MINUTES OF

FULL BOARD MEETING

Held on Monday 18th March 2025 9.30 am at Atlantic Centre

In Attendance:

Geoff Brown (GB) Chair; Sebastian Parker (SP); Sally Foard (SF); John Simeons (JS); Helen Casson (HC); Sarah Goswell (SG); Ashley Mann (AM)

Also In Attendance:

Dan Morrow (DM); Clare Ridehalgh (CR); Richard Baker (RB); Amy Daniels (AD); Claire Carter (CC); Tracy Cartmel (TC);

Item		Action by:
1.	Welcome, apologies & Declaration of Business Interest GB welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sean Dixon has formally resigned as a Trustee having completed 12 years on the Board.	
2	Minutes and Matters Arising from 3 rd February 2025 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 th December 2024 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The minutes were checked for accuracy and no observations were made, and the minutes were therefore AGREED. Matters Arising: Part B – A conversation was held regarding the Union involvement at Newquay Tretherras. DM gave an update on the situation and current discussions.	
3 3.1	 Safeguarding - standing item AD gave an overview of the current situation in CELT schools. With the following points being highlighted: Number of children in need has increased 34 to 53 – this in part is due to utilising CPOMS better and DSLs receiving prevent training as two referrals followed. Social care remains high, 15 children more in care than this time last year. Safeguarding audit outcome piece of work for DSLs to work on 	

Initials: _____

- Cause for concern % Port Isaac and Pondhu have highest % per population.
- Fowey's numbers are very low which is a concern, this may relate to not recording, a new DSL is in place. Training is being provided.

Secondary overview

- Bodmin has 1% of the cohort on child protection, national average 0.1%
- There have been two tragic deaths, one at Poltair and Brannel, both of which were unexpected.
- A review of Critical Incident Policy is required as a follow up to procedures in place
- Strong support was received from Local Authority
- A full debrief was carried out for staff involved
- Community support was evident with support for the family
- Letter from DM to thank partners for their input

GB thanked AD and the SLT for their involvement

Trust Lead update

- ELT structure is in place with a broader team, this will provide more agility and value for money.
- One team One approach giving clarity for the trust with challenge
- Codify 3-year strategy with a priority of aspects required, with costings.
- No surprises and therefore not being reactive.
- Half day strategy day to be organised.
- Scheme of Delegation proposed is not fit for purpose. DM met with LGB chairs and informed that local governance has ceased for formal meetings for the rest of year. SEND and safeguarding to continue to be reported on.
- Broader, deeper work is required around Ethos, Articles and Association and Scheme of Delegation. Ofsted require triangulation of SLT and governance.

Key Risks: Primary

- Fowey Ofsted inspection expected before end of year expect RI. The trust need to mitigate risk. May need to go to three classes from six.
- Pondhu has a small deficit, there has been high investment with poor outcomes.
- There are financial structures in place for September.

Key Risks: Secondary

- Newquay Tretherras Fall in roll with an increase at Treviglas. There is potential for strike action on 6th
- CELT is not the only Trust with a demographic challenge.
- DfE have confirmed they will not be providing extra finances.

Finance:

- Acceptance from leaders regarding GAG pooling
- SCA discussed with leaders and agreed use of funds
- TC has taken on Estates as well as finance. The focus in this area is very strong.
- Discussions have been held with the RD's office regarding the opening of nurseries
- The Trust needs to look at growth from within, looking at resources bases, 0-5 provision, post 16, and nursery spaces.

6th Form:

- RB has had conversation with Callywith, St Austell and Truro Colleges. Partnership work is going very well.
- RB has completed some exceptional work to bring post 6th form together across the trust.
- CELT have been a driver in Cornwall for bringing CEOs together for collective responsibility for provision.

4. Finance Reports

- The budget monitoring report has been restyled with notes and reason of overspend.
- Finances are not where we would like them to be but the trust in in a good financial position.
- SRMA report has been submitted.
- Numbers of falling rolls is challenging, this needs to be reviewed as soon as numbers are published and plan ahead.

2024-2025 budget:

- The Trust is moving to ICFP model which gives a 3-year strategic planning
- A small debt has been written off
- SCA spend areas are being reviewed
- Looking to align the school day to provide wraparound
- Reserves with regards Music Block at Newquay Tretherras, final figures will be known by Monday. Some finances have been pulled back with works being completed inhouse.
- GAG pooling. TC gave an overview of the report.
 Action/Agreed: Trustees agreed with GAG pooling
 Action/Agreed: Trustees agreed that the Trust continues to be a going concern.

5.	Scheme of Delegation Reported on in Agenda Item 10 Trust Lead Report	
6.	Admission Consultation 6.1 Response from Cornwall Council Local Authority have requested that we do not reduce the PAN. This can be reviewed when and if the new school proceeds. 6.2 Response from St Mewan LGB Discussion held with headteacher and chair of governors regarding unaffordable structure. Headteacher was assured that if 60 pupils register the PAN can change. Action: Primary PAN to remain as is Action: Secondary School PAN to revert	
7.	Policies 7.1 Dress Code Policy There were two sources of discussion. 1. Headteacher having conversations and 2. Union complaints. This is not terms of conditions it is clear guidance with clarity. An example of flip flops was used as inappropriate footwear. The policy will be reviewed annually. The term "sex" should be replaced with gender.	
8.	Resignation & Appointment of Trustees 8.1 Resignations - None 8.2 Review application forms received for possible Trustees - None 8.3 Terms of office - None	
9.	Date of Next Meetings Monday 7 th July 2025 8.30 am Atlantic Centre	
10.	AoB 1. Trust Lead progress update As above 2. Update on new charity CR reported that work had been completed to establish legal documents which had been submitted to the Charity Commission. The process has been halted as there was current no bank account. 20k had been received from Reach and a bank account subsequently opened. It was noted that the trust need to be aware of how their involvement is perceived, it does not appear to be ethical. This needs to be reviewed as a potential risk to the organisation and as such to DM as Accounting Officer. There needs to be a 3-year strategy.	
	The Meeting closed at: 18.56	

Initials: _____

The above minutes were agreed and approved.		
Chair (Signature)	Dated	
Geoff Brown		

