



**The BAWB Federation**  
**Bainbridge, Askrigg, and West Burton Primary Schools**  
*Mid-Dale Excellence in Education*  
Executive Headteacher: Miss Charlotte L. Harper

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017

Dear parents and community members,

On Monday evening (19<sup>th</sup>) a meeting took place at Aysgarth Village Institute, convened by a group of parents of the West Burton community. Prior to this meeting, Cllr Blackie had been approached to support this group in seeking some answers from the Local Authority (LA) to specific questions. Cllr Blackie also requested the attendance of LA representatives at the meeting.

In response to this request, both Andrew Dixon (Strategic Planning Manager, CYPS) and Anton Hodge (Assistant Director, Strategic Resources, CYPS) attended the meeting in order to bring expertise to inform the discussion, and offer factual responses to the questions raised. Charlotte Harper and representatives of the Governing Board did not attend, on the advice of the Local Authority, as they had not been invited and this was a community rather than school meeting.

The LA officers report that the meeting was helpful in enabling an informative discussion around issues of school organisation, finance and governance both in a local and national context.

A number of LA officers prepared a detailed response to a wide range of questions presented by Cllr Blackie and parents; this response accompanies this letter.

The Governing Board, Headteacher, Local Authority and Diocese continue to work closely together in order to address the concerning financial position of the three schools. It has been agreed that in the autumn term there will be a sharing of information with the communities of all three schools and an informal consultation to seek views on the way forward for the federated schools.

Thank you for all your questions, contributions and continued support in challenging circumstances.

Kind regards,

Charlotte Harper  
Headteacher

Derek Walpole  
Chair of Governors

Andrew Dixon  
Strategic Planning Manager, CYPS