

Minutes of a Meeting of the Ceredigion Admissions Forum held at

Brennig Room, Penmorfa, Aberaeron

on Tuesday, 27 March 2018.

9:00am – 9:55am

Present: Councillor Catrin Miles (Chair), Councillors Odwyn Davies (Chair Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee), Philippa Davies (Parent Governor Ysgol y Dderi),

Officers Present: Barry Rees (Strategic Director for Learning and Partnerships), Matthew Brown (Head of Learning Services), Alan Morris, (Manager: Data and Information), Cheryl Evans (Administrative Assistant) and Kay Davies (Democratic Services).

1 Apologies for Absence

Eifion Evans (Chief Executive), Lodwick Lloyd (Governor), Councillor Endaf Edwards (Vice Chair Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee) and Peter Leggett (Head Teacher Rhydypennau Primary School) apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

2 Procedure

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and thanked those present for their attendance.

3 Disclosure of Personal Interest

There were no disclosures of Personal Interest.

4 Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 June 2017

It was **AGREED** to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017 as a correct record subject to the amendment to include Alan Morris as present.

5 Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 June 2017

- i. Item 5 - It was noted that the Church in Wales were unable to send a representative to this meeting. However, a representative will attend in future when meeting times revert to evenings.
- ii. Item 11 – It was agreed that the link to the Information Document for Parents would be sent to Members of the Forum.
- iii. Item 10 - It was agreed to remove the agenda item 'Ceredigion Behavioural Support Service'.

6 Information Document for Parents

It was noted that the latest Information for Parents document is available on the Council website¹. The document is updated every September. The link is sent to parents and it was noted that no requests had been received for paper copies. Copies are available in libraries and other Council buildings and information is included in school admission forms.

It was noted that paper copies may be useful for some Members if required. It was agreed that it would be useful to receive information in relation to the amount of 'hits' the web page receives in order to estimate the number of persons accessing the information document.

It was **AGREED** to note the information provided.

7 Admissions Policy 2019-2020

Copies of the Learning Services' School Admissions Policy 2019-20 had been circulated to Members. A consultation had been held on the Policy. No responses had been received. The Policy is due to be presented to the next Cabinet meeting in April 2018.

The Strategic Director for Learning and Partnerships explained the process in relation to admission requests and highlighted the Council's resettlement programme and the growing need to be mindful of the possible unease of local parents who may be unable to gain places for their children when children via the programme are permitted in order that they are able to access schools nearest to their new homes.

It was **AGREED** to note the information provided.

8 Secondary School Admission Numbers – September 2018 and Mid Year Admissions Appeals, 2017-18

The admission numbers for secondary schools were noted as follows:

Aberaeron	99
Aberteifi	124
Bro Pedr	81
Bro Teifi	92
Henry Richard	46
Penglais	172
Penweddig	115

It was noted that 7 appeals had been received during the year– 3 in Plascrug, 3 in Ciliau Parc and one in Cardigan Primary School. Parents/guardian were successful in all cases. However, it was noted that there were less appeals than in previous years.

¹ <http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/media/3061/information-for-parents.pdf>

It was noted that admissions planning in some secondary schools can be difficult especially for schools on the border of the county where applications are received from neighbouring counties.

It was **AGREED** to note the information provided.

9 Any Other Business

The Strategic Director for Learning and Partnerships noted that school admission cases are considered by the Authority on an individual basis and all school policies including the school transport policies are abided to as far as possible whilst parents/guardians have recourse through the appeal system.

Date of the next meeting: To be arranged.

Confirmed in the Meeting of the Forum held on

Chairman: _____

Date: _____