

**MINUTES OF THE FULL GOVERNING BODY
WEDNESDAY 8th JULY 2009**

Present:	David Arnold (Chairman)	Jenny Ayres
	Liza Moore	Steve Tucker
	Janet Turner	Linda Evans
	Jim Dryburgh	Rob Johnstone
	Jeremy Fothergill	Sandra Gayer
	Nick Grodhunce	Roger Pope
	Ruth Commander	Jill Hannam

The meeting reflected on the recent deaths of two of our present and past students and the condolences of all present were sent to the families. The Principal explained how this was dealt with within the College. The Chairman stated that he has sent letters to the families of all boys involved. It was requested that the flags would be flown at half mast on the days of each of the funerals. Governors are happy to contribute to memorial funds and it was felt that it reinforced the governor proposals to help students with road safety issues, especially the Sixth Form.

The Governors wished Lis Collard a speedy recovery after her recent operation and thanked Kay Ryder for stepping in to minute the meeting.

1 Apologies for Absence:

Robin Tatam
Chris Harris
Michael Herring
Paul Cox

2 Minutes of the last meeting:

- 2.1 The refurbishment of the Science block started at Half Term and is going to plan. Planning for the English block was submitted in June. Kingsbridge Town Council passed the plans last night, and they will now go to Planning Committee on 2nd September 2009. If this goes through demolition will start mid September and the building will be ongoing from then