

Trinity CE/Methodist Primary School – Consultation on permanent expansion proposal – Event held at school Tuesday 3rd February 2015.

Consultees present:

Paul Brain – Provision Planning Manager, Provision Planning Team

Sharon McGuinness – Provision Planning Officer, Provision Planning Team

Kaarina McCooley - Provision Planning Officer, Provision Planning Team

Sharon Sanderson – Area Pupil Access Officer, Pupil Access Team

Fred Kershaw – Church of England, Blackburn Diocese Representative

Steve Colling – Methodist District Officer

16:00 Representatives from Euxton Parish Council

- How will the expansion work in practice and the new places be added?
- Will it be infants/juniors or all classes across both sites?
- Why a split site? Is this just to avoid creating an Academy?
- Strong concerns about site contamination in the area designated for the new school. Representative knew the site's industrial history well and was worried that levels of contamination likely to be high, particularly with mercury and heavy metals, both on the ground to be built on and in adjacent spoil heap. Both were concerned that unless this was properly addressed it would not be a suitable environment for young children.
- Are further expansions likely to be needed in future? Is Balshaw Lane School also likely to need expanding, as the Parish Council is in negotiations with the cricket ground to site a bowling green on a strip of land next to the school but needs to know if this is at risk of purchase by us to allow school expansion.
- They approved in principle to the expansion of the school provided that the issues around possible contamination of the new school site could be suitably addressed.
- Asked about more long term issues and knock on effect on secondary schools.

18:00 Parents of a future pupil of school (2016 intake)

- What are the arrangements for the school sites, will it be a split site or an individual school on each site like an infant and junior?
- How will the expansion affect admissions and the catchment area?
- How will the catchment be measured, will it be measured from the old site or the new site?
- What is the priority area for the school, which children will be given preference?
- It is a good thing to expand the school as the places are needed here.
- What is the favoured split? An infant and junior school or different classes at each site?
- What were the results of the survey given out on Buckshaw about numbers of children?
- Once this expansion is complete will there be a need for another expansion?
- When will the new site be open?

- What happens if the permanent expansion is not agreed?
- What potential issues could stop the expansion going ahead?
- They suggested that they hadn't seen the booklet beforehand. They suggested we look for the Buckshaw forum or the Facebook group on the Internet in order to publicise the consultation.

19:00 Parent of child at school and future pupil due to start in 2016. Also a representative of Euxton Parish Council

- He feels there is not enough information in the consultation booklet. He thinks there would be an increase in engagement if more information was available.
- People would agree that places are required for Buckshaw Village
- Children travelling between the two sites will generate traffic.
- Busy road, it is difficult to pull out now
- Traffic is an issue in a cul-de-sac where the existing site is.
- Parents may not like the split site arrangements and choose not to send their children to the school
- Councillor Thomlinson should have a better idea of what school places are required as he is a Leyland councillor with part of his patch covering Buckshaw Village
- He feels the risk of the new school site not opening until 2017 should be made public