



**NEWLAND HOUSE SCHOOL
AND LOCAL COMMUNITY MEETING**

Friday 10th June 2022 at 9.30 am

Prep School Hall

Notes from the meeting

1. Welcome from the Head

Mr Skelton welcomed 9 local residents and Cllr. Phil Giesler and introduced Mrs Bell the bursar and Chair of Governors, Mr Gumpert.

All questions submitted in advance had been included in the agenda. Mr Skelton thanked Mrs Bell for giving up some her own time to deliver 250 leaflets giving notice of this meeting. He reflected that the morning meetings had proven to be more popular than the evening one.

Mrs Bell responded to a question regarding notes from previous meetings and said that they can be found on the community page of the school website.

2. Matters arising from meeting on Friday October 15th 2021

○ CPZ update

Mr Skelton mentioned that this had been discussed at the previous meetings and that Richmond had decided that it would be enforced Monday to Friday 10am – 4.30pm and that it would be introduced sometime over this summer. Parent parking will be covered later in the agenda. The CPZ would significantly reduce the use of cars by staff. Alternatives such as bikes, car share, parking further away and walking were being considered by staff. Cllr Giesler said that he had heard from Mick Potter that work would start with road marking etc. on June 23rd and that the CPZ would be active maybe 8 weeks later.

○ Tree Planting

Mrs Bell said that the school had used the supplier recommended by a local resident and that the trees were now planted in the play area. A resident said that they had improved the outlook from their house.

○ Noise concerns

Mrs Bell and I have looked at the boundary treatment for SMSP and Teddington school. SMSP have a wire fence with a fabric covering which in our opinion is to impede the view from outside the school rather than to block noise as there were numerous gaps. The fencing at Teddington school is in very much more open area and the use of the grounds by adult and junior hockey teams well into the evening warranted a more substantial structure. The fencing is within the boundary and an area of trees and bushes between the fence and the neighbours hides it from their gardens. This height of fencing (3m) would not be appropriate in the more enclosed outside spaces at our school.

3. Noise in the environment

Mr Skelton reported that Richmond Noise Nuisance officers had received two complaints from local residents in reference to noise from children in the school playground in particular. Mrs Bell and Mr Skelton had met with two officers from Richmond which was very productive and we will be following their guidance. This includes the drafting of a Noise Management plan, which we will be developing. This aims to reduce unnecessary noise. On a practical level, we will be adding to the height of the fence around the Pre Prep play area and from September we will have a plan in place to better manage access to the outdoor classroom to make this area quieter.

Mr Skelton confirmed that a 3m fence at the perimeter was not in the school's plan.

Cllr Giesler said that he would follow up with the Council officers.

4. Parking

Mr Skelton apologised for the small minority of parents who park across driveways and on double yellow lines. The school posts photos on the school's internal website that parents have access to. It is possible that the introduction of the CPZ might improve this situation in the mornings. The end of the CPZ which is after the end of the school day is likely to be more problematic.

The Governors are still considering the employment of a 'lollipop' person. The School has agreed to periodically arrange for staff to supervise the zig zag area on Waldegrave park as this was a safety concern.

A resident complained about parents leaving their engines idling, hazardous loading of children from the road side of vehicles and that both parents and children were cycling on pavements. Cllr Giesler pointed out that cycling on pavements is illegal.

A resident requested occasional patrols by PCSOs. Cllr Giesler said that he expected enforcement officers to be more active with the introduction of the new CPZ.

Cllr Giesler emphasised that the CPZ and 20 mph speed limits were part of the councils objective to shift towards active travel in the borough.

Mr Skelton that parents and staff would need to change their habits and that the school promoted active travel.

5. Planning application to vary a condition outcome

Mr Skelton commented that residents may have seen that the school's application to vary a planning condition relating to the pre prep building had been granted. We are grateful to Richmond for the time that they took going through all the related correspondence.

6. BREEAM current status

Mrs Bell explained that the school was working on providing the necessary evidence to satisfy the planning condition for the Pre Prep building relating to BREEAM. BREEAM relates to sustainable building criteria.

7. Upcoming events

Mr highlighted the two events that were mentioned in the agenda. The PA have sent out a flier to neighbours regarding the summer fair on the 26th June and residents were welcome to attend.

The annual fireworks night would be on Saturday 5th November this year

8. Any other business

The following questions were submitted after the publication of the agenda:

○ Governor representative

Mr Skelton clarified that the Governor representative at community meetings was a member of the Board.

○ Pupil travel initiatives

Mr Skelton referenced the notes of the previous meeting with regard to initiatives such as cycling to school and the walking bus.

○ Timings of meetings

Evening meetings had been requested but only 5 people had attended. At the first meeting an interim update was requested and this had been posted on the community page of the school website. Notes from meetings are also posted on the school website.

○ Hands up survey

These annual surveys monitor the way that children and staff travel to school. This showed that in 2015/2016 56% of children and staff travelled to school by car and this compares with 35% in the latest survey.

The meeting closed at 10.30am

Date and time of next meeting Thursday 26th January at 5pm in the Pre Prep Hall