



THE COUNCIL OF KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**MINUTES OF PRIVATE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL HELD
IN
THE LIBRARY AT KNOX GRAMMAR PRAPATORY SCHOOL
ON
21 March 2007 AT 8.30PM**

PRESENT

Mr G E Mapp AM - Chairman	Mr R W Wannan - Deputy Chairman
Mr P A Roach - Treasurer	Mrs R Mitchell - Secretary
Dr A J Cameron	Mrs S Conde AM
Mr K Conway	Mr D A Foulkes
Mrs J Jacobs	Dr R I Miller
Rev A Pearce	

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr J W Weeks – Headmaster

APOLOGIES

Mrs Wendy King	Dr S A Longstaff
Mr John Oldmeadow	

HEADMASTERS REPORT : The following is an extract from the formal Minutes of the Council meeting

4.6

ASA

The minute secretary left the room whilst this matter was discussed. Refer to minutes of the Private Council meeting with the Headmaster, the minutes were taken by the Secretary. It was resolved that further research would be undertaken by the Headmaster and that legal advice would be sought. This matter to be carried forward to the April Council meeting. **HM**

The Headmaster outlined the relevant details :

- ASA was a Year 10 student in 2002 who left under a cloud following a complaint from Mrs REDACTED that ASA had been molested by Mr Adrian Nisbett a full time member of the Knox staff at the time
- An investigation was carried out by the GDM – Mr S Pearson
- The parents and student would not fully cooperate at the time
- Mr Adrian Nisbett received a letter of caution from the Headmaster, Mr Peter Crawley in December, 2003
- In January, 2004 a number of unresolved matters including unproven allegations were reviewed by the newly appointed Headmaster, Mt John Weeks
- As Mr Adrian Nisbett was deemed a person of high risk he was stood down by the Headmaster

Council of Knox Grammar School

21 March 2007

- In December, 2006, ASA's mother sought and was given a two hour interview by the Headmaster
- Compensation was mentioned
- In addition, Mr ATL discussed this matter with the Headmaster as he wanted the matter resolved
- ASA was interviewed by the Headmaster in January, 2007. During this interview, ASA was at times quite emotional and very forthcoming re full details concerning the molestation by Mr Adrian Nisbett. Alcohol was involved and the behaviour of Mr Adrian Nisbett was entirely inappropriate.
- When ASA left Knox, he attended a local High School, then relocated to Coffs Harbour
- ASA is currently studying Accountancy in Queensland
- Following this interview, the Headmaster discussed the matter with the Chairman of the School Council, Mr G. Mapp as well as the AIS, the Ombudsman for Child Protection, the NSW Crimes Unit in Parramatta and Mr John Oldmeadow of the Uniting Church.
- The Headmaster was advised to encourage ASA to make a formal police statement
- The Headmaster has now been advised that in 1996, the names of five members of the Knox staff were added to the sex Crimes Register and this is the second listing for Mr Adrian Nisbett
- Knox staff – Mr REDACTED Mr D. Degotardi, Mr Craig Treloar (a current member of the academic staff at the Knox Preparatory School), Mr Vance, Mr Photos.
- A letter of Demand from the Solicitors for ASA for \$120,000.00 has been received and is being handled by the Solicitors for the Uniting Church of Australia.
- There could be a financial settlement with no recourse to Knox Grammar School.
- If ASA takes action against Adrian Nisbett, then the Headmaster would be in court together with the Investigator and the parents
- Police officers feel there is now enough evidence against Adrian Nisbett and that other students may come forward
- There are some detailed records of unsatisfactory behaviour by members of the Knox staff in the 1980's and 1990's in the Knox Archives
- At the time of the initial report in 1996, Mr Chris Treloar was temporarily suspended for a month and then resumed normal duties at the Knox Prep. School
- The Headmaster has discussed this matter with the Head of the Preparatory School, Mr Bob Thomas. He was aware that Mr Treloar had been stood down for showing Pornographic videos in a Boarding House. In addition there was an anonymous report in relation to a Year 3 student but no hard evidence. This teacher is under surveillance by Mr Thomas
- Mr Foulkes asked if Mr Treloar is a person at risk
- Mr Mapp expressed his concerns that Mr Treloar was still on the academic staff
- All hard evidence to be reviewed **HM/GM**
- Mr Wannan strongly advised that legal advice be sought. This to be followed up through the AIS **HM**
- Another former member of staff whose is possibly a person of risk is Mr D. Saunders
- The GDM at the time, Mr S. Pearson carried out the initial investigation and prepared a report (1996). He later left as disillusioned by the lack of action taken by the Headmaster at the time.
- There do not appear to be any files concerning Adrian Nisbett whilst in Boarding
- Adrian Nisbett is a regular traveller to Asia and Africa.

Council of Knox Grammar School21 March 2007

- Mr Foulkes asked if there was sufficient evidence to seek the resignation of Mr Treloar
- Mr Wannan stressed that legal advice needed to be received first before any action on Mr Treloar. **HM**
- Mr Foulkes indicated that if the incident with Mr Treloar occurred at the present time, there would be enough evidence to seek Mr Treloar's resignation.

The formal meeting of the Knox Grammar School Council then resumed.