



**Kaleidoscope Annual General Meeting
held on Wednesday, 15 January 2020 at 6.00 p.m.
at St Martin's CofE Primary School**

Present:

Members:	Ian Blackburn (IB) Anne Davey (AD) David Dennis (DD)	Chair
Trustees:	David Amos (DA) Jane Barry (JB) Tristan Cogan (CD) Walter Lewis (WL) Simon Marriott (SM) Mark Perry (MP)	Chair of Trustee Board CEO
KMAT staff:	Clive Wilson (CW) Jacqui Cashmore (JWC) Aimee Cooper (AC) Jo Walters (JW)	PFO Secretary Administrator Senior Finance Officer
By invitation:	Luci Amos (LA) Emma Bray (EB) John Clark (JC) Rob Collard (RC) Peter Douglas (PD) Sue Elliott (SE) Lara Furnidge (LF) Ruth Lynam (RL) Stuart Mottram (SMo) Mark Preddy (MP) Heidi Read (HR) Geeta Verrell (GV)	Headteacher, Hutton C E Primary School Headteacher, Christ Church CEVA Primary School Headteacher, Ashcombe Primary School Headteacher, Becket Primary School Governor Becket Primary School Headteacher, Worle Village Primary School Headteacher, Crockerne CE Primary School Governor, St Martin's CofE Primary School Governor, Worle Village Primary School Governor, St Martin's CofE Primary School Governor, Becket Primary School Headteacher, Crockerne CE Primary School

Action

- 1 **Welcome**
 - 1.1 The Chair for the Annual General Meeting was David Dennis (DD), Member.
 - 1.2 DD welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.
- 2 **Disclosures**

There were no disclosures of interest raised with regard to items on the agenda.
- 3 **Apologies for absence**

- 3.1 A quorum being present, the Chair declared the meeting open.
- 3.2 Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Edward Gregory, Member.
- 4 **To receive the annual accounts of the company for the period to 31 August 2019**
- 4.1 The accounts for the year ended 31 August 2019 together with the annual report were presented to the meeting for consideration and were open to inspection during the meeting by any Member and were available on Kaleidoscope's website.
- 4.2 Financial Statements – Key Facts
- 4.2.1 Bishop Fleming our accountants have produced a one page summary of the financial statements key facts and this was presented at the meeting.
- 4.2.2 CW thanked TC, Headteachers, School Bursars and Finance Assistants and the MAT Central Finance Team for their work in preparing the accounts. The working partnership and relationship between the schools and the MAT Central Team are good.
- 4.2.3 There are still some areas to resolve with the finance systems and processes but we are confident we are making progress and continuing to meet with our software suppliers to take this forward. We are looking to provide first quarter reporting very soon. CW thanked the MAT Central Team for their hard work on this and dealing with complex issues.
- 4.2.4 We are keen and determined to get this information right as we understand the importance of the financial information to schools and understand and appreciate the difficulties the schools have had to work with. The schools have done well to manage their budgets with limited information but despite this we have been able to achieve a net increase in c/f of £92,533 bringing our available reserves carried forward to £981,212. CW confirmed we are in a strong position although when the Audit and Risk Committee asked the Auditor about our funds position, he had indicated that it was not excessively large in terms of a carry forward and there is a note of caution with regard to finances in the future. We will be reviewing our first quarter and year end position with individual schools shortly.
- 4.3 Audit and Risk – Key Facts
- 4.4 Audit overview and audit opinion: We have been successful in getting a clean unmodified audit opinion. The audit process went smoothly, which is a credit to the schools and MAT Central Team. Head's to pass their thanks to Bursars for the audit process as a whole.
- 4.5 Management letter points: There was one new issue which was with regard to the bank reconciliation process which has been resolved. Details are set out in the appendix to the management letter, which is available on

Kaleidoscope's website.

4.6 Sector overview: Funding remains a key challenge for all academies. Given the level of uncertainty we have talked at Trust Board level and advised schools to hold off from making any big financial changes. There will be further discussion at our Trust Board meeting in February.

4.7 On behalf of the Members DD thanked CW in his role as PFO, for all the work he does for the MAT in providing clear financial information for the Trustees and Members.

4.8 It was RESOLVED that the accounts and annual report for the financial year ended 31 August 2019 be received.

5 **To confirm the appointment of the external auditors of the Company**

It was RESOLVED that Bishop Fleming be appointed as Auditors to the company for the financial year ending 31 August 2020 and until such time that Bishop Fleming resign from office or are removed by the Members under provision of the companies Act 2006 or are deemed not re-appointed under the provision of the Companies Act 2006 and that the Trustees be authorised to determine their remuneration.

6 **Summary of the year and outlook for the year ahead**

6.1 SM gave a presentation to the meeting. The presentation is available on the Kaleidoscope google drive.

6.2 SM echoed his thanks to the MAT Central Team.

6.3 We have had a successful year, with Crockerne joining the MAT and we have moved to a proper location and base for our MAT office team, within St Martin's and this has added something to the MAT.

6.4 Our MAT Central Team is small and bucks the trend of other MATs. We are proud of this small team and have deliberately set out to get best value for money. We have an earned autonomy model, and the Schools, Governors, Trustees and Members are all beginning to work well and in a professional way, which benefits the MAT.

6.5 Kaleidoscope Governance: Our Heads and Chairs group is really strong and contributes to everything we do. A Heads and Chairs group is not common in other MATs but is one of our strengths.

6.6 Our 5 C's were set up at the start. We brainstormed how we wanted our MAT to be and everything we do has linked into these and we've not deviated.

6.7 It has been a busy year

- The schools are successful and results positive and strong and there are good things happening at our schools.

- We have centralised a lot of policies and systems and we are moving more towards this to make it operable. As we have moved through the year we have realised we need more centralised ways of doing things, including our finance and payroll systems.
- One of most powerful things has been our staff networks, this has allowed staff to get to know each other and share best practice. We have had joint staff meetings, INSET days led by those subject teams and quality CPD from staff. Feedback from staff is that they enjoy going to these and feel positive and empowered.
- We have had a wide range of joint pupil events, which have been successful.
- We have a rigorous school improvement model and are always looking to improve. SM has enjoyed being welcomed into the schools and working collaboratively with Headteachers. It is great to see our schools in action and to be able to share the good practice and expertise we have.
- We have set our Strategic Plan Objectives for 2019/20 and wellbeing and curriculum are a big focus. We are manging children with complex needs and there is no outside support. For some of our schools this is one of their most challenging areas.
- There are some potential threats with an unknown financial future; pupil numbers in decline; managing increasingly complex and vulnerable pupils/families; and success of CIF bids.

6.8 SM thanked everyone for a successful year and can see that the MAT is going from strength to strength.

6.9 TC introduced himself as Chair of Trustee Board. He is now in his third term as Chair and it has been fantastic to be there from the beginning and to see the community we have formed. There is a lot of effort in particular from staff and governors after working hours and he expressed his appreciation to everybody for creating the MAT we are today. TC asked Headteachers and Chairs to convey this back to the staff and governors at their schools.

6.10 DD endorsed this on behalf of the Members.

7 **Pre-submitted questions or other business**

None.

The meeting closed at 6.30 pm.