



GOVERNING BODY

MINUTES

of the meeting held on Wednesday, 24 February 2010 at 5.30pm

PRESENT

Sister P Ainsworth
Mr P Brown
Mrs A Fox (Chair)
Mr D Frost
Mr L Goodlet
Sister V Hagen
Mrs M Holmes
Mr L Jones
Mr A Lilley
Mr A Noblet
Mrs S Smith
Mrs H Stainton
Ms A Suhail
Miss M Westwell

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr J Barton (Clerk to the Governors)
Mrs AM Cassidy (Director of Finance and Funding)
Mr D Gardner (Vice Principal Curriculum)
Mr P Garner (Vice Principal Pastoral)
Mrs M Locke (Minuting Secretary)
Mr P Woods (Vice Principal Resources)

Note: Prior to the Business meeting, members of Governing Body were updated on the latest developments relating to the 'New Inspection Framework'; and 'Safeguarding'.

The Governing Body thanked the Vice Principals and the Parent Governor for their presentations and comments. It was agreed that 'Safeguarding' should be a standing item on future Governing Body agendas.

David Gardner and Peter Garner left the meeting

1429 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Banks; Mr M Bentley; Mr P Campbell; Sister Margaret McMullan; and Mr L S Powers

1430 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS No member of the Governing Body declared a personal interest in relation to any item on the agenda.

1431 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16 DECEMBER 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2009, having been circulated previously, were approved and signed by the Chair.

1432 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES None

1433 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The Principal presented his report, which included:

- Mission and ethos – Principal detailed activities relating to history and links with Daughters of the Cross; and events in College and the local Parish.
- Designation: this matter to be discussed in detail under Machinery of Government agenda item
- Deputy Appointment: this matter to be discussed under separate agenda item.
- Finance - discussed under Director of Finance & Funding Report
- Chlamydia Screening - Governing Body discussed the request from the Health Authority to provide Chlamydia Screening on site at Holy Cross. Governors were in favour of raising awareness amongst staff and students, but the provision of a screening service on campus would need sensitive planning between the College and Primary Care Trust (PCT) staff. The general feeling was in favour of onsite screening provided that the PCT proposals were sensitive and acceptable in detail. The Principal thanked Governors for their comments which would be helpful in his discussions with the PCT.

RESOLVED: To receive the Report with thanks

1434 MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT

The Principal updated the Governing Body on the latest developments relating to the Machinery of Government. He referred to the ongoing discussions between the the Department of Children, Schools, & Families (DCSF) and the Catholic Education Service (CES) relating to designation as a sixth form College under the provisions of the 'The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill'. There have been positive indications from DCSF that they may be able to resolve the issues regarding the new legislation and the Catholic identity of the college.

RESOLVED: That the College should 'designate as a Sixth Form College', if the Catholic Education Service (CES) and Trustees are satisfied that the action by the Secretary of State gives adequate assurance that the special designation of Catholic Sixth Form Colleges will be protected.

1435 REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP

The Clerk to Governors explained the background to the recent publication 'Review of Governance and Strategic Leadership in English Further Education'. He referred to the 15 key recommendations which the Governing Body is asked to respond to. The Governing Body noted the responses made by the Sixth Form Colleges Forum (SFCF) which reflected its own thinking.

RESOLVED: That the Governing Body endorses the response of the SFCF to the consultation document 'Review of Governance and Strategic Leadership in English FE'.

1436 PROPERTY STRATEGY UPDATE

The Principal outlined some of the possible options to create extra social space etc. contained in the feasibility study undertaken by Bradshaw, Gass, and Hope.

RESOLVED: That the Governing Body refers consideration of the feasibility study to Property and Finance committee.

1437 HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

The Vice Principal (Resources) presented the Report which included:

- Accident Incident Summary Report
- Health & Safety Training
- Progress on Safety related activities.

RESOLVED: To accept the Report with thanks

1438 DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & FUNDING REPORT

The Finance Director presented her report which included the Management Accounts to 31 January 2010; and an update on future financial arrangements. Governing Body noted:

- Whilst the College had been informed of its base-line figure for 2010 – 2011; the overall position is comparable to last year, but without inflationary increases, although the next few year are unlikely to maintain this level. The College Management Team are carefully monitoring both income and expenditure in order to identify the impact on overall College finances.

RESOLVED: To approve the Management Accounts to 31 January 2010; and to note the comments on the impact of future funding arrangements

Mr A Noblet left the meeting

1439 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

DIARY OF MEETINGS

It was agreed to reschedule the meetings of Personnel Committee, and Remuneration Committee to Wednesday 24 March 2010.

The Governing Body meeting to consider the recommendations of the Selection Panel for Deputy Principal was confirmed as 10.00am on Thursday 11 March 2010

John Barton; Ann-Maria Cassidy; Luke Goodlet; Aleena Suhail; Peter Woods; Margaret Locke left the meeting

1440 RESTRICTED ITEM Appointment of Deputy Principal