



Minutes

A record of what we discussed and what decisions we made

Friday 26th January 2018

Representation from the following schools (names and other sensitive information has been removed for website publication).

Allenton	Breadsall Hill Top	Brocklewood
Two pupils	Apologies	Three pupils
Bulwell St Marys	Burford	Edale Rise
Two pupils	Two pupils	One pupil
Highbank	Pear Tree Juniors	Robert Shaw
Two pupils	Two pupils	Two pupils
Rosslyn Park	Sneinton C of E	South Wilford Endowed
Two pupils	Two pupils	Two pupils
Whitegate	William Booth	Trust Centre
Two pupils	Two pupils	Mrs Meredith Mrs O' Connor Claire Smith Kim Blount Mr Munro Special Guest – Mr Norris MP

01. **Welcome and Introductions**

Mrs Meredith welcomed all of you to the meeting. We were very lucky to be joined by Mr Munro and our very special guest Mr Norris MP. Some Headteachers were also at the meeting.

Mr Munro explained to the group that he has two jobs at Transform. He is the Chair of Governors at Brocklewood Primary School and he is involved in the Board of Trustees. He explained that the Trustees check that Mrs Meredith and the rest of the team across the Trust are doing everything that they can for the children of the Trust. He sometimes asks Mrs Meredith some very tricky questions about what is going on in the Trust schools!

02. **Minutes and Matters Arising**

Mrs O'Connor went through the minutes from the last meeting page by page. At the end of each page, Parliament members were asked if they agreed that the minutes were an accurate record of what was discussed, by voting by a show of hands.

All Parliament Members agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

03. **Mr Norris MP**

Mr Norris explained that he spends a lot of time in the Houses of Parliament in London and he described what it is like:

- The main room that you see on the television is called the 'Chamber' and it is a room full of green seats. All 650 MP's from across the country come together to talk about issues facing the country and to try and make things as good as possible for everyone.
- Every 5 years (sometimes more often) there is a General Election. The country is broken up into 650 sections. In Nottingham, there are 3 sections and Mr Norris is the representative for one of those sections.

- Before the election, anyone who wants to be a member of parliament puts together a campaign to tell everyone why they want to be an MP and why they would be good at it. The people in the community then go to a Polling Station where they are given a piece of paper. They then tick the box of the person that they would like to vote for and the paper goes into a secret ballot box. In Nottingham, the boxes were then sent to Harvey Haddon Sport Centre, they were all emptied, and the papers were all counted up. Mr Norris won the most votes for the Nottingham North area.
- He now travels to London every week, talks to schools, helps with efforts to fund local health services and helps to send people abroad to help countries who are struggling. His role is to speak on behalf of other people, to express their views, and to help them with their problems.
- He explained that when an MP would like to ask a question whilst in the Chamber, there is a particular way in which you must express your wish to ask a question. When someone has finished speaking, if you would like to talk, you have to stand up, the Speaker then chooses someone to talk and then everyone sits down. Then when they have finished talking, everyone who would like to say something stands up again. On one occasion, Mr Norris stood up and sat down for 7 hours before he got his chance to talk.

[Some of you had prepared questions to ask Mr Norris and these are recorded below, along with his answers:](#)

BROCKLEWOOD

Have you ever met the Queen?

No, but I have been in the same room as her. At the beginning of the parliamentary year, the Queen does a speech in Parliament, which sets out the Government plan for the year.

How often do you go to London?

I go to London most weeks of the year. I leave Nottingham on a Monday morning and I come home on a Thursday night. I do have some time off from Parliament, similar to the school holidays.

Which parliament team are you in?

I am in the Labour group.

Have you ever had a meeting with Teresa May?

No, I have not, but I have spoken to her about an issue. Every Wednesday there is time available to ask the Prime Minister anything that you would like. I have to put my name into a ballot and 15 names are drawn out each week. If my name is drawn out, I can ask her a question. My name has been pulled out twice and I have been able to ask questions on those occasions.

Do you visit schools around Nottingham?

Yes I do a lot and that is one of my favourite bits about my job.

Do you have lots of ideas?

Yes – lots! Not all of them are good ones. My job is make sure that the ideas of the local communities are put forward for consideration.

WILLIAM BOOTH

Why did you decide to become an MP?

