

MOULTON COLLEGE FEC

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Thursday 30th September 2010

Part 1

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

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

10/139 Apologies for absence (agenda item 1)

Apologies were received from Mr C Alderson-Smith and Mr P Heygate.

10/140 Declarations of interest (agenda item 2)

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

10/141 Minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2010 (agenda item 3, paper A)

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.

10/142 Matters Arising (agenda item 4)

There were no matters arising.

10/143 New Developments – Progress Report (agenda item 5)

a) Enabling works (paper B)

There were no financial changes to report. Summer works had been completed and allowed work on the Social Centre to start on programme. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

b) Student Social Centre (paper C)

The financial report was discussed. Work had started and was on programme. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

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

The financial report was discussed. The award of the contract was discussed. A detailed specification for the pool was still to be finalised so the exact contract sum was not yet known but would be around £6.335 million. Following discussion, *the report was noted and the decision to award the contract to SDC Builders was ratified.*

10/144 New Projects (agenda item 6)

a) Countryside Skills Centre

The application for a charitable grant was discussed. The design was approved. The VAT element would be included in addition to the costings for the project, rather than the specification be reduced. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

b) Refurbishment of Main Site

The application for capital support in addition to the £225,000 allocated had been unsuccessful. It was proposed to wait until after the Comprehensive Spending Review to bring forward a schedule of works. Work on the Student Welfare Centre may need to be delayed. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

Gerald Davies left the meeting.

10/145 Management Accounts for August 2010 (agenda item 7, paper E)

The accounts were discussed. The surplus to date was £157,652 over the budget. The College was in financial category B this month and rated Good under the Framework for Excellence. Borrowings were currently at a low level. Following discussion, *the accounts were approved.*

10/146 Student Association/Student Social Club Budget 2010-11 (agenda item 8, paper F)

The budgets for 2010-11 were discussed *and approved.*

10/147 Letting activity 2009-10 (agenda item 9, paper G)

The report for 2009-10 was discussed *and noted.*

10/148 ILR Update 2009-10 (agenda item 10, paper H)

Standard Learner Numbers, cash and additional learning support targets had all been exceeded. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/149 Provisional 16-18 success rates 2009-10 (agenda item 11, paper I)

Results for 16-18 students on all levels and lengths of courses had been above benchmarks. Key Skills results had also been well above benchmarks. Results for some 19+ students on long courses were still awaited but results for short courses had been above benchmarks. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/150 Full-time enrolment 2010-11 (agenda item 12, paper J)

Landbased Faculty enrolments were good overall, Sport courses had recruited strongly but Construction was lower than expected. Enrolments on Interior Design, Floristry, Horticulture and Equine Studies had been disappointing. The staying on rate at schools had increased and the College had lost some students who had paid deposits. Some of these may return to the College. Additional Construction students could be taken at any time during the year. Provisional enrolments to HE courses were tabled and discussed. Full-time enrolments should fill the funded places but excessive numbers would result in financial penalties for each year of their course. Following discussion, *the report was noted.*

10/151 University Technical College (agenda item 13, paper K)

A report was given on the recent meeting with Lord Baker. The County Council wanted the College to be the sponsor, with the University and Tresham College as co-sponsors. The themes would be environmental sustainability, sustainable construction and motorsport. The sponsor would determine the set up of the trust and the strategic direction of the institution. Lord Baker would like to see the UTC established in Daventry in September

2012 with a second one at Silverstone at a later date. The submission was being written by NCC for submission by mid-November. The College required final approval of the document before committing to becoming the sponsor. Following discussion, *the report was noted*.

10/152 Term dates 2012-13 (agenda item 14, paper L)

The dates were discussed *and approved for recommendation to the Board*.

10/153 Complaints Report 2009-10 (agenda item 15, paper M)

The analysis of issues considered under the Complaints Procedure were discussed *and noted*.

10/154 Committee Self-Assessment Report (agenda item 16, paper N)

Proposed changes to the 2008-9 report were discussed. Following discussion, *the report was approved and the Committee graded its work as 1*.

10/155 Skills for Life Policy (agenda item 17)

This policy had been formulated in response to a government initiative 4 years ago. This was no longer funded or a government priority so it was proposed to withdraw the policy. Following discussion, *this action was approved*.

10/156 Study tour request (agenda item 18, paper O)

A request for a trip to Italy by Sports Studies students *was approved*.

10/157 Committee Structure (agenda item 19, paper P)

The proposal to amalgamate the Resources and Personnel sub-Committees and increase the frequency of their meetings was discussed. Both committees had moved away from their strategic role and should return to this. The function of the tours of facilities undertaken by the Resources sub-Committee should also be considered. Following discussion, *it was agreed to keep the committees separate, and continue to meet 3 times per year. A sub-committee would be formed to produce proposals to re-focus the committees*.

10/158 Date of next meeting (agenda item 20)

Thursday 28th October 2010 at 9.30am in the Principal's Office.

10/159 Any other business (agenda item 21)

There was no other business.

Part 1 of the meeting concluded.