Minutes of the Morle	y Resources Committee	meeting, Monda	y 21 st October 2013
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Present: Andrew Sweasey (AS), Caroline Louth (CL), Emma Linney (EL) (Clerk), Helen Devlin (HD), Michael Catchpool (Head), Philip Colligan (PC) (Chair), Sarah Seed (SS)

Apologies: Becky McInerney (BM), Kate Allan (KA), Lindsay Fournier (LF), Matt Casey (MattC), Tim Fox (TF) (School Business Manager)

Main points discussed	Decisions and Action	when	by whom
1. Apologies for absence			
Apologies were received and accepted from BM, KA, LF, MattC and TF.			
2. Notice of Any Other Business			
None.			
3. Election of the Chair			
t was agreed that Philip Colligan would chair the Committee.			
. Committee Terms of Reference			
hese have been drafted but discussion and finalisation was deferred to the next meeting.			
5. Proposed site redevelopment			
t was noted that all governors had been invited to attend the meeting.			
Prior to the meeting TF circulated a paper which provided GBs with background to the project, the scope of the proposed			
work and the potential gains to be made. It also highlighted the areas of the school which would not be included in the			
edevelopment project. Any work required to these areas would need to be funded by the School.			
SS described the current situation:			
The Committee needs to give the County Council agreement to proceed in order for the next phase to begin.			

- The School is very fortunate to be included in this round of capital expenditure, particularly given the current economic climate and the fact that the school does not fit the usual criteria (schools in a deprived area with high numbers of FSM children).
- The reason Morley is included in the project is because the current EY building is not fit for purpose.
- Approval at this stage is to the overall shape of the proposal. There would still be opportunities to influence the final design, layout and specification of the project.

- Considerable work has been done by TF, AS and the Head to get to this point. Four different options have been
 explored and they are satisfied that the current option is the best solution.
- AS is meeting with a parent who is an architect at the end of this week to review the plans and get a second opinion.
- If the Committee is happy this evening, AS will give a verbal go ahead to the Council.

The Committee discussed the paper and the Head summarised the reasons why moving to a single site school was important:

- To enable the school to provide an early years curriculum that allowed all children the option of self-directed outdoor play (not currently possible with a class upstairs)
- To ensure that the classrooms were accessible
- To better integrate early years into the rest of the school both for children and staff
- To reduce the frequency of early years children crossing the road, which was time-consuming

In addition, the layout of the early years building was inefficient and made teaching difficult.

A GB asked what the negatives were, if any.

Head: The main issues will be voiced by parents who say they like having a separate EY building which feels secure and cosy, and who feel disappointment at losing the extensive grounds of the current EY building.

In addition, the project will not cover the entire school building; for example Y1 and Y2 classrooms. Additional funding will be required to redecorate these and bring them up to the spec of the rest of the school.

A GB questioned whether EY children are legally required to have continual access to outside space.

Head: EY teaching staff have to plan lessons inside and out, and give children the ability to self-direct their learning. The children in Gold class are unable to do this. Furthermore, the Chief Primary Advisor Phil Garner agreed on a recent visit that the current building is simply not fit for purpose.

There was a discussion about how much useable space the current EY classes have, given the awkward configuration of the classrooms. AS noted that one of the initial designs looked at redeveloping the current EY building but it was discounted due to cost.

There was a discussion about the size of the proposed new EY classrooms. The current 3 classrooms (two Y3 and the ASC) will be knocked down into 2, both with access to the front playground. The Committee asked AS if he would obtain measurements of the current and proposed classroom sizes, in order to make a comparison.

There was a discussion about the new non-classroom spaces which would result from the proposed project, including a resource area and the extended hall. These areas would be available to all children, including EY who don't currently make use of the shared spaces in the main building because of the effort involved in moving the children across the road and back

Ask CC for measurements.

A GB asked what the Council plans to do with the current EY building. Head: The Council have talked about opening a nursery school, which the School could bid to run if that was deemed a good idea. This would certainly be a financial opportunity, as well as increasing the school's offer to the community. The building has an educational covenant on it which should ensure it keeps its educational purpose.	Check how robust an educational covenant is.	AS
AS confirmed that the tennis court next to the EY building would remain with the school and would be redeveloped as a multi-use games area, offering more opportunities for sports clubs at lunchtime and afterschool, hosting matches with other schools, and potential revenue from hiring it out. Redevelopment of the Coach House to provide changing facilities will not form part of the project.		
Finances CL confirmed that savings would be made by moving to one site from two, including lower utility bills and reduced cleaning costs. TF would need to ensure that cleaning hours are re-assessed and do not simply continue as they are. C noted that the redevelopment work is not scheduled to start until July 2017 and some difficult decisions will need to be made between now and then in terms of spending on essential maintenance whilst trying not to waste money on items which will be replaced as part of the project.	-	
The Committee looked at the plans for the site in considerable detail. The Head outlined the main changes and improvements as set out in the paper.		
The Committee had a number of additional ideas which AS agreed to raise with the Council:	Raise ideas with the Council	AS
 Covering the Peace Garden with a glass/Perspex roof in order to raise butterflies or grow exotic plants, etc. Bi-fold doors from the KS2 classrooms which look out onto the rear playground. Improved science facilities in Y5 and Y6. 		
It was agreed that it would be crucial to make the most of the outdoor space on the main site given the loss of outdoor space in the EY garden.		
 The FoM have agreed to fundraise for the redevelopment of the large grassed area where one of the diseased ash trees and the trim trail used to be. An initial donation of £15,000 has been pledged. TF has had quotes from 5 suppliers. A consultant has been appointed to review all of the outdoor space and draw u plans. It was agreed that a vision was needed for the space which incorporates creativity, PE, science and the broader 	Feed this back to FOM	
 curriculum. This will help with fundraising and grant applications. HD (FoM Treasurer) noted that the FoM are planning to launch a regular giving programme this term. She suggeste holding off on this until the GB and the Head have a better idea of what they would like the outdoor space to deliver. The children should be asked for their ideas too. The School Council have started to work on this. It was agreed that the Curriculum Committee would consider the design of the outdoor space at its next meeting. 	Curriculum Committee	

Phasing AS gave a brief outline of how the project would be phased. This can be discussed in more detail as the project progresses but essentially the work will run from July 2017 – September 2018. Access routes will be challenging but some outdoor space will be retained during the build. Although 2017 is a while off, AS noted that it is worth getting as far ahead as we can at this stage because the more developed the plans are, the less likely the project is to be postponed or cancelled by the Council. Next steps: Telling parents and the wider community The Committee agreed that this evening's discussion was a very useful run through of conversations which will need to be had with parents and the wider community in order to get them on board. The Council is proposing to hold a meeting with stakeholders in early January. The Committee agreed it would help to meet with parents and the FoM before this happens. A parental engagement plan will be needed. There was a final discussion of pros and cons before the Committee voted in agreement that it was broadly in favour of to support the plans as they currently stand and that it was happy for the Council to proceed to the next design stage. One

member of the committee abstained from the vote.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm

Future points to be discussed		
Notes for other committees	Suggested action	 <u> </u>
FGB Learning	Parental engagement re: building work Vision for redevelopment of outdoor space	
Abbreviations: FoM Friends of Morley ASC After School Club (Spectrum) EY Early Years		
Dates of future meetings: November TBC	Comments / Agenda Terms of Reference	

All decisions pay due regard to the school's equality policy and the Equality Act 2010.