Minutes from Council Meeting 15th July 2016

Pupils in attendance – BR, SC, JA, CW, LD, RMY, SC, CO, JW, TC.

Apologies BRa

Staff in attendance – Norma, BB, SH,

**Agenda** – To welcome, review current years achievements and to thank personally all pupils for their continued support and exceptional behaviour during all School Council Meetings.

**Welcome** – BB welcomed all School Council and thanked them for attending especially as LD and CW were needing to go very soon as they had a trip planned. This again shows their continued commitment.

**Review of this year’s achievement** – BB reminded the School Council how much they have contributed this year for example:-

**Staff interviews** – The School Council have had an exceptionally busy year interviewing for new staff members. Levi, Thomas, Callum, Sharni and Jordan in particular have given up activities over many days in order to interview new staff. Sharni was not an original School council member this term however has volunteered to take part on the interview panel. All of the School Council members during the interview process have been exceptional in their presentation, their questioning and their judgement. Pupils know their vote counts and value having their voice heard.

**Taster Sessions at Wolverhampton College** – School Council had previously voted to try out the taster sessions. Bev reminded the School council that she has put the pupils at Elmwood School into an environment which was different, new, challenging at times and out of their comfort zone. Following on from this Bev explained to the School Council that this is a necessity and will continue. The more they are exposed to new situations and environments, the easier it will become. It was explained that change is necessary and is a part of life which needs to be embraced. All Council agreed that they had found aspects difficult but also enjoyable and that they were looking forward to further taster sessions in the not too distant future.

**Phoenix Visit –** Bev thanked Bethany, Shani and Thomas for their support when visiting phoenix. George who also attended was thanked prior to the meeting today. Pupils were praised for their ambassador qualities.

**The new academic year** – Bev reminded the School Council that next year will be a time of change, new classes and new Council members. Jordan asked if he can be a School Council Rep next year. All of the pupils put their hand up to continue next year. This was a welcoming site but they are aware that they have to give others a chance. If they would like to run for School Council they are welcome along with whole School to put their names forward.

**Next Meeting** – A date will be set in the new academic year once School Council members have been decided

*A note from Bev for the newsletter.*

The School Council was a gamble this year. 14 pupils volunteered to be on the School Council and later in the year Shani joined us. Logistically this was a challenge but in order for it to run smoothly and be productive, the School Council members had to show exceptional behaviour and respect not only to myself but to one another. When you think of this number as a percentage, over a ¼ of the School together during each meeting ensures a loud and clear Pupil Voice. It’s your commitment School Councillors that have made this work. Well done Jamie Ashford, Bradley Ravenscroft, Jordan, Levi, Thomas Carter, Steven, Cythian, J’Ermeil, Rico, Bethany and Nathan Davis-Sealey. Marcus and Lee have now left but their contribution was invaluable. A huge thank you to Shani who has joined us later and has proved to be exceptional in her approach and commitment.

Thank you all, you make me proud.

Bev