

## MOULTON COLLEGE FEC

### FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

#### **Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting Held on Thursday 26th November 2009**

**Present:** Mr C Alderson-Smith (in the Chair), Mr C Barney, Mrs C Boardman,  
Mr J Gaggini, Mr C Moody and Mr R Thompson

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

**09/193 Apologies for absence (agenda item 1)**

Apologies were received from Mr P Heygate.

**09/194 Declarations of interest (agenda item 2)**

Mrs Boardman declared an interest in any items concerning Daventry District Council and Northamptonshire County Council.

**09/195 Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009 (agenda item 3, paper A)**

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.

**09/196 Matters Arising (agenda item 4)**

There were no matters arising.

**09/197 New Developments – Progress Report (agenda item 5)**

**a) LRC Extension (paper B)**

The financial report was discussed. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

**b) Vocational Skills Academies**

**i) South Northants (paper Ci)**

The financial report was discussed. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

**ii) East Northants (paper Cii)**

The financial report was discussed. Work on the plumbing workshop extension was on schedule for occupation in January. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

**iii) Daventry (paper Ciii)**

There were no financial or other changes to report.

**c) Enabling works (papers D and Di)**

Detailed planning approval had been received for the 2 houses and access road, with conditions attached regarding the demolition of 2 houses on the Main Site. The tender report was discussed. The contract for the farm access road at Lodge Farm had been awarded to Phoenix Paving in the sum of £69,844.72. Work would start on 7<sup>th</sup> December. The contract for the 2 essential staff houses at Lodge Farm had been awarded to Deejak Builders Ltd in the sum of £270,000. Work would start on 4<sup>th</sup> January for completion by 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2010.

*Following discussion, the report was noted and the award of the 2 contracts was ratified.*

- d) Student Social Centre (paper E)**  
There were no financial changes to report. The design team were now meeting weekly. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*
- e) Sports Therapy and Injury Rehabilitation Centre (paper F)**  
There were no financial changes to report. The design team were now meeting weekly. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*
- f) Social Centre refurbishment (paper G)**  
It was proposed to refurbish the current building at a cost of £56,390 to make it fit for use until the new centre was ready. The programme of works was outlined. Most of the work would be carried out during the Christmas vacation and finished at Easter. Following discussion, *the work and the addition to the budget were approved.*

#### **09/198 Capital Development Programme (agenda item 6)**

- a) Planning Applications**  
The application had been rejected on the grounds of intrusion into open countryside despite some strong support from the leaders of the District and County Councils and the local MPs. Mrs Boardman gave a report on the meeting. Alternative strategies were discussed. Following discussion, *the report was noted and it was agreed to submit an appeal by public enquiry immediately as this would allow inaccurate and misleading information provided by the Parish Council and individuals to be challenged by a barrister. Concurrently, separate applications would be submitted for each building. It was also decided to continue with the development work.*
- b) LSC Capital Support Application**  
The written permission to build and to borrow was discussed *and noted.*

Gerald Davies left the meeting.

- 09/199 Management Accounts for October 2009 (agenda item 7, paper H)**  
The accounts were discussed. The surplus to date was £118,182 over the budget. The College was in financial category B this month and rated Good under the Framework for Excellence. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved.*

**09/200 Quarterly consolidated accounts (agenda item 8, paper I).**

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

**09/201 Quarterly Budget Update (agenda item 9, paper J)**

Proposed changes were outlined and discussed. The forecast surplus was projected to fall by £150,944. Following discussion, *the changes were approved.*

**09/202 Draft Annual Accounts (agenda item 10)**

**a) Moulton College (paper K)**

The surplus for the year was £427K more than in 2007-8. Tangible fixed assets had risen by £1.042 million and the net debt had fallen by £1.472 million during the year. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved for recommendation to the Board.*

**b) Moulton College Developments (paper L)**

A loss of £79,531 had been recorded after payment of a deed of covenant to the College. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

**c) Moulton Trading Ltd (paper M)**

The deed of covenant of £11,858 had reduced the profit to zero. Following discussion, *the report was noted..*

**d) Lineobject Ltd (paper N)**

A loss of £3,646 had been recorded after payment of a deed of covenant to the College. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

**e) Thomas Harrison Trust (paper O)**

A small surplus of £615 had been recorded. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved for recommendation to the Board.*

**f) Janet Strang Memorial Trust (paper P)**

A surplus of £298.35 had been recorded for the year. The accounts had already been approved by the Trustees. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

**g) Moulton College Social Club (paper Q)**

A surplus of £2,016 had been recorded for the year. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved for recommendation to the Board.*

**h) Moulton College Students' Common Room, Sports Fund and Students' Committee (paper R)**

A surplus of £1,301 had been recorded for the year. The accumulated surpluses would be used to purchase equipment for the new Student Social Centre. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved for recommendation to the Board.*

**09/203 Care Standards Inspection (agenda item 11)**

The draft report was still awaited. The outcomes had been very positive. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

- 09/204 Operating Statement 2009-10 (agenda item 12, paper S)**  
The report was discussed, It had been distilled this year to give an overview of the targets set for each area. Following discussion, *the operating statement was approved for recommendation to the Board.*
- 09/205 College Fees 2010-11 (agenda item 13, paper T)**  
Proposed changes were outlined and discussed. Tuition fees for adult FE students had been remitted this year. This had resulted in a large increase in the number of adult students, not all of whom could be funded. The LSC also expected colleges to generate fee income so it was proposed to charge fees to adult students next year. Following discussion, *the fees were approved for recommendation to the Board.*
- 09/206 Recruitment 2010-11 (agenda item 14, paper U)**  
The first report for 2010-11 was discussed. There was a continuing downward trend in some areas of construction but the other faculties were showing growth. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*
- 09/207 Study Tour requests (agenda item 15)**
- a) **Visit to Dorset by Countryside Management students (paper V)**
  - b) **Visit to Lincolnshire by Rural Skills students (paper W)**
  - c) **Visit to Belfast by Rugby students (paper X)**  
Requests for these study tours *were approved. Suitable insurance should be arranged for the trip to Belfast.*
- 09/208 Thomas Harrison Trust (agenda item 16, paper Y)**  
The current forecast income for the Trust together with the amount set aside for the College hardship fund was considerably less than the demand for bursary awards. Following discussion, *it was agreed to increase the provision for hardship awards to £35,000 for 2009-10.*
- 09/209 Term dates 2011-12 (agenda item 17, paper Z)**  
The proposed dates were discussed *and approved for recommendation to the Board.*
- 09/210 College Carol Service – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December (agenda item 18)**  
Arrangements for the service were discussed.
- 09/211 Date of next meeting (agenda item 19)**  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at 9.30am in the Principal's Office.
- i) **Any other businesses (agenda item 16)**  
There was no other business.

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