

Extract taken from

Minutes of a Meeting of the Governing Body

of Lord Mayor Treloar College

Held in the Lower School

On Monday 24th February 1986

'86 contd. (b) The Chairman said that at their afternoon Meeting the Trustees would be considering the appointment of Mr. Donald Sword and Mr. Patrick Lloyd as Governors, and gave an outline of the background of each of them.

(Post Meeting Note: both gentlemen were formally invited to accept appointment as Governors).

'86 Minutes of Last Meeting: It was agreed that these were a true record and they were accordingly signed by the Chairman.

'86 AIDS:

(a) The Headmaster commented that the correct inference to draw from the Minute on this subject from the last Meeting was that although "very few" of the haemophilic boys carrying the AIDS antibodies would develop AIDS, this meant that at least one would do so at some stage.

(b) Advice from Dr. Aronstam was that a pupil actually suffering from AIDS posed no greater danger to the other pupils and staff in the College than did any of the pupils carrying the AIDS antibodies. However, at this stage the AIDS victim was himself (or herself) at greater risk from contagious illnesses, which he/she might catch, and therefore needed to be subjected to "reverse barrier" nursing for his/her own protection.

(c) As a result of this advice the Headmaster had held a Meeting with Senior Staff to consider the action that should be taken once it was determined that a pupil was actually suffering from AIDS itself, as opposed to merely carrying the antibodies. That Meeting had decided that the action should be divided into three stages :-

(i) Stage 1: When a pupil had been identified as actually suffering from AIDS, he would not be asked to leave the College. Information on his condition should be restricted to the parents and Headmaster, and to Nurses and Senior staff who needed to know. This recommendation was based on the fact that the pupil posed no greater risk than before to the rest of the College.

(ii) Stage 2: When a pupil is suffering from an "opportunistic illness" exacerbated by AIDS he will be nursed in the College Sick Bay, provided he is not too severely ill.

(iii) Stage 3: When the pupil becomes so weak as to be unable to benefit from further teaching (but not before) he/she would be transferred to their home or hospital for permanent nursing care.

(d) During further discussion it was pointed out that the parents of pupils carrying the AIDS antibody are already aware of this fact, and that all parents have been informed of their presence within the College and of the College's policy as it stood before the Meeting summarised above. During this discussion the Headmaster's existing principles were fully endorsed, and note was taken of the very considerable "public relations" problems that might occur however the inevitable situation was handled.

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5/86 (e) It was decided that the only modification that the Headmaster should be asked
 contd. to make to the decisions of his Meeting was to inform all parents and staff as soon
 as possible of the policy outlined above (with a copy to the Governors) so that
 there could be no justification for allegations of undue secrecy in future individual
 cases. This letter should emphasize that the current advice is that there was no
 increased risk of infection when a pupil actually developed AIDS, and should make
 it clear that the College will continue to ensure that parents and staff are put as
 fully in the picture as possible as knowledge develops.

(f) Dr. Whitfield emphasised that this was simply an up-dating of our plans and
 that in his view both the College's policy and procedure had been exemplary throughout.
 He commented that it might be advisable to make contact with the Wessex Regional
 Health Authority for advice on how to handle the Public Relations aspects of these
 matters. This was agreed, and the Bursar was instructed to make contact with the
 Authority.

5/86 Manor House: The Bursar reported that the external work on the Manor House had been
 completed and he had received the final account on the date of the Meeting.

7/86 T.G.W.U. Wage Claim: The Bursar reported that negotiations with the T.G.W.U. for
 an increased Productivity Bonus had been successful, and that the final stage would
 be payable from April 1986.

1/86 New Buildings - Progress: The Bursar reported that the progress on the Traill
 Building had been delayed by the adverse weather conditions, but the Therapy Centre
 had been started on time.

/86 New Buildings - Opening Arrangements: After some discussion it was agreed that the
 Chairman should approach a member of the Royal Family to see if it would be possible
 to arrange an opening ceremony for the two buildings in 1987, either at the end of
 the Easter Term or at the beginning of the Summer Term. If it was not possible for
 a member of the Royal Family to come to the College, the Governors suggested the
 Chairman should perform the opening ceremony.

0/86 Hephaistos School:
 (a) This school will close in 1988 when it will have been reduced to 7 pupils.
 (b) There was some discussion as to the reasons for this closure, which led to
 consideration of our own existing policy. It was generally agreed that we should
 continue to accept as many pupils as possible and to cover as wide a spectrum of
 disability as possible, while ensuring that each pupil would be able to benefit
 from the education we are able to offer. The Headmaster commented that he had not
 within the last 5 years turned down any child on the grounds of difficulty of medical
 or child care.

/86 Pension in Payment: It was agreed to increase pensions which were in payment on
 1st April 1985 by 5%, with effect from 1st April 1986, the cost to be borne from
 the surplus existing in the Pension Fund.

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