
MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SECOND MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH WEST REGIONAL COLLEGE HELD IN THE BOARDROOM, NORTHLAND BUILDING, STRAND ROAD CAMPUS ON FRIDAY 26 JANURAY 2018, COMMENCING 14:20

PRESENT:

Mr G Finnegan, Governing Body Chair
 Mr S Atcheson
 Mr P Canavan
 Mrs R Dougherty
 Dr N Hand
 Mr E Kelly
 Mr G Killeen
 Mr A Magee
 Mr S McGregor
 Mr L Murphy, Principal & Chief Executive
 Mr M O’Kane
 Mr B Quinn
 Mrs L Taggart

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr P McKeown, Director of Finance & Economic Engagement
 Mrs S Traynor, Vice Principal, Curriculum & Information Services
 Mrs É Doherty, Governance Secretary

The Governing Body Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone again following a very successful Strategy meeting. The Governing Body Chair referred to the discussion at this meeting on the Corporate Plan and the College Development Plan and requested volunteers to work alongside the Principal and Management Team in drafting this piece of work. Members; Mr S Atcheson, Mr P Canavan and Mrs R Dougherty kindly offered their time.

62.1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Dr M O’Neill, Mrs C McFarland, Mr S Gillespie, Mr P Laughlin, and Mrs K Duffy.

62.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS/DECLARATIONS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no conflict of interest declarations. Mr E Kelly, Student Governor requested time to update members in relation to previous reporting at Governing Body meetings on the Fresher’s Fair. The Governing Body Chair agreed to this and suggested this be taken under Matters Arising as the item was already on the Agenda today. (69.3.1, 61.11)

62.3 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2017**➤ PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO ALL MEMBERS**

Paper GB 62.3 Draft Minutes of the Governing Body meeting held on 15 November 2017.

The Minutes were taken as read and agreed were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

PROPOSED: Mr S Atcheson

SECONDED: Mr M O’Kane

69.3.1 MATTERS ARISING; 15 November 2017**61.5 Chair’s Business – Self Assessments 2016-17**

Agreed Action: The Governing Body Chair to bring the matter for opportunities for discussion among members without management present at Governing Body meetings to a Colleges Northern Ireland (CNI) meeting.

Update: The Governing Body Chair reported he still has to bring the matter to the CNI to seek a Sector wide decision on this. If this is not the case, the College will make their own decision on the matter.

61.7 Education Committee

Agreed Action: Members to receive the complete SER Report once complete for review and comment.

Update: Members were provided with the complete report on 27/11/17 and a copy is available to members on MinutePad.

The Principal had also signed off on the Report on behalf of the Governing Body as agreed.

61.11 Correspondence

Agreed Action: The Governing Body Chair to issue a reply to the Foyle Branch of Gideon's International.

Update: Reply sent on 27 November 2017.

Mr E Kelly, Student Governor added that the College is in the process of establishing a new Student Christian Society and this could be a mechanism through which Gideon publications might be distributed. The Principal recommended that Mr Kelly make contact with the Director of HR & Learner Services who will advise him on similar matters going forward.

62.4 GOVERNING BODY CHAIR'S BUSINESS

➤ PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO ALL MEMBERS

Paper GB 62.4, Report 1 Standing Orders

The Governance Secretary brought members through the amendments to the Standing Orders. Members were content and approved the changes.

PROPOSED; Mr A Magee

SECONDED; Mr P Canavan

The Governing Body Chair reported on the correspondence sent to all Governing Body Chairs and College Principals from the Department and referred to the publication from the Department of Finance, ' Briefing on Northern Ireland Budgetary Outlook 2018-20'.

The Governing Body Chair added that CNI was making a sector response to these proposals, some of which will affect the most vulnerable learners in the FE Sector. He highlighted that currently the school's education budget is protected but not the FE Sector and a request is being made within the response to ring-fence all of the education budget, not just that under the auspices of DE.

The Governing Body Chair welcomed Mrs Lisa Taggart, newly elected Staff Representative (academic) to the Board and was pleased to report the College had received a copy of the formal Minute of Appointment which took effect from 26 January 2018, therefore he as delighted to welcome Mrs Taggart to her first Governing Body meeting.

The Governing Body Chair requested approval for Mrs Taggart serve on the Education & Finance & General Purposes Committees.

PROPOSED: Mr S McGregor

SECONDED: Mr A Magee

Approval was also sought for Mr E Kelly, Student Governor to serve on the Education Committee.

PROPOSED; Mr B Quinn

SECONDED: Mr P Canavan

62.5 FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

➤ PREVIOUSLY ISSUED TO ALL MEMBERS

Report 1 Chair's Summary Report

Report 2 Draft Minutes of the Committee meeting held on 17 January 2018

Report 3 Management Accounts for 5 Months to 31 December 2017

Mr McGregor, the Committee Vice-Chair reported to the meeting in the absence of the Committee Chair. Mr McGregor brought members through the Chair's Report. The Committee Vice Chair reported on the new Coffee Bar located in the Northland Building and requested retrospective approval from the Board, given the timing of the funding becoming available and the requirement to proceed with the project to ensure that it was completed within the available funding window.

PROPOSED; Mr S McGregor

SECONDED; Mr P Canavan

Draft Minutes were taken as read and agreed were an accurate record of the meeting. Members agreed to adopt the draft Minutes of the Committee meeting on 17 January 2018.

PROPOSED: Mr S McGregor

SECONDED: Mr P Canavan

Concerns regarding the performance and costs of using Property Division were raised again at the Committee meeting. The Committee will continue to monitor the situation. The Principal had issued a letter to Dr A McCormick, Permanent Secretary (DfE) in relation to the Springtown Project, the Permanent Secretary in his response stated that the Department remains fully committed to delivering the project and would continue to secure funding for the project.

The Committee Vice-Chair referred to the NDPB December 2017 Return, he added the Department (DfE) had provided cover for the shortfall and the College was now showing a £17K surplus variance.

In concluding his report the Committee Vice Chair stated prompt payment for the 30 days was 93% for November 2017 and for the year to date was 87%.

Members noted the Management Accounts for the 5 months to 31 December 2017.

The Governing Body Chair thanked Mr McGregor for his report.

62.6 SECRETARY'S BUSINESS

There was no business to discuss.

62.7 CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from the Director of Further Education, Ms B Harrison to Governing Body Chairs and Principals re the FE Sector Corporate Plan Commissioning Note. This item was discussed at the Strategy Meeting earlier that day and earlier in this meeting.

62.8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no any other business to discuss.

That being the end of the public business the Governing Body Chair thanked everyone for attending and requested that members not required to be in attendance to leave the room at this juncture.

*Members; Mr P McKeown, Mrs S Traynor, Mr A Magee, Mrs L Taggart left the room at this juncture.
Mr E Kelly left the room at 14:53.*

62.9 The meeting went into private session.

Date of next meeting: 6 March 2018

SIGNED; _____ **CHAIR**
Mr G Finnegan

DATE: 6 March 2018

APPROVED