



**DRAFT MINUTES OF The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF
LINK LEARNING TRUST
VIRTUALLY ON 9th DECEMBER 2021 at 6pm
COMPANY NUMBER 10660172.**

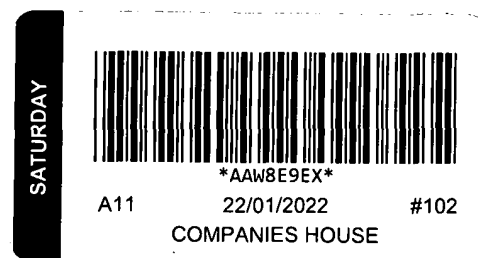
Members Present:

Ian Williamson (IW)
Andy Park (AP)
Nick Horne (NH)

Trustees Present

Trevor Matthews (TM)
Adrian Young Chair
Tim Naor-Hilton Vice-Chair
Teresa Regan (TR)

Apologies: Kim Doyle (member)
Darren Hughes (trustee)
Suzanna Ingham (trustee)
James Shuttleworth (trustee)



Also in attendance: Alison Knowlson Governance Professional to LLT
Joan Pennington Acting CEO
Jayne Kennedy Accounting Officer (JK)
Schelene Ferris (SF)

The meeting was quorate and commenced at 6:0pm.

1	<u>WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS</u> The Chair welcomed the Members and Trustees to the virtual meeting, all person's present introduced themselves.
2	<u>APOLOGIES AND QUORUM</u> There were apologies received and accepted from Kim Doyle, Darren Hughes, Suzanna Ingham and James Shuttleworth, the meeting was quorate.
3	<u>ORDINARY RESOLUTION: APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIR</u> Ian Williamson (Member) was nominated by NH (Member) and seconded by AP (Member), who was UNANIMOUSLY duly elected as Chair of Members and chaired the meeting from this point.
4	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u>

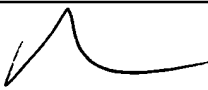
	<p>Members and trustees were asked to declare any potential pecuniary or conflicts of interest that may occur during the course of the meeting.</p> <p>The following conflicts of interest are declared; Nick Horne is a Governor at the Manchester Enterprise Academy.</p> <p>The Members have completed their annual Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.</p>
5.	<p><u>LINK LEARNING TRUST AGM MINUTES</u></p> <p>The minutes from the meeting on the 10th December 2020 were reviewed, IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the minutes were duly received and are a correct record, approved by the Members and will be signed by the Chair.</p> <p>There were no Matters Arising.</p>
6.	<p><u>SPECIAL RESOLUTION: ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION</u></p> <p>The Members agreed to the proposed changes to the Articles of Association IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Articles to be adopted and used from 1st January 2022.</p>
7.	<p><u>SPECIAL RESOLUTION: FUNDING AGREEMENT</u></p> <p>There were no changes to the Funding Agreement</p>
8	<p><u>SPECIAL RESOLUTION: APPOINTMENT / RETIREMENT OF MEMBERS</u></p> <p>It was noted the members of Link Learning Trust are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ian Williamson, • Kim Doyle, • Nick Horne and • Andy Park. <p>IT WAS RESOLVED to recruit another Member.</p>
9	<p><u>ORDINARY RESOLUTION: APPOINTMENT / RETIREMENT OF TRUSTEES</u></p> <p>It was noted the trustees are.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adrian Young • Tim Naor-Hilton • Trevor Matthews • Suzanna Ingham • Teresa Regan • Darren Hughes • James Shuttleworth
10	<p><u>ORDINARY RESOLUTION: APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS</u></p> <p>Q: How long have the LLT had the auditors?</p>

