

**Minutes of the Corporation Board  
held on Thursday, 9 February 2017 at 5.45pm in Sketty Hall, Sketty**

<b>Present:</b>	Mr Colin Cornelius Dr David Ashelby Mr John Britton Mr Mike Day Mr Ryan George Mrs Carol Green Mr Mark Jones Ms Fiona Rees Mr Ray Singh Mr Gary Williams	Chair    (except for item 24)  Principal
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Mr Mike Glover Mr Paul Harris Mrs Kay Morgan	Head of Finance Vice Principal (Corporate Services) Vice Principal (Academic Services)
<b>Recorder:</b>	Mrs Sharon Barron	Clerk to the Corporation

**Track Training**

The meeting was preceded by a presentation from Mr Malcolm Sanders, CEO of Track Training.

**21 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from: Mr Tim Clark, Mr Andrew Donald, Mr Meirion Howells, Mr Ceri Low, Cllr Jennifer Raynor, Mr Kieron Rees and Mrs Susan Williams

**22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 December 2016 were **approved** as a correct record.

**23 Principal's Report**

The Principal presented his report.

Members noted the sector update and in particular: the Welsh Government's proposal to set up an 'arms-length body' to manage and fund all post 16 education – Higher Education, Further Education and Work Based Learning, other than school 6<sup>th</sup> forms, anticipating that it would be established by April 2021; notice from the Cabinet Secretary for Education and the Minister for Lifelong Learning and the Welsh Language outlining the priorities for the FE sector for 2017-18; the publication of the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal (Wales) Bill; a consultation document received from St David's College concerning their proposals to return to Local Authority Control; and consultation on consistent measures for post-16 learning in Wales.

The Principal reported on discussions taking place with Morriston Comprehensive School and the 6 potential courses which could be delivered or supported at the School in September: A Levels in Sociology, Psychology and Law, and Level 2 diplomas in Construction, Hair and Beauty and Health and Social Care.

The Corporation Board **approved** the College support for the courses identified, to start in September 2017.

Members noted that the Chief Education Officer at the City and County of Swansea would be leaving at the end of March 2017, and noted the positive report on the Tidal Lagoon in Wales, and the forthcoming announcement on the City Deal for the region. In addition there had been recent announcements about City Centre green park, and a regional collaboration for health (ARCH) led by Swansea University.

The Board noted progress with appointments to five key posts for 2016-17, publication of the Welsh Government's final budget for 2017-18 which included an additional £15.5 m for apprenticeships and an increase in capital funding. The College had been notified of its recurrent grant funding for 2017-18 on 27 January. This included an increase of 1.25% amounting to £286,084. However the full time enrolment targets had been increased by 66.

The Principal referred to the report received by the Finance and General Purposes Committee on benchmarking the College's financial performance against the other 13 institutions in the sector (Minute 29 Finance and General Purposes refers), and the lack of consistency in approach to presenting financial information. The Committee had asked managers to review the College's financial strategy.

The Board noted the update on current estates projects.

The Principal reported that following a review of provision by the recently appointed Learning Area Manager for Construction, from next September the College was planning to offer 3 new full-time level 1 courses, in carpentry, brickwork and multi skills. Members noted that Coleg Sir Gar and NPTC might raise objections to this provision.

The Board noted an update on the transfer of the work based learning contract from the City and County of Swansea to the College, which took place in April 2016. Members noted that: reconciliation of funds due to and from the two organisations had resulted in a likely final figure of around £55k due from the College to the Local Authority; the final return to the Welsh Government for the 2015-16 year showed an overall estimated shortfall of just over £400K, less than previously estimated; and that issues with LLETS data would lead to a likely negative impact on the overall success rates of the College.

The Board noted the results of the survey of full-time students which indicated a significant improvement in terms of 'quartile' performance in the results from vocational students compared to previous years, and similar results to previous years for A level students. The results were discussed with students and analysis undertaken at course and college level.

The Board noted: that the College was awaiting clarity on the new Welsh Language Standards Regulations and the likely impact on the College; and various student

and College successes.

The Corporation Board **noted** the report.

## **24 Annual Operational Plan Interim Review**

The Board received a report outlining the results of the interim review of the 2016-17 Annual Operational Plan. Members noted that the majority of objectives had been partially achieved, one fully achieved and one where progress was being made but which had not been achieved by the target completion date. One objective had been deferred to 2017-18.

The Corporation Board **noted** the interim review of the Annual Operational Plan.

## **25 Management Accounts for the Period ending 30 November 2016**

The Board received the Management Accounts for the 4 months ended 30 November 2016. These had been recommended for approval by the Finance and General Purposes Committee. (Minute 31 refers)

The Corporation Board **approved** the accounts for the period ending 30 November 2016.

## **26 Reports from Committees**

The Corporation Board **noted** and discussed various items considered by the following committees and **approved** the decisions taken.

### **.1 Track Training Board of Directors 12 December 2016**

The Board noted the minutes of 12 December meeting and commented on the forthcoming audit and future work in aligning the strategies of the company and the College.

### **.2 Search and Governance Committee 24 January 2017**

The Corporation Board **approved** changes to the Code of Conduct and approved the role description for the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board, and the Chairs of Committees.

The Board discussed the proposal to amend the Bye-laws in relation to the maximum number of terms of office a member could serve.

The Corporation Board **agreed:**

1. to amend paragraph 7.2 to read: *Whilst governors should not normally serve more than two continuous terms of office, each reappointment would be considered on its own merits and a third term agreed where the Board required the skills and experience of the current member.*
2. That the Search and Governance Committee consider how recommendations for reappointments would be determined;

3. That this aspect of the Bye-laws be reviewed in two years' time.

### **.3 Finance and General Purposes Committee 26 January 2017**

The Corporation Board noted the discussions taking place in relation to Project ENDURO, **approved** the Management Accounts for the period ending 30 November 2016. (Item 25 above), and that the College's financial health be assessed according to Welsh Government guidelines, as category A.

## **27 Dates of Next Meetings**

The next meetings would be held on 23 March 2017, 11 May 2017 and 29 June 2017.

**Signed.....**

**Date.....**