



CORPORATION SEARCH COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATION SEARCH COMMITTEE HELD ON FRIDAY 17 JUNE 2011

PRESENT: Mr I Standen Chairman
Mr M Garrity Items 1/11 to 4/11 and 6/11 to 10/11
Mr J Green
Dr G Wilson
Ms W Wright Principal

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs P Connell Clerk to the Corporation

1/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

2/11 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of 1 December 2010 were confirmed as a correct record.

3/11 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were none.

4/11 SKILLS AUDIT

Members received an up-dated skills audit of the current membership of the Corporation. This was contained within appendix A.

Mr M Garrity left the meeting at this point.

5/11 EXPIRY OF TERM OF OFFICE OF EXISTING MEMBER OF THE CORPORATION

Members noted that the current term of office of Mr M Garrity expired on 14 July 2011. Mr Garrity had served not only as a Member of the Governing Body, but, also, as a Member of the Audit, LZ6 Governance and Search Committees. He had also undertaken extra training and had served as the Member of the Corporation with additional responsibility for safeguarding. **The Committee** wished to record its gratitude for the contribution which Mr Garrity had made during his current term of office and **formally recommended to the Corporation meeting of 12 July 2011 that he should be reappointed, for a further four year period, as a Member of the Corporation and of the Audit and Search Committees. (The LZ6 Governance Committee was to**

ACTION

be dissolved at the end of the 2010/11 academic year). It was also recommended that Mr Garrity should maintain his additional responsibilities with regard to safeguarding matters.

Mr Garrity joined the meeting again at this point.

6/11 THE COLLEGE CODE OF GOVERNANCE 2011/12

The Committee received an oral report from the Vice-Chairman of the Corporation concerning developments since the Corporation meeting in March in relation to the proposed College Code of Governance. The key points of the Vice-Chairman's report were confirmed by the Chairman who had attended an AoC North West meeting earlier in the week, when there had also been a briefing. It was noted that it had originally been intended to publish the Code in May 2011, with a view to colleges adopting it in time for the 2011/12 academic year. There had been much discussion at regional and national levels concerning the proposed Code and many colleges had voiced their concern that without a corresponding reduction in the audit and regulatory framework the Code would impose yet another burden on the sector. The Association of Colleges was currently consulting with major stakeholders. A new Audit Code of Practice was expected to be published in 2011/12 and time would be needed to ensure that the documents were appropriately aligned. It was now unlikely that the final version of the Code would be published in time for colleges to formally consider it before the end of the current academic year. **It was agreed that, in the circumstances, a recommendation should be made to the Corporation meeting of 12 July 2011 that the matter should be revisited in the next academic year once the College was in receipt of the Code or more information concerning it was available.**

7/11 REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES OF THE CORPORATION AND, ALSO, OF GOVERNOR CURRICULUM LINK AREAS

The Committee received a written report from the Clerk to the Corporation, which was attached as appendix B. They also received the following documents, which were attached as appendices Bi to Biii to the Clerk's report:

- i Review of Corporation and Committee Membership as at June 2011.
- ii Proposed Amended Structure and Membership of the Corporation and Committees for 2011-12
- iii Governor Curriculum Area Links 2010-11.

The Clerk spoke on her report. It was noted that following the meeting of the Corporation on 29 March 2011, the Chairman had initiated a consultation process with Members of the Governing Body (other than Staff and Student Members who were appointed to Committees in accordance with policies agreed by the Corporation) to review the membership of the Committees of the Corporation and, also, the structure of the curriculum link areas. Members had been invited to state any preferences with regard to their on-going or future service either as Committee Members or as governors linked to particular curriculum areas. The intention was to deploy governors' skills and talents most effectively in supporting the work of the Corporation, to spread the workload and to give Members the chance to widen their experience as governors if they felt that this might be beneficial. An amended chart had

been drawn up with the proposed changes and this had been reviewed initially by the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Principal and Clerk to the Corporation. The Chairman had held further discussions to confirm that any proposed changes were acceptable to the Members concerned.

In conclusion, the Committee reviewed the existing structure in appendix Bi, supported the proposed structure in appendix Bii and recommended it to the Corporation for approval on 12 July 2011. Members had already discussed and supported Mr Garrity's role as the nominated governor in relation to safeguarding matters under agenda item five. **They recorded their support for the proposal that Miss V Herbert should join the College's Health and Safety Committee.** It was noted that the chart illustrating the structure of the curriculum link areas in appendix Biii might need further revision once the current restructuring of the College management team had been completed. **It was agreed that the Clerk to the Corporation and the Principal should prepare a revised chart to make any necessary adjustments, following the conclusion of this process, for submission to the Corporation meeting of 12 July 2011.**

PJC/WW

8/11 VACANCY IN MEMBERSHIP OF THE CORPORATION

The Committee received a written report from the Clerk to the Corporation, which was attached as appendix C. Members considered the current vacancy in the membership of the Corporation and discussed the best way of filling the vacancy to enhance the composition and balance of the Governing Body. The Clerk reported on the advice which had been received from Eversheds concerning the on-going status of agreements made at the time of the opening of the Learning Zone. Members considered the Principal's proposal that a seat should be reserved on the College's Governing Body for the Chair of Governors at Park Lane Special School. It was felt that the relationship with the School could be further strengthened in this way and, without this arrangement, Park Lane Special School would lose any formal representation on the Committees of the Corporation, or indeed on the Governing Body itself, once the LZ6 Governance Committee was dissolved at the end of the academic year. **It was agreed that a formal recommendation should be made to the Corporation meeting of 12 July 2011 for the Chair of Park Lane Special School to be given a seat on the College's Governing Body for the duration of her term of office as Chair of the School's Governing Body. Should the Corporation approve this proposal, Members were invited to approve the appointment of Mrs S Edwards accordingly, with immediate effect on 12 July 2011.**

Discussion ensued concerning the normal attendance arrangements for regular Corporation meetings. It was felt that it would be beneficial for the Headteacher of The Macclesfield Academy and the College's Deputy Principal to attend Corporation meetings throughout the year as non-voting participants at those meetings. **A recommendation was made to the Corporation meeting of 12 July 2011 for Members to formally agree this proposal.**

9/11 TERMS OF REFERENCE – SEARCH COMMITTEE

Members received a written report from the Clerk to the Corporation, which was attached as appendix D. They conducted the annual review of the Committee's terms of reference, noting the current terms and proposed amendments, which were contained within appendix Di. Members supported the Clerk's proposal that membership of the Committee should be extended to six in number, with the quorum remaining three **and recommended the revised terms to the Corporation for approval on 12 July 2011. Members recommended that Mr M Wright should be appointed as the additional Member of the Search Committee, subject to the Corporation's approval of the revised terms.**

10/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This would be held as required.

Pamela J Connell
Clerk to the Corporation
20 June 2011

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