noted that according to his research Stamford Green Primary School is currently the worst funded school in Surrey.

Mrs Druce explained that despite the reduced funding the school will continue to deliver excellent results and continuously improved teaching. There is an intervention timetable in place involving all children, where a need has been identified, including more able and less able children.

Mrs Dray explained that the old system where a TA was classroom based is no longer ideal and that the interventions are a Ofsted led change which have proved to be very successful.