	<p>R: Since we began as an academy in 2017, for four years.</p> <p>Q: Is there anything in the rules that stipulate the maximum period for auditors or not?</p> <p>R: It would be good practice to change auditors at some point, but there isn't anything that stipulates we must change.</p> <p>Q: We are not at that point yet?</p> <p>R: Allots have kept their price competitive which has helped.</p> <p>Q: Has the Executive been happy with the process of the auditors?</p> <p>R: They are very helpful in the audit process. The service is timely and supportive.</p> <p>The appointment of Allotts as Auditors for the 2021/22 was proposed by AP seconded by IW, all agreed.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED that Allotts are hereby appointed auditors for the ensuing year.</p>
11	<p><u>RISKS FACING THE LINK LEARNING TRUST</u></p> <p>The Risk Register was not available in the backing papers before the meeting, AK to circulate the register to members.</p> <p>JP highlighted the Risks to the Trust are: the threat of the pandemic is ongoing; and a reduction in pupil numbers at Barlow Hall; the register is RAG rated and kept under review as a working document.</p> <p>AY (Adrian Young) highlighted the student numbers and the risk of the pandemic is kept under review by the trustees.</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED the report was received and accepted.</p>
12	<p><u>THE LINK LEARNING REVIEW OF THE YEAR</u></p> <p>The AO (Accounting Officer) gave a verbal report on the year across both schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both schools have successfully navigated the challenges that Covid brings. • There have been further improvements in the Remote Education offer. • There has been further alignment of the finance and business management as evidenced by the internal and annual audits, the successful CIF (Condition Improvement Funding) bids and the positive Health and Safety monitoring. • The planned growth of the Trust and preparations to take the leadership of Sure Start children's centre, which started in November 2021. • Maintaining academic standards in both schools. • Continuation of MTSA (Manchester Trust School Alliance) as a successful alliance of schools following the de-designation of the teaching school. • JP organised the MTSA conference, held at the Etihad with over 200 attendees and Michael Rosen as guest speaker. Grateful thanks to JP for arranging such a

	<p>successful and enjoyable event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing the school-to-school support beyond the LLT through the work of SF as an Ofsted Inspector, SF and JK as National Leaders in Education. In Brookburn and Barlow Hall we have Specialists Leaders in Education which support schools outside of the Trust. The survey for parents was conducted and with pupil voice activities, shows the overwhelming support for the schools from the stakeholders. <p>The Chair asked if the trustees wanted to add to the verbal report JK has presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AY re-iterated how grateful the trustees are to the Executive team and the amount of effort it has taken by JP, JK and SF to keep the school open and the children educated over the past year. IW stated without wanting to overstep the remit of a member, he would be interested to hear more about some of these interesting initiatives. NH added his congratulations to the Executive team, staff and trustees in light of the difficult and challenging year for all. AP added his thanks to the staff and Executive team too and highlighted things may not change for some time. How are we as a trust for a couple more years of similar ways of working. How resilient are the staff and is there anything the trust and members can do to look after them? Many of the staff are going above and beyond and there is a limit of how long that can last? How confident are we that we can keep going in these challenging times? IW stated with the new variant Omicron, things can change very quickly and need immediate attention. From an NHS perspective they are trying to find effective and supportive ways to renew and refresh the workforce. JK stated the focus for the trust board and Executive team has been on well-being and is constantly being reviewed. Morale is very good, and staff have stepped up for the children. SF - The mental health and wellbeing Policy is coming into action, sometimes it is the little things that make the difference. We have good teams of strong people who are keeping going for the sake of the children. TM stated the staff have adapted well and the morale is good. Standards in both schools have remained high over the past two years, which should reassure members and trustees. If standards remain high the quality of leadership must be high, which is reassuring. AY we have been very resilient the way we have dealt with the pandemic over the past 18 months. There is a slight dislocation that we have not had face to face meetings, and he looks forward to when we can meet again.
13	<p><u>ANY BUSINESS WHICH THE TRUSTEES HAVE ASKED THE MEMBERS TO CONSIDER</u></p> <p>IW requested AY and TN-H to update the members after tonight's meeting on succession planning.</p>
14	<p><u>ANY MOTIONS WHICH THE MEMBERS WISH TO DEBATE.</u></p> <p>There were no further motions for debate.</p>

15	<p><u>ORDINARY RESOLUTION: FINANCIAL ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS: FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31ST AUGUST 2021</u></p> <p>The members received the accounts for 2020-21.</p> <p>It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Financial Annual Report and Accounts for the period 2020-21, are hereby duly received and approved.</p>
16	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>8th December 2022 at 6pm</p>

Meeting finished at **6:30pm.**


.....Chair
18/1/2022
.....Dated