

<p align="center">Notes from a meeting held at Windmill Primary School on 16/10/12 7pm-8:30pm. Mr Roy Leach, School Organisation and Planning Manager, Frances Craven Deputy Director Education & Early Intervention and Cllr Melinda Tilley, Cabinet Member for Education. (LK Lynn Knapp, Head teacher; RL Roy Leach; MT Melinda Tilley; MS Mayte Siswick, chair Windmill Governors)</p>		
<p align="center">LK welcomed the community to the meeting. MS chaired the meeting, introduced Mr Leach and Cllr Tilly</p>		
Questions/Points Raised	Response	By
Concern about appropriate funding to expand effectively. How much funding is available?	No certainty yet-feasibility study not done yet. Resources are available, OCC will spend on facilities to enable an effective curriculum delivery and ensure spaces are available.	RL
What part does Sandhills play in the catchment? Why are Bayards & Sandhills under subscribed?	Sandhills is included in planning to meet parental preferences. It was looked at to expand but had traffic issues. Both schools have admitted additional children.	RL
Traffic issues, triangle, London Rd, Slade & Windmill Rd. Not just school traffic but workers travelling. Windmill bearing the brunt of it. Sandhills has more ground, something has to be done about traffic.	Not clear something has to be done directly linked to Windmill expansion. Traffic reorganisation in area has led to change in travel patterns. There was a strong argument why Windmill is to expand, originally thought it wouldn't need to but the population has grown. RL listed schools already expanded.	RL
How big is the catchment? Parents still drive, drop off, go to work	school patterns. Most children live relatively close to the school (under 1 mile) so could walk/cycle.	RL
Has OCC had a traffic survey done?	Don't know, but will certainly do home to school travel survey as part of feasibility work.	RL
Wouldn't address the issue	If problems with home/school/work traffic, OCC will monitor	RL
Area outside school is at breaking point particularly in bad weather - extremely busy	All traffic issues will be passed to the relevant department	RL
What happened to the base line survey done 2 years ago?	No response	
At what stage did CC look at Sandhills?	Sandhills has previously admitted above original Published Admission Number but cannot be permanently expanded to 1.5 or 2 FE	RL
Concern, point of impact - future WPS pupils, sufficient building not just a block of rooms, infrastructure, parking. How can it happen successfully to a school already full?	Detailed planning will be available, increment planning over 5 yrs. When WPS was a middle school there were c.530 pupils on the site.	RL
580 was questioned as accurate	Capacity was actually 585.	RL
Out of catchment pupil numbers were quoted, are the CC shoehorning an entire out of catchment primary school into WPS?	There will inevitably be a proportion not in catchment but the majority will be local children. National and local policy is to offer choice. Every school is full	RL

What are projections for this area?	RL will check and report back to LK	RL
How are children to get a good education in over crowded teaching areas?	There is no evidence proving that bigger schools have worse outcome than small schools. The teaching areas won't be overcrowded; there will be enough classrooms.	RL
Beyond level of expansion, schools cannot build on its ethos	Don't agree. *Schools planning need to be detailed. Some schools who have expanded continue to be good or outstanding.	RL *MT
Questions/Points Raised	Response	By
A site inspector pointed out access from front to back of school is restrictive, a neighbour's wall demolished 4 times during last building works	No response [But contractors would need to be sensitive to impact on neighbouring properties.]	
Success depends on good planning, would it have been better to have plans at the forefront not after consultations?	Likely that there are informal sketches of possible classroom sites etc produced by School Organisation team when potential for expansion first considered. *Detailed plans would have pre-empted the consultation process. Nothing has been decided, don't shoot the messengers	RL *MT
The population has steadily increased, why has there been no forward planning until now at the last minute?	There has been forward planning and dialogue but the governors and Head teacher were previously not keen to expand. Demand for places has continued to increase so expansion of WPS now being considered. We must ensure every child has a school place.	RL
Feel this is a fait accompli, if not WPS there is no back up. Struggle to view meeting as a consultation. No time to deliver by Sept '13. No plans, no numbers, Why only expansion not new schools?	Not a fait accompli as must go through a two stage political process. These issues have been raised, not viable to build as no sites available in Headington. Would be 3 yrs before able to offer places in a brand new school. If WPS didn't expand children would be ferried to schools CC would have to bear the cost. New schools would be great but there are no resources.	
Delivering quality education, schools too big lose a community feeling, children don't recognise each other, social cohesion would break down.	There are ways of organising smaller groups, vertical houses etc.	RL
School should work along side CC. Properly managed with good standards maintained in an expanded school could be a positive way forward. If we fight this we may be forced to expand, still feel it is a fait accompli.	Not a fait accompli - Cabinet will need to consider whether to publish Statutory Notice and then whether to proceed with expansion. Informed audience how feelings are reported	MT

Teachers may prefer to work in a 2 form entry school, facilities and opportunities etc are fewer in bigger schools. No space to teach small grps. Staff don't get to know each other nor do the children. It may take 3 yrs to build a new school but planning could have done this 3 yrs ago.	Acknowledged that more difficult for teachers to know names of every child in a large school (RL referred to own experience as a teacher) but every child would be known by name by adults.	
If school doesn't expand, what happens to those already here?	They will stay in school until yr 6. They won't be expelled! There is enough space for them now and will continue to be so.	RL
Concern the 'bulge' will greatly reduce resourcing, already lost art room, ICT suite, how is it acceptable to lose facilities? Children must have the same opportunities	ICT is now enhanced by mobile technology, ICT suites are uncommon. Need to look at how to enhance facilities	RL
Questions/Points Raised	Response	By
We must fight to get the best not lose classroom space, hall is too small, lose after school club room, No empty rooms, where will they all go? Need positive messages.	Will be positive about how the capacity was and it could be that 3-4 additional classrooms would suffice.	RL
Mrs Knapp's response to the above: we need 5 classrooms if we are not to compromise on the opportunities that are currently available to the children. I would fight tooth and nail to keep the After School Club room and DT space that are resources we need and not be squashed into small spaces. Please clarify the position should the proposal be turned down. My understanding is that the LA could still come back to us in April and demand that we take an extra 30 children who would then be housed in a temporary building. We would then have to be reactive and not proactive.	Confirmed that if permanent expansion of WPS were not agreed but come April there were not enough schoolplaces, the Council could require the school to admit another 'bulge' year accommodated in a temporary classroom. The Council is able to direct Community and Controlled schools to admit additional children (as was done with St.Andrew's).	RL
Christmas shows, plays, harvest festivals etc unable to have whole school together to have the same experience now as the hall is too small for the amount of pupils	Concerns about the size of the hall have been noted and will be considered as part of the feasibility study.	RL
What is the point of catchment?	Establishes likelihood of getting into schools of choice and gives preference to local children.	RL

2 day centres in the area take children from 2yrs old outside catchment therefore they will want to come to Windmill. How many are we really taking out of catchment?	Of the current 90 children, 70 were in catchment and seven had older siblings in the school.	RL
Would like to see 'catchment area' Quotes from Matilda and Billy Elliot. The proposal to expand would sacrifice space and outdoor space, what value is placed on the proposal?	[Catchment map available at end of meeting but not looked at.] No response	
How does the current pupil space allocation affect WPS? When was the last time pupil space was changed?	Pupil space is not set by CC but nationally. In older builds some classrooms exceed the recommended allowance. Would not take advantage of recent changes to building specifications.	RL
When was it amended? Was it better or worse?	Cannot remember when last amended. What is working now is based on the last decade and set out in national Building Bulletins.	RL
Is the information available?	Basic information is available on the website or by request	RL
Questions/Points Raised	Response	By
Expansion would change the culture of WPS. Clubs, societies, music, characterises WPS. Short term extra classrooms.	Did not say temporary classrooms. Expansion will be more than just rooms. The after school club has already been raised as an issue	RL
Response before to after school care was CC is not responsible for after school care. There isn't anywhere to put more children in the school now. Please to hear you agree the ASC is an issue	No response	
What happens when the children leave WPS for secondary school? Where will they go?	Fortunately the bulge is now in yrs 3/4. Eventually the CC will have to invest in some secondary schools-improving reputation and performance.	RL
Going back to catchment, WPS wasn't the first choice for a parent on Risinghurst, Sandhills was full, no nursery care	No response	
Space - how much 'joined up thinking' is there? A developer says there is development for housing preferred over plans for schools	There is a City Council priority for housing to reduce pressure. Planners do liaise with City and recognise that additional housing will further increase demand for school places.	RL

<p>If the proposal was rejected by community, WPS could still be told to take another 30 children year on year. The dilemma is work with CC to produce a great facility, strategic planning, be involved or don't be involved and end up with cramped inefficient spaces</p>	<p>The reality is the Council can place additional children in Community and Controlled schools and have used the power to do so in the past to ensure every child has a school place. *We want to listen to everything you say, much rather work alongside. Reiterated reasons for expansion</p>	<p>RL *MT</p>
<p>Only dissent is heard. If in April pupils can't be placed does taking an additional 30 make us permanent 3 form entry?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>RL</p>
<p>Could expansion be forced on us even if object?</p>	<p>It will go to cabinet at least twice for deliberation.</p>	<p>RL</p>
<p>Would 3 forms be enough? Not fair on the children affected by lack of strategy</p>	<p>Can't say 3 forms would be enough to meet all future growth in demand, as the population may change again. * Babies are counted, 4-5 yrs hence are able to plan for school places but not before they're born. Migration is the problem, 500 extra spaces needed [across the City], not all information is available to movement of families in and out of area. Forecasting next year and year after is not an exact science</p>	<p>RL *MT</p>
<p>Expansion would be an opportunity to create better teaching areas, a foreign language lab etc</p>	<p>Next to no chance of a language lab but larger schools have a greater opportunity to attract specialist teachers.</p>	<p>RL</p>