I think the biggest reason is that I want to help people. I volunteered whilst I was at University and when I left University I had a job where I helped people. I then gained a place on the local council. I have always thought that the place where I could make the biggest difference would be in Parliament.

What have you done to help the children of Nottingham?

It is difficult because Labour are not the biggest party and it is the biggest party who make the decisions. I am very proud that I was able to be a part of a group who fought for money not to be taken away from schools.

What, specifically, do you do as an MP?

Monday morning I get the train to London. Parliament starts later on a Monday to allow everyone time to travel there and the first hour is spent asking questions. The rest of Monday is spent looking at bills – these are things



that will become law. It is our job as MP's to scrutinise these bills and to ask questions. I spend the rest of the week in Parliament until Thursday evening when I get the train back home to Nottingham. On a Friday I am always very busy visiting as many people as I can and I also have a 'surgery' at Bulwell Riverside. This is when people can come and see me to ask questions. I like to watch football on Sundays as well as walk with my Wife and our two dogs. .

EDALE

Do you have to train to be an MP?

No, you don't have to. You have to be 18 years old and you can't have ever been made bankrupt or be a criminal. You need people skills and you need to be able to talk to people both in a large forum and on a 121 basis. You need to be able to read lots of information and to understand it. I think the biggest skill is to have lots of patience and perseverance to keep going. I think anyone from any walk of life could do it.

How long have you been an MP

Since June 2017.

HIGHBANK

What are benefits and disadvantages of being an MP?

The benefits are that it is a real privilege to stand in the Chamber in the Houses of Parliament and to be the voice for my area. I get to meet wonderful people who are doing great things. The disadvantage is that it can be lonely being away from home so much. Sometimes it is not easy doing the right thing and people can sometimes be mean to me in the street or on social media. However, the benefits outweigh the negatives.

Would you like to be Prime Minister and why?

I would like the Prime Minister to be from the Labour party, as I believe that things would change for the better, and more quickly if that were to happen. As for me personally, I might possibly aim for that in the future, however I have much more to learn yet and being the Prime Minister is a lot more pressure.

WHITEGATE

What do you do in your spare time?

During the week, any spare time is away from home in London. I meet with friends and I like to play FIFA on the computer. At home, I like to walk with my wife and our two dogs.

How does it feel to stand up in front of people and speak?

I have to look confident, which is not always the case. I get butterflies and I am nervous when waiting to speak. I worry that I might forget things.

03. **Election for Chair and Vice Chair**

Thank you to all of you who submitted nominations and for delivering your short speeches to the Parliament group. You voted by a show of hands and we would like to congratulate our new Chair and Vice Chair on their appointments!

Congratulations!

04. **Young Ambassadors**

For those schools who have Young Ambassadors in school you explained what this means:

4 children from Yr 5 were selected from schools to attend a Young Ambassadors Conference at Harvey Haddon Sports Centre in October last year. They spent the day learning how to put together and deliver sporting challenges, learning about healthy eating and how to promote that in school. They were tasked with targeting their activities at Yr 3 children in their school. The Ambassadors will carry out the challenges in school and will go back to Harvey Haddon Sports Centre in July to present what they have done to be awarded the title of Young Sports Leaders.

Some of you explained that your Ambassadors are already busy doing these challenges and some are soon to start. Some of the Ambassadors have also been involved in other challenges and activities such as running



	Sheriff's Challenge sessions in school. (The Sheriff's Challenge is a challenge set by the High Sheriff of Nottingham for schools to keep active and to record their walk/run sessions).
05.	<p><u>Trust Project</u></p> <p>Our new Chair took control of this part of the session and you all made some fantastic suggestions as to what we could organise as a Trust wide project. You all had one vote each and the winner and the chosen project is.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>A TRUST ART PROJECT</i></p> <p>There were some great ideas on this, which included having small school competitions first as qualifiers leading into a Trust final, as well as one big picture being split into jigsaw pieces and each school being given one piece to complete.</p> <p><u>TAKE AWAY TASK</u></p> <p>Please think about some more ideas on how we can make the Art Project happen and we will discuss this at the next meeting.</p>
06.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>The date of the next meeting will be confirmed soon.</p> <p>Thank you for another fantastic meeting.</p>

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

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| <p>1) Please bring any ideas with you to the next meeting on how we could approach the Trust Art Project and what you think will work well.</p> |
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