

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Warwick Area Committee
Date of Committee 23rd January 2007
Report Title Changes to the Indicated Admission Number of The Ferncumbe C of E (Controlled) Primary School

Summary This paper seeks to inform Members of the proposal to increase the admission number of The Ferncumbe C of E (Controlled) Primary School. It also asks for any comments that the Area Committee wishes to make to Cabinet.

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision] No

Background papers

- School Organisation Framework Document 2005/10
- Cabinet reports 25.5.06 and 23.11.06
- Consultation document

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:- Details to be specified

Other Committees

Local Member(s) Cllr Jose Compton – Leek Wootton – *“I fully support the increase in admission numbers at The Ferncumbe School”*

Other Elected Members Spokespersons for information:
 Cllr Richard Grant – *“noted”*
 Cllr Jill Dill-Russell
 Cllr John Whitehouse

- Cabinet Member Cllr John Burton
- Other Cabinet Members consulted Cllr Izzi Seccombe
- Chief Executive
- Legal Richard Freeth – *“fine”*
- Finance
- Other Strategic Directors
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Parents of pupils at The Fercumbe C of E Primary School, the governing body and all staff at The Fercumbe C of E Primary School, governing bodies of schools in Central Warwickshire, Diocesan Education Authorities, admission authorities and neighbouring local authorities

FINAL DECISION **NO**

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet For final decision
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

Warwick Area Committee – 23rd January 2007

**Changes to the Indicated Admission Number of
The Ferncumbe C of E (Controlled) Primary School**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families**

Recommendation:

That the Area Committee consider:

- (1) the proposal to increase the admission number of The Ferncumbe C of E (Controlled) Primary School and the responses to the consultation received from stakeholders, and
- (2) any comments it wishes to make to Cabinet.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting on 23rd November 2006, Cabinet agreed to carry out formal consultation on proposals to increase the admission number of The Ferncumbe C of E (Controlled) Primary School from 15 to 17 pupils per year with effect from September 2008.
- 1.2 Formal consultations with stakeholders were conducted from 11th December 2006 to 15th January 2007.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Ferncumbe C of E Primary School serves mainly the Parishes of Beausale, Haseley, Honiley, Shrewley, Wroxall, and Hatton (including most of the Hatton Park development), near Warwick.
- 2.2 As a Church of England controlled primary school, The Ferncumbe admits pupils according to the County Council's admission criteria, which mirror those in the County's community schools.

- 2.3 The school currently has an admission limit of 15 pupils per year, and prior to the addition of a classroom and library, had a physical capacity of 111 pupils. In September 2006, the school currently had 105 pupils on roll.
- 2.4 Table 1 below shows the number of pupils on roll at this school and the forecast pupil numbers up to the year 2010. The table illustrates both the increased demand for places at the school in the period 2001/05, and the forecast increase in pupils on roll in the coming years if the admission number is raised:

Table 1
Number of pupils on roll at The Fercumbe C of E Primary School

	School Year								
	Number on roll						Forecast		
	2001/ 02	2002/ 03	2003/ 04	2004/ 05	2005/ 06	2006/ 07	2007/ 08	2008/ 09	2009/ 10
Pupils on roll	47	69	83	92	110	105*	109	117	115

* at 21st September 2006

- 2.5 The Hatton Park housing development just one mile north of Warwick town comprises 671 houses built over the last ten years. The development is mostly in the priority area of The Fercumbe C of E Primary School and partly in the priority area of Budbrooke Primary School. A total of 164 pupils living on this estate currently attend Warwickshire primary schools (January 2006 PLASC), with 115 attending Budbrooke Primary School or The Fercumbe Primary School. The final stage of the development is around the site of the old hospital and is close to completion. The additional demand from parents living on the estate for places at these two schools has been successfully met, with The Fercumbe being able to utilise its spare places to the full and Budbrooke absorbing more pupils from within its priority area. However, in order to make long-term educational provision for primary school places, some limited accommodation has been added to the two schools.

3. The proposal

- 3.1 The proposal is to increase the admission number of The Fercumbe C of E (Controlled) Primary School from 15 to 17 pupils per year with effect from September 2008 admissions.
- 3.2 This small increase in the admission number of The Fercumbe C of E Primary School would reflect the addition of one classroom to the school's capacity and help the school to meet future demand for school places for pupils living in its Parish and from Hatton Park.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 A consultation paper was sent to all parents of pupils at The Ferncumbe C of E Primary School, the governing body and all staff at The Ferncumbe C of E Primary School, governing bodies in Central Warwickshire, Diocesan Education Authorities, admission authorities and neighbouring local authorities.
- 4.2 Due to early deadline dates for reports over the Christmas period, only one written response has been received at the time of drafting this report and this is summarised below:
- 4.2.1 **Birmingham Church of England Diocesan Board of Education**
“....fully support the small increase in numbers at the school”.
- 4.3 A verbal report on any further responses received will be given to Members at the meeting. Copies of all the responses received will also be placed in the Members’ Group Rooms.

5. Summary

The demand for school places at The Ferncumbe C of E Primary School has grown as a result of the school’s increased popularity and the large Hatton Park housing development in its priority area. Some additional accommodation has been added in order to meet the forecast demand for places in the area and the proposed admission number would reflect that extra accommodation.

6. Recommendation

The Area Committee is asked to consider the proposal and the responses to the consultation and any comments it wishes to make to Cabinet.

MARION DAVIS
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9th January 2007