

MOULTON COLLEGE FEC

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting
Held on Thursday 28th May 2009**

Part 1

Present: Mr C Alderson-Smith (in the Chair), M C Barney, Mrs C Boardman,
Mr J Gaggini, Mr P Heygate, Mr C Moody

In Attendance: Mr G Davies. Mr J Mair, Mr M Wilkinson

09/82 Apologies for absence (agenda item 1)

Apologies were received from Mr R Thompson.

09/83 Declarations of interest (agenda item 2)

Mrs Boardman declared an interest in any items concerning Daventry District Council and Northamptonshire County Council. Mr Heygate declared an interest as a supplier to the College.

09/84 Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2009 (agenda item 3, paper A)

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.

09/85 Matters Arising (agenda item 4)

There were no matters arising.

09/86 New Developments – Progress Report (agenda item 5)

a) LRC Extension (paper B)

The financial report was discussed. The project was still on schedule apart from the external works where good progress was being made. The estimate for the refurbishment of the existing LRC was £41,765. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

09/87 Capital Development Programme (agenda item 6)

a) Planning Applications

It was reported that the application had been withdrawn by the planning officer on basis that an environmental impact assessment may be required. Daventry District Council intended to prepare their own highways report rather than follow the NCC Highways Department and Highways Agency recommendations. The appeal was now due to be heard in August. Options were discussed. The Principal was due to meet Barry Waine of Shoosmiths later in the day and, following discussion, *it was agreed that a decision on the best way forward would be postponed until after this meeting.*

b) LSC Capital Support Application

The criteria for prioritising the applications had been published. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

c) **Student Social Centre**
There was no progress to report.

d) **Sports Therapy Centre**
There was no progress to report.

09/88 Vocational Skills Academies (agenda item 7)

At East Northants the planning application had been submitted. The plumbing workshop was unlikely to be complete before the autumn term study week but the classrooms should be ready on time.

At South Northants the planning application had been submitted and prices were being obtained for building work. Plans for the refurbishment of the existing buildings were being prepared. All work should be complete before the start of the autumn term.

A meeting had been arranged with Northampton College to discuss accommodation options at Daventry for next year. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

Gerald Davies left the meeting.

09/89 Unity School/Bishop Leeson Academy (agenda item 8)

The Chief Executive of the Brooke Weston Trust had been invited by DCSF to become involved in the project, and had asked for an indication of Moulton's future commitment to the project. NCC planned to put an interim executive board in place. Following discussion, *it was agreed that the College wished to support any school improvement initiatives and would keep the situation under review.*

09/90 Management Accounts for March 2009 (agenda item 9, paper F)

The accounts were discussed. The surplus to date was £462,299 over the budget. The College was in financial category A and rated Outstanding under the Framework for Excellence. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved.*

09/91 Quarterly Consolidated Accounts (agenda item 10, paper G)

The accounts were discussed. Levels of trading were as expected. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

09/92 Treasury Management Report (agenda item 11, paper H)

The termly report was discussed, *and noted.*

09/93 Quarterly Budget Update (agenda item 11, paper I)

Proposed changes were outlined and discussed. The forecast surplus was projected to decrease by £136,143 from the April projection. Following discussion, *the changes were approved.*

09/94 Draft Annual Budget 2009-10 (Agenda item 13, paper J)

The first draft was discussed *and noted.*

09/95 ILR Update 2008-9 (agenda item 14, papers K and Ki)

The report on learner responsive funding was discussed. The College was about £1 million over target on cash generation overall, but individual funding streams may be subject to clawback at the end of the year if they were not close to target. The report on employer responsive activity and apprenticeships was discussed. Both of these were on target. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

09/96 Recruitment 2009-10 (agenda item 15, paper L)

The overall position was very positive. Applications for National Diploma courses were higher than in previous years. Applications for courses in the Landbased Faculty were 46% higher than last year. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

09/97 Initial LSC Funding Allocation 2009-10 (agenda item 16, paper M)

The report was discussed. The initial reduction in Additional Learning Support funding had been re-instated and the apprenticeship budget reduction was also to be re-instated. 300 additional full-time LSC funded 16-18 students would be recruited next year. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

09/98 Review of policies (agenda item 17)

a) Equality Policy (paper N)

The proposed changes were outlined and discussed. They brought the policy in line with the current legal framework. Following discussion, *the changes were approved for recommendation to the Board.*

b) Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy (paper O)

The proposed changes were outlined. Following discussion, *the changes were approved for recommendation to the Board.*

c) Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblowing) Policy (paper Oi)

This policy related only to current employees and had been reviewed to ensure that it met that requirement. Following discussion it was noted that *the policy would be considered in sub-committee, before review and approval by the Board.*

09/99 Study tour report (agenda item 18, paper P)

The report of the trip to Spain by Dressage Academy students *was noted.*

09/100 Date of next meeting (agenda item 19)

Thursday 25th June 2009 at 9.30am in the Principal's Office.

09/101 Any other business (agenda item 20)

a) Equality and Diversity Report

A revised report on the gender, ethnic and disability profile of the College was tabled. It contained revisions to some of the figures presented at the recent Board meeting.

Part 1 of the meeting concluded. Jamie Mair left the meeting.