**Present:** Councillor P Rees - Chair

Mr S John

Mrs J Lewis

Mrs R Reed – Deputy Headteacher

Mr D Cole - Headteacher

Mrs A Powis – Clerk to the Governing Body

1. **Apologies for absences**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Protheroe, Mrs G Thomas.

*Governors* ***unanimously*** *agreed accepted apologies*.

1. **Budget**

The Headteacher went through the latest budget monitoring spreadsheet and reported on the following;

* We have gone over budget on the Teaching Assistants, as we are required to have them under ALN.
* The school have made a saving on teachers’ salaries.
* We have been working hard to reduce the utility bills and have put in a reasonable prediction. We could be £7k worse, but we will not know until around end of financial year.
* Staff supply cover has gone up an extra £50k. We have a member of staff on long term sick and have had to pay for a supply cover. The member of staff is finishing on 31st December 2024.
* Additional monies in for Exams, we spent an extra £15k as we went ahead with entries in Maths Numeracy and English.
* SENC and OWLS are neutral funded to us.
* There is going to be an extra £4k for a Cynydd worker, Sickness Officer and Data protection officer.
* In the latest budget monitoring report 8th October 2024, the school are looking at closing on a £-372,260.

The Headteacher proceeded to then go through the spreadsheet with the original budget for 24/25. He relayed the school projected figure at the end of the financial year would be £-85,426. At the beginning of the year the school made a saving of £78,547 as we had some voluntary redundancies, and we should have been heading for a figure of £-306,000 but we are now worse off from the start of the year. The reason we are now over on budget is because we employed other staff; 1 English Teacher, Nurture Teacher and a Maths Teacher returned from Hillside, all those added up to £87,000.

*Governors questioned the Headteacher that he would need 2 plans moving forward. 1 to reduce the money from this year and 1 to go forward. Headteacher relayed that he understands this and there is a plan to save money, and the Council have agreed this.*

Headteacher relayed that the possible savings from 2025 to 2027 would be not replacing the Head of Art as she has resigned her post, additional funding for an extra 20 pupils, and additional reduction from 1 FTE, in total that gives us £190,000. By the 2nd year we plan to break even.

The curriculum has already been mapped out for next year.

*Mrs J Cotgias entered the room at 3.32 pm*

*Governor noted that we would be having a reduction in our budget share due to the closure of the VI unit.*

The Head relayed that the Science Teacher and the Nurture Teacher are extra staff and we could reduce these staff if required moving forward. *A* *Governor questioned if that would come to the Governors to ratify?* Headteacher replied ‘Yes’.

*Governor questioned ‘What underpins the budget, when we have the extra from the LEA, where is that written down in the budget? The* Head replied that the LEA come in monthly to monitor the budget and they have agreed our spending plan.

*Chair mentioned that the school had been in a worse position before now, and we should be fine to get back to a position in credit.*

The Head relayed we are ensuring our pupils are getting the same provision moving forward, so we need to ensure we keep the teaching staff we have.

Meeting ended at 4.00 pm

Signed: ……………………………………………

Chair of Governors

Date: ……………………………………………