



Ladbroke JMI School
Minutes of Budget Ratification Meeting
Thursday 16th May at 7.15pm

Attendees:

Debbie Bedford (DB); Claire Brazil (CB); Alex Corke (AC); Donna Corke (DC); Phil Cunningham – CoG (PC); Jaime De Verteuil (JDV); Kevin Dobson (KD); Mark Turner (MT); Greg Huntley (GH); Jon Mackley (JM); Tracey Webster – Head (TW)

Apologies:

Nicola Thrussell – Clerk (NT)

Item	Description	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence & Declaration of Interests	
1.1	There was one apology for absence which was approved.	
1.2	There were no Declarations of Interests.	
2.	Budget Discussion	
2.1	The budget, annotated with notes was circulated to all prior to the meeting. The budget is balanced for three years, although it was noted that there is an in-year deficit in each year that increases each year however there is a substantial carry-forward which is allowing the school budget to balance. It was also noted that for the past three or four years there has been an in-year deficit. This is a common picture among many schools.	
2.1.1	To reduce the in year deficit, we have savings due to experienced teachers retiring and replacing them with ECT (Early Career Teachers). We have experienced staff who can mentor them and this is built into the budget	
2.1.2	There has been an increase in the budget due to the increased needs of children coming into the school and the lack of funding from the authority to cover these costs. This is a national picture not just local and all schools in the area are experiencing the same issues	
2.2	Q: I note that on the CFR 5 Year sheet, there is a decrease in LA funding for the year 2025-2026. A: This is due to a grant that has been paid this year, but is not thought to be continuing in future years so it has been taken out.	
2.3	Q: What are the Nursery figures looking like? A: When we set the budget we did not have that many applications for nursery, so we set our budget based on what we know. Since then, we have seen an increased number of applications so it is likely we will receive more income than expected	
2.4	Q: Why were our actual teaching costs lower this year? A: This was due to strike action and when we set the budget last year we were unaware of the retirement of an experienced member of staff who we subsequently replaced with an unqualified teacher who is training in school.	

<p>2.5</p> <p>2.6</p> <p>2.7</p> <p>2.8</p>	<p>Q: In E10, why was the actual spent so low and why has the budget gone up again for this year A: This budget includes £15,000 for supply cover as we do not have external insurance. Although we have not used it this year, with the long-term absence of one member of staff this year it has made us realise that having suitable insurance cover is now needed. Mrs MacCormack is looking into options to bring to the next FGM with a view to starting in September 2024</p> <p>Q: Why was E12 and E13 overspent. A: E12 was overspent due to having to replace the reception carpet due to a flood. Some of this money was offset against insurance money. In E13, we had the tree survey done and they gave a three-year plan of works. It was more cost effective to get the work completed in one go.</p> <p>Q: For E19 there was an underspend can this be explained. A: Included in E19 is Sports Premium. Some of the spend from this is for releasing staff members to go on sporting events with the children. This then comes out of E01 or E03</p> <p>Q: There has been a big increase in E20 this year. Can you explain why? A: There has been a change of coding for this year’s budget. Some of the items previously in E22, E27, E28a have been moved to E20, which means E20 is higher than last year.</p>	
<p>3.</p> <p>3.1</p>	<p>Budget Ratification The budget was unanimously approved and ratified.</p>	
<p>4.</p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p>	<p>Dates of Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13th June – Resources Meeting • 4th July – Full Governing Body Meeting 	

The Meeting closed at 8.15pm.