

Appendix 3

Public Meeting at Longhill School held on 24th February 2009 at 19.00hrs

The meeting was attended by the head teacher, business manager and chair of governors of the school, Gil Sweetenham and Gillian Churchill from the Local Authority, a number of local councillors and approximately 25 members of the community.

The meeting was publicised in a consultation document that was distributed by the school, approximately 2,000 copies of the document were distributed to parents and carers of pupils within the school and to local residents.

Haydn Stride, the head teacher of the school opened the meeting and gave a brief introduction outlining the proposal to expand the school by one form of entry from September 2010. He explained that this meeting was primarily to discuss the education reasons for the expansion and that a further meeting would be held on 3rd March to discuss the planning aspects of the development.

Gil Sweetenham made a presentation on the reasons for the proposal and the statutory framework.

Following the presentation the floor was handed to the community to ask questions on the proposal.

The vast majority of the questions posed during this session related to the concerns of the residents regarding parking and traffic problems caused by the existing school and whether these would be addressed as part of the proposal. It was explained that the proposals for the extension included some additional parking spaces and that consideration would be given to increased bus capacity.

The issue of the need for a new school within Brighton & Hove was raised. It was explained that there was not sufficient demand within the city as a whole to justify a whole new school. The increasing numbers of pupils anticipated could be accommodated by expanding existing schools.

A question was raised regarding the method of funding for the proposed extension. It was explained that the funding was provided as a grant by central government.

The meeting closed at 21.00hrs.

