CITY OF BRADFORD METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO ENLARGE THE PREMISES OF THORNTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

N/A

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school .

Thornton Grammar School, Leaventhorpe Lane, Thornton, Bradford, BD14 3BH The School is a foundation school. LA contact address: City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, City Hall, Bradford, BD1 1HY. The Council is the publisher of this proposal.

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

The proposals are that the premises of the School should be enlarged to increase the capacity of the School from its current capacity of 1718 pupils to its proposed capacity of 2150. The proposals will be implemented with effect from 1st September 2012.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —

(a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and

(b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

Objections or comments should be sent by post to the address below or by email to jan.digby@bradford.gov.uk giving the name of the school. Jan Digby – BSF Office, 4th

Floor, Merchants House, Peckover Street, Bradford BD1 5BD, by 24 February 2010.

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The proposed alteration is to enlarge the premises of Thornton Grammar School in order to increase its capacity from its current capacity of 1718 to a capacity of 2150.

School capacity

5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8 , 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

(a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The current capacity of the school is 1718 and the proposed capacity of the school after its alteration is 2150.

(b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The current number of pupils admitted to the School in each relevant age group is 260, being the admission number set for admissions to Year 7.

The School will have the capacity to admit up to a maximum of 330 pupils in the relevant age group (Year 7) with effect from September 2012 but the admission number for admissions to the School in September 2012 will be determined in the preceding academic year and will depend on pupil projections available at that time.

(c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

N/A

(d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

As the School's admission number for 2012 will not be determined until the Spring Term 2011 it is not possible to say whether or not that number will be lower than the

‘indicated admissions number’. If the determined admission number is set below that number the appropriate publication requirements will be complied with.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 ands 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

1493 pupils.

Implementation

6. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

N/A

Additional Site

7.—(1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

N/A

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

N/A

Changes in boarding arrangements

8.—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

(a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

N/A

(b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

N/A

(c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

N/A

(d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

N/A

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

(a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

N/A

(b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

N/A

Transfer to new site

9. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

(a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

N/A

(b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

N/A

(c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

N/A

(d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

N/A

(e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

N/A

(f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

N/A

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

The proposed enlargement of the School resulting in an increase in its capacity will enable the number of pupil places to be increased to meet the predicted rise in pupil numbers in the Bradford district over the next ten years and to allow for the increase in the number of pupils staying on in the sixth form with the 'participation age' rising from 16 to 18 years old on a phased basis from 2013.

The proposed enlargement will be achieved through the BSF programme which aims to rebuild or renew every secondary school in England. Further information on the Bradford BSF Programme is contained in the Reports to the Executive, Appendices 4 and 5 to this Proposals Document. The improvements to the school buildings should enable the School to raise educational standards by having buildings more suitable for the demands of the 21st century curriculum.

See Appendix 1, Pupil Predictions Data.

Consultation

11. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

(a) a list of persons who were consulted;

(b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;

(c) the views of the persons consulted;

(d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and

(e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

Services for consideration prior to making the decision to proceed to publish statutory notices. The Report summarises the main issues arising out of the consultation and includes a more detailed Consultation Report which contains: -

(a) a list of persons consulted;

(c) the views of persons consulted;

(e) copies of all consultation documents are appended to the Consultation Report and were made available as follows: -

  (i) letters were distributed by post to those listed at (a)

  (ii) letters were distributed by School post to parents/pupils at Queensbury School and main feeder primary schools;

  (iii) items were placed in newsletter of other local primary schools;

  (iv) documents were made available at Forum meetings held in the locality of the school .

(b) Minutes of the public consultations are attached as Appendix 3.

(d) The consultation was conducted in accordance with DCSF Guidance and all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with.

Project costs

12. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

The total estimated capital costs are £23.04M, which includes the costs of enlargement and refurbishment. All these costs are to be met by the DCSF from the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Programme with no contribution being made by the Council or the Governing Body.

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

The Outline Business Case for the BSF Phase 3 Programme was submitted to Partnership for Schools (PfS) for approval on 15 January 2010. Approval of the Phase 3 Programme will provide the required confirmation that funding will be available. A decision is expected from PfS by the end of February and should therefore have been received by the time the proposals are presented to the Council's Executive for determination at the end of March 2010.

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

N/A

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

(a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

N/A

(b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

N/A

(c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

N/A

(d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

N/A

(e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

N/A

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

(i) improve the educational or training achievements;

(ii) increase participation in education or training; and

(iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities

for 16-19 year olds in the area;

N/A

(b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

N/A

(c) Evidence —

(i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and

(ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

N/A

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

N/A

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

N/A

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

(a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

N/A

(b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

N/A

(c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

N/A

(d) details of how the provision will be funded;

N/A

(e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

N/A

(f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

N/A

(g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

N/A

(h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

N/A

(i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

N/A

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

(a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

N/A

(b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

N/A

(c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

N/A

(d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

N/A

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

(a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;

(b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;

(c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and

(d) improved supply of suitable places.

N/A

Sex of pupils

21. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

(a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

N/A

(b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

N/A

(c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

N/A

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

(a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

N/A

(b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

N/A

Extended services

23. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

The proposed alterations extend the School's extended services capabilities.

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

(a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

The proposed enlargement of the School resulting in an increase in its capacity will enable the number of pupil places to be increased to meet the predicted rise in pupil numbers in the Bradford district over the next ten years and to allow for the increase in the number of pupils staying on in the sixth form with the 'participation age' rising from 16 to 18 years old on a phased basis from 2013.

The Pupil Predictions Data in Appendix 1 provides the evidence of the need for increased capacity to provide additional places. [Thornton School is in the Bradford South Confederation.]

(b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

N/A

(c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

N/A

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

(a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

N/A

(b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

N/A

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

Having regard to the criteria in the DCSF guidance it is considered that this presumption applies to this School.

Appendix 1: Pupil Predictions Data

Appendix 2: Report to the Director of Children's Services (Appending Consultation Report).

Appendix 3: Minutes of the Public Consultations

Appendix 4: Report to the Executive 13 January 2009

Appendix 5: Report to the Executive 23 June 2009

APPENDIX 3 – MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

BRADFORD WEST AREA CO-ORDINATOR'S OFFICE
2nd Floor, Jacob's Well, Bradford, BD1 5RW

THORNTON GRAMMAR 'EXPANSION' SPECIAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Held at Thornton Grammar School
Tuesday 2nd December 2009 at 7.00 pm

NOTES

1. Attendance

Jan Digby (Building Schools for the Future Programme), Chris Slaven (Ward Co-ordinator for Thornton and Allerton ward), Charlene Heseltine (note taker) and 20 local residents.

2. Apologies

Cllr Binney, Cllr Sykes and Cllr McCabe

3. Introduction

Jan welcomed everybody to the meeting and outlined the plans as outlined on the letter circulated to nearly 400 local people who would be affected by the proposals to extend the school. She went onto outline the housekeeping procedures.

4. Open Forum

Q Why is this necessary?
A Because we have accurate predictions of expanding numbers of children who in turn will create a greater demand on school places in the next few years and new government rules mean children will be staying in education until 18, and we are looking to find out how this capacity can be absorbed. We might not need to find these places but we do need to have some ideas to future proof education should the need arise.

Q What's the process
A The consultation is written into a report which is passed to the Chief executive of the Council who will make the decision to proceed or not. If the decision is to proceed then designs will be drawn up and put on public view and a further round of consultation will take place.

Q With developments our house prices will devalue, can I sue the council?
A You might be able to – you would need to take legal advice on that.

Comment Leaventhorpe Lane is a hotspot for speeding, 70 MPH, police and highways said they cant do anything until someone has an accident.
Response This is not true. There is much that can be done and tin the first instance this issue will be flagged up with the group Cllr Binney is pulling together to look at all parking and traffic issues in the Thornton area. I will be on that group)Chris Slaven) and will keep people informed of developments and outcomes.

Q How will the school be able to manage such large numbers?
A That's up to the school who will of course receive a greater contribution to funds to reflect any increase in numbers and will therefore be able to employ more teachers.

Comment Leaventhorpe Lane is unsuitable for double-decker busses, it certainly can't cope with any more than it currently has.

Comment Perhaps busses could drop off and pick up on Thornton Road

Q Parents are the problem, they are selfish and thoughtless, they just park anywhere.
A Obstruction is a police matter, parking illegally is a council matter.

Response Residents are advised to put all this in writing and send it to the BSF Team for inclusion in the report.

Comment At the end of Thorpe road it can take me 10 minutes to get out on a morning because of traffic.

Q There is no point in saying anything – nobody will do anything.
A Not true, your voice is very valuable and you can write or e-mail me (Jan Digby) and your comments will be recorded in the report.

Q What would happen if someone needed a fire engine and they couldn't get through?
A We will report your issues to the fire service for their comment.

Q Why can't the expansion be at Allerton Dixons Academy?
A With that school now having 'academy' status we have no authority to develop that site further.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

***Statements attributed to individuals in these notes are not to be read as the views or opinions of either Bradford MDC or the Forum, but solely as the views of the person making them*.**