Summary of points raised from School Expansion Consultation

**Updated 4.3.13**

- fear of losing cohesion and togetherness of school

- must be able to hold school assemblies as one school - capacity of assembly halls

- congestion/access at drop off/pick up

- consider re-siting entrances - must be at least 2 main entrances to serve people coming from College Road side and Kensal Rise side

- ensure school timetable doesn't over-phase play time or lunch-time just to make it work (children shouldn't eat before approx. 11.45 nor after 1pm and that everyone has hot food - portion control)

- there hasn't been a "case against" expansion properly outlined

- relationship between the parishes - capacity to hold whole school at St. Mark's and St. Martins

- how does LDBS fit into expansion – LDBS owns buildings ultimately and is required to make a 10% capital contribution (funded by ABC fund etc)

- contextual information - what's happening at other schools in the local/wider Brent area? How does that impact PF?

- access to/from school. Already congested so what can be done to improve (whether or not expansion takes place)?

- disruption during construction - 12-18 months but what's the order and how will disruption be mitigated to ensure children not affected adversely?

- what is impact on education, children doing SAT's during construction?

- keeping a caretaker on site is vital but the accommodation will be reduced from the current 3 bedroom flat.

- use of Kensal Rise library (Jodi gave an update on the latest negotiations with All Souls and the Save the Library campaign)

- what is the cost of refurbishing the kitchen, entrance etc if no expansion? Cost of refurbishing top floor alone was approx. £1.6m.

- are there other possible funding streams?

- concerns over lack of space but a genuine realisation that we might end up with significantly improved buildings/outside space (rooftop playground, mezzanine space etc)

- BB99 Guidelines referenced and need for creativity in confined site/inner city schools

- our sub-committee architects can make the space we have better, what are the sacrifices we are not willing to make (overriding principles of school)

- we could gain proportionately more space per child at play time (outside) but we should also consider increasing the amount of outside play from 20% currently

- lots more info required before we can make a proper decision

- provide an opportunity for parents to comment via website, slips in book bags, suggestion boxes etc

- is the timetable realistic? Phase 2 = Sep 2014 but we mustn't be rushed into a decision until we have the info we need

- involvement following a "yes in principle" - can we ensure that we don't just handover to Brent but remain in charge to get what we intended

- money in one go to ensure we don't get half way and Brent pulls the budget

- impact on admissions will be favourable, both numbers and diversity

- 214 applications for 60 reception places (50 looked after/siblings and 10 places to people with religious references) - do we know how many of the 214 were multiple applications?

- we're a community school so should be looking to expand/improve and open our doors to many more local people

- ease pressure on admissions which in recent years has seen children living within a few hundred metres of the school with religious references from St. Mark's/St. Martins not offered places

- consider nursery provision - half days not ideal for working parents

- how does the parent community voice its concerns?

- a delegation was suggested to put the case against - ensures a proper balanced process

- what conditions might we place on a "yes in principle"?

- understanding re process - the statutory consultation only begins if we give Brent an "in principle" yes

- need more info before any statutory consultation

- what is process re consultation of local residents/businesses?

- understanding of how FGB comes to a decision - further information required following consultations to feed into the detailed SWOT analysis

- no decision has been made by the FGB - the process is to gather enough information upon which to take a decision

- FGB is independent from the school.

- School pro-expansion in order to grow and better serve the community.