

HERTFORDSHIRE SCHOOL ORGANISATION COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2005

PRESENT

Schools

Peter Fielden
Richard Jameson
Michael Taylor

Church of England

Alick Burge
Roger Martin

Roman Catholic Diocese

Sally Livesey
Alan Scouller

HCC

Robert Gordon [Chairman]
Clare Berry
Richard Smith
Tanis Kent

Learning and Skills Council

David Tofts

In attendance:

Dinah Tuck
Paul Wray

Secretary to the Committee
CSF School Access

Owing to traffic problems caused by the closure of the M25 a number of SOC members were late or unable to attend. Members of the SOC appointed Richard Smith to open the meeting and welcome visitors who had attended for their items. The Chairman then arrived and took the chair.

Members of SOC were reminded of the need to keep an open mind on the issues under discussion, unfettered by previous considerations.

1. Apologies, membership and attendance

Apologies were received from Dr Dena Coleman and Paul Rosen from the Schools group
Apologies were received from Jon Reynolds from the CE group.
Apologies were received from Paul Goggins from the RC group.
Apologies were received from Aislinn Lee and Robert Roberts from the LEA group.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2005

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2005 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. WATFORD-AMALGAMATION OF HOLY ROOD RC INFANT AND HOLY ROOD RC JUNIOR SCHOOLS

The Chair and Vice Chair of Governors of the Holy Rood Schools attended for this item.
The Archdiocese and LEA indicated their support for this proposal which was in accordance with the policy of encouraging the development of primary schools within the County.
SOC members sought clarification on the proposed building works and the Archdiocese confirmed that new joint staffroom facilities would be a priority for their VA capital allocation.
The Governors confirmed that the community served by the school fully supported the proposal to amalgamate and form a new primary school.
Following discussion all five groups present voted to approve the proposals by the Governors of Holy Rood and the Archdiocese.

The SOC therefore approved the closure of Holy Rood RC Infant and Holy Rood RC Junior Schools with effect from 31 August 2006 and the establishment of a new two form entry voluntary aided RC primary school on the same site from 1 September 2006.

5. Establishment of a nursery class at Tonwell VC Primary School

The SOC welcomed the Head and Chair of Governors from Tonwell VC Primary School. The LEA and Church of England indicated their support of this proposal which is in line with the policy of replacing other four schemes where possible with nursery class provision. Following discussion all five groups present voted to approve the proposal by the school. The SOC therefore approved the establishment of a nursery class for 8 part time pupils at Tonwell VC Primary School, Hertford with effect from 1 September 2005

6. Future meetings

The following meeting date was confirmed.

10am on Wednesday 9 November 2005

The meeting closed at 10.25am