

MOULTON COLLEGE FEC

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting
held on Thursday 25th February 2010**

Part 1

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

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

10/17 Apologies for absence (agenda item 1)

Apologies were received from Mrs C Boardman and Mr P Heygate.

10/18 Declarations of interest (agenda item 2)

No declarations were made.

10/19 Minutes of the meeting held on 28th January 2010 (agenda item 3, paper A)

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.

10/20 Matters Arising (agenda item 4)

There were no matters arising.

10/21 New Developments – Progress Report (agenda item 5)

a) Enabling works (paper B)

The financial report was discussed. Work on the houses was 10 days behind schedule but the contractors were hopeful of making this up by the planned completion date. Work on the road at Lodge Farm was 14 days behind schedule but should be completed by 5th March. Some site management problems had been experienced on the road and this may need to be considered when awarding future contracts. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

b) Student Social Centre (papers C and Ci)

The financial report was discussed. The design team were working on the detailed aspects of the design. Outline planning permission had been granted for the Centre and associated service road with a number of conditions. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

c) Sports Therapy and Injury Rehabilitation Centre (paper D)

The financial report was discussed. The planning application would go before the Planning Committee on 31st March. Alternative strategies were discussed in the event of planning permission being refused. The current state of the planning appeal was discussed. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

d) Holcot Centre Car Park (paper Di)

It was proposed to construct 42 extra car parking spaces at the Holcot Centre. The College already had planning permission for this. Concerns were

expressed over the site management of the company that had submitted the lowest tender. Following discussion, *it was agreed to award the contract to John Arnold in the sum of £44,360 plus VAT and to allocate a budget for the whole project including a barrier control system of £58,409.*

It was also proposed to construct a footpath at Easter alongside the drive to Lodge Farm to allow students to walk safely to the centre. Following discussion, *this was approved and the Chairman was delegated to approve the work outside the current budget once the cost was known.*

10/22 Property Strategy 2010-15 (agenda item 6, paper E)

The first draft was discussed. It documented all the planning permission awarded since 1991, which had not yet been fully implemented. The proposed developments over the next 5 years were also discussed. The document would be presented at the Development Day in its final form. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

Gerald Davies left the meeting.

10/23 Management Accounts for January 2010 (agenda item 7, paper F)

The accounts were discussed. The surplus to date was £81,216 over the budget. The College was in financial category B this month and rated Outstanding under the Framework for Excellence. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved.*

10/24 Quarterly Consolidated Accounts (agenda item 8, paper G).

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

10/25 Quarterly Budget Update (agenda item 9, paper H)

Proposed changes were outlined and discussed. The projected surplus would increase by £4,883. Following discussion, *the changes were approved.*

10/26 ILR Update 2009-10 (agenda item 10, paper I)

The report was discussed. The additional 16-18 learners had been recruited but may be recorded as full-cost if their inclusion in the ILR was likely to reduce future funding. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/27 Sustainable Baseline Funding 2010-11 (agenda item 11, paper J)

The provisional allocation was outlined and discussed. 16-18 funding had increased by 7.67% with a smaller student number target. 16-18 Apprentice funding had increased by 11.9% and this funding stream would not be capped. Adult Learner Responsive funding had been reduced by 21.25%. It may be necessary to recruit more part-time and fewer full-time students if the numbers target was similar to this year. Funding for Adult Apprentices had been reduced by 23.8%. The overall position was likely to be an increase of about £200,000 on the current year once the final adjustments were made. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/28 Recruitment 2010-11 (agenda item 12, paper K)

There had been a large number of applications and acceptances. A number of

low recruiting courses were being closed to new applicants. There would be no further recruitment to Roofing courses. Recruitment to Construction courses was good, apart from Brickwork and Roofing. There was currently no qualification in place for second year, full-time Plumbing courses at present. A number of HE courses which had had low recruitment in the past had been closed due to a lack of funded places for first year students. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/29 Ofsted inspection of teacher training (agenda item 13, paper L)

This would take place between 15th and 17th March. The process was discussed. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/30 IQER (Integrated Quality and Enhancement Review) review of HE (agenda item 14, paper M)

This would take place on 17th and 18th March. It was a 2 part process, a developmental review this year followed by a summative review next year against the action plan generated at the developmental stage. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/31 Collaborative Centre for the Built Environment (agenda item 15)

This was a proposal to establish a centre at the University Centre, Milton Keynes (UCMK). The partners in this joint venture would be the College, the University of Northampton and UCMK. The centre would focus on sustainable communities rather than just traditional construction. It was proposed to sign an agreement by 1st April and appoint a Chair by 1st September. Each partner would pay 1/3 of the costs. It was hoped to break even by year 3 and be in profit by year 5. Following discussion, *the College's participation in the project was approved.*

10/32 Study Tour requests (agenda item 16)

- a) **trip to St Andrews by Golf Academy students (paper N)**
- b) **trip to Loughborough by General Education students (paper Ni)**

Following discussion, *these trips were approved.*

10/33 Date of next meeting (agenda item 17)

Thursday 25th March 2010 at 9.30am in the Principal's Office.

- a) **Any other businesses (agenda item 16)**

There was no other business.

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