

BAWB Parents' Forum  
Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016  
7pm at Bainbridge School

Chair: Georgina Pickard - Sparne Minutes: Kath Alderson
Present: Catherine Madley; Heather Hodgson; Cathy Bergs; Claire Cooper, Mark Cooper
Apologies: Kate Hodgson; Helen Dalton
<b>Introductions and Apologies</b>
<p>The parents present introduced themselves by detailing the year groups their child / children were in and at which school.</p> <p>Georgina explained that whilst she acknowledged there were probably questions re September's proposed arrangements, this forum wasn't the place to answer them. However questions would be noted and passed onto Miss Harper, in readiness for the Open Forum on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.</p>
<b>Collaboration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parents were pleased with how things are working currently within the collaboration, but there is strong feeling re the proposals amongst West Burton parents.</li><li>• The main concerns raised, to be passed onto Miss Harper for the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, were:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ The children from WB will be travelling 5 miles each way, and not 1 mile as is the case with A &amp; B. This also impacts on the time out of the school day.</li><li>➢ Some children from the outlying areas of Bishopdale are already on the bus from 8:15am</li><li>➢ Is this a pre-cursor to closure?</li><li>➢ How long will a school which has 12 children in it stay open?</li><li>➢ Five years from now will there be a school at WB?</li><li>➢ The decision seems to have come out of nowhere.</li><li>➢ There are potentially 7 children who chose WB over Leyburn (living in Swinithwaite, Redmire, Castle Bolton and W Witton), in order for their children to attend a small village school. Will they now move to Leyburn?</li><li>➢ West Burton as a village will feel different as there will be no children playing out on the green at playtime and lunchtime.</li><li>➢ Two years ago WB was in a strong financial position – it is felt that they are 'propping up' the other two schools financially.</li><li>➢ A &amp; B 'share' children – this proposal isn't sharing, it is taking from WB</li><li>➢ It was acknowledged that a Y3/4 AND Y5/6 class was better educationally; however not to the detriment of one of the schools.</li><li>➢ Could detailed financial information be provided next week?</li><li>➢ Could details of the two recruitment processes be shared – why hadn't appointments been made?</li><li>➢ Why not carry on advertising?</li><li>➢ What staff had been recruited at A&amp;B since collaboration?</li></ul></li><li>• It was discussed that there had been very strong feeling against the current arrangement when it was originally suggested, and that some of the current concerns were very similar to those discussed at that time. The Chair also said that there is a national shortage of teachers, and that education is currently in a very politically unsettled time.</li><li>• Children moving between the schools can be a positive experience for them and helps to make the transition to secondary school easier.</li><li>• There will probably be a lot of people at the meeting next week – would it be better to move to the Village Hall (although this may impact on IT provision)?</li></ul>
<b>Communication</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Could the future aims and objectives for BAWB be published on the schools' websites?</li></ul>
<b>Next Meeting</b> <p>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm at West Burton School.</p>
<b>Meeting closed 8.06pm</b>