GOVERNORS PANEL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Governors Panel held on 31 July 2006 at County Hall, Lewes.

PRESENT - Councillor Simmons (Chairman)
Councillors Gadd, Kramer, Lock, Ost and Tunwell

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

1.1 RESOLVED – to elect Councillor Simmons as Chairman for the ensuing year.

2. MINUTES

2.1 RESOLVED – to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2006.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3.1 Councillor Rogers

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

4.1 All Members of the Panel declared that they knew some of the applicants to be LEA Governors, but were satisfied that these did not represent prejudicial interests.

4.2 Councillors Field and Gadd took no part in the discussions relating to their reapplications to be LEA governor representatives for Claverham Community College and Little Common School respectively.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Copies of the reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

6. PROTOCOLS FOR RECOGNISING LONG SERVICE

6.1 The Panel considered a report of the Director of Children’s Services setting out the procedures in place for recognising long service by LEA representative governors.

6.2 Members noted that letters were sent to governors both on their appointment and reappointment thanking them for their contribution to the governing body and school.

6.2 RESOLVED – to (1) note the procedures currently in place for recognising long serving LEA representative governors; and

(2) request the Director of Children’s Services to write to LEA representative governors when they have served for ten years commending and thanking them for their contributions and long service.
7. LEA GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

7.1 The Panel considered a report of the Director of Children’s Services detailing the outcomes of the LEA Governor Recruitment Campaign and strategies for future recruitment.

7.2 RESOLVED – to (1) note the current position in respect of the LEA governor vacancy levels and recruitment campaign established in January 2006;

(2) commend the officers for their excellent work in taking forward the recruitment initiatives; and

(3) agree that, for those governing bodies with high vacancy levels and no County Councillor representation, the Chairman should write to the relevant Members encouraging them to take up governorships within their constituencies wherever possible.

8. APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNORS

8.1 The Panel considered a report by the Director of Children’s Services.

8.2 Members discussed whether perhaps there might be merit in delegating authority to the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Chairman, to approve re-applications subject to the proviso that a list of the re-applicants should be circulated to Members for information and any re-applications which gave rise to concerns reported to the Panel. However, they noted that, whilst there was an exceptionally lengthy list of re-applications to be considered at this meeting, the situation was the result of the final reconstitutions of governing bodies and would not recur for another four years.

8.3 RESOLVED – to (1) appoint the following as LEA representative governors:-

a) Gwyneth Norman Alfriston School
b) Michael Charnock Chiddingly Primary School
c) Alan Roberts Churchwood Primary School
d) John Graham East Hoathly School
e) John Redman Frant CEP
f) Sara Whalley Glyne Gap
g) Linda Hughes Heathfield Community College
h) Julie Carr Meeching Valley
i) Brian Stevens Oakwood School
j) Malcolm Melville Punnetts Town
k) Lawrence Calton Robsack Wood
l) William Carter Shinewater Primary
m) Peter Webb Sidley Community Primary
n) Carl Brumpton Ticehurst & Flimwell
o) Jenny Smith Torfield School
p) Catherine Abbey West Rise Infants

(2) authorise the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Chairman, to appoint Nigel Jones as an LEA representative governor at Beacon Community College subject to ratification by the Headteacher;
(3) agree to re-appoint the following as LEA representative governors:-

a) Michael Clark  Bexhill High
b) Peter Cole  Bexhill High
c) James Torbet  Bexhill High
d) Margaret Croft  Blacklands Community Primary
e) Nicholas le Poidevin  Bourne Primary
f) Cecilia Whitehead  Burwash C.E. Primary
g) Robert Barkshire  Burwash C.E. Primary
h) Jackie Wilkes  Buxted CE Primary
i) Graham Belchamber  Castledown Community Primary
j) Lance Smith  Chailey
k) Joanne Counsell  Churchwood Community primary
l) Nicolette Miles  Chyngton School
m) Douglas Russell  Chyngton School
n) Neil Hobden  Claverham Community College
o) Margaret Pratt  Claverham Community College
p) Kathryn Field  Claverham Community College
q) Alison Doig  Dallington School
r) Patricia Smart  Dudley Infant School
s) Jane Mills  East Hoathly School
t) Geoffrey Baulcomb  Eastbourne Technology College
u) Hugh Evers  Eastbourne Technology College
v) Margaret PLEASANTS  Elphinstone Community School
w) Joan Patten  Elphinstone Community School
x) Scott Brunton  Elphinstone Community School
y) Graham Axtell  Forest Row CE Primary School
z) David Tidswell  Forest Row CE Primary School
aa) Catriona Davies  Grays School
bb) Siriol Powney  Groombridge St Thomas Primary
c) Allan Keates  Hampden Park Infant School
dd) Carol Hilsdon  Hankham Primary
e) Rodney Ash  Harlands Primary
ff) Michael Pashler  Hawkes Farm
ff) Ronald Chatwin  Hellingley Community Primary
hh) Graham Bragg  Hellingley Community Primary
ii) Jenny Martin  Herstmonceux
(4) authorise the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Chairman, to reappoint Barbara Clark as an LEA representative governor at Bourne Primary School subject to clarification about the status of her proposer;

(5) defer consideration of the reapplication by Shirley Westwood to be an LEA representative governor at Helenswood School and request the Director of Children’s Services to report to the next meeting on the current position in respect of the school and the implications for the Governors’ Panel;

(6) authorise the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Chairman, to reappoint Terence Squires to be an LEA representative governor at Ringmer Community College subject to clarification about the status of his proposer;
(7) note that the following governors have been re-appointed under delegated authority following reconstitution of the governing bodies:-

a) Irene Hall                    Denton Community Primary School
b) Malcolm Mazey                Denton Community Primary School
c) Thomas Ost                   Denton Community Primary School
d) Michael Stewart              Crowhurst CE Primary School
e) Tracy Godwin                 Hurst Green CE Primary School

(8) agree to review, at the next meeting of the Panel, whether the amount of information being circulated would justify the delegation of straightforward re-application approvals to the Director of Children’s Services in consultation with the Chairman.