



GOVERNORS' MEETING

Minutes of the meeting
on 7 February 2009
at the Pengethley Manor Hotel

Present: Ms Michelle Balcombe, Mrs Carol Clapham, Mr Charles Davies,
Mr Rob Doran, Mrs Pat Gaze, Dr Jonathan Godfrey, Mr Denis Holly,
Dr Ken Hopkins (Chair), Mr Bob Ing, Mrs Heidi Macdougall, Mrs Helen Powers,
Mr John Pratt, Mr Ravi Tandon

In attendance: Dr Ruth Brinton and Mr Peter Cooper (Deputy Principals),
Mr Philip Eyles (Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Neil Arlett, Emily Marshall, Andrew McDonagh, Sam Tyler, Christine Wright
2. **APPOINTMENT OF PARENT GOVERNOR**
The Board **AGREED TO APPOINT** Helen Powers, who had been nominated (unopposed) during the recent Parent Governor election process, following the resignation of Rob Doran (now an Independent Governor) on 8 October. [Minute 8i of the 9.10.08 Governors' Meeting refers]
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND GIFTS**
None
4. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 DECEMBER 2008**
The Minutes were **APPROVED** as an accurate record and signed
5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
None
6. **CLERK'S REPORT**
Mrs Pippa Hadfield resigned as a Parent Governor on 13 December, owing to pressure of work. This means that there are now two Board vacancies, the other being for an Independent Governor. A recent approach to try to recruit a local business person to the latter role was unsuccessful.

The Clerk thanked Governors for returning the Skills Audit and Training Questionnaire
7. **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**
Discussion focused on the Herefordshire Department for Schools, Children and Families (DCSF) league table, which the College heads on Average Points per Student and Contextualised Value Added. The College's average A/AS level points score per candidate places the College in the top 25 non-selective schools and colleges nationally.
The number of conditional Oxbridge offers stands at a record 19, having trebled since the early 2000s.
8. **OPERATIONAL PLAN MONITORING**
The Board **NOTED** that all of the 28 objectives for this current round have been achieved. For the whole of this year's plan, 306 of the 312 objectives have been achieved, whilst the remainder have been deferred

9. COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

After a brief discussion, the Board **AGREED TO CONFIRM** the current statement and objectives. They had been discussed at length at the 8.2.2008 Governors' Meeting, of which Minute 9 refers.

10. ANNUAL TARGET FOR ENROLMENT

The Board **AGREED TO ADOPT** a target of 1820 student enrolments for the 2009/10 academic year. The Learning & Skills Council (LSC) has agreed to fund this number. There was discussion of whether a plateau in student numbers has been reached, since partner school numbers have stabilised in Year 11. It was reported that the current rate of applications is very high

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

i. Staff & Students Committee on 14 January

There was a very brief discussion and the Committee's Minutes were **APPROVED** as a correct record

ii. Curriculum Committee on 14 January

After discussion, the Board **AGREED**

- to adopt the recommended Departmental Targets for Retention and Achievement
- that no changes are to be made to the Course Masterfile, apart from introducing Extended Projects to the A2 Curriculum, with some preparation by the students concerned at the end of their AS year

The Committee's Minutes were also considered and **APPROVED** as a correct record

iii. Finance & Premises Committee on 15 January

There was considerable discussion of this Committee's report, mainly about the Capital Project which cannot proceed until the LSC's national moratorium is lifted, probably in early March. Full planning permission has now been obtained for all aspects of the Capital Scheme. One result of the LSC's successive delays in granting approval to proceed is that costly additional temporary accommodation will now be required. Detailed proposals for the latter will now be prepared for the Committee's consideration

Following further discussions of the rest of the Committee's report, and of the separate set of Management Accounts for December, the Board **AGREED**

- to **ADOPT** the Revised Financial Forecast for 2008-09
- to **APPROVE** the Monthly Management Accounts for November
- to **APPROVE** the Monthly Management Accounts for December
- to **NOTE** the Committee's report on the Capital Project

The Committee's Minutes were also considered and **APPROVED** as a correct record

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 19 March at 7.30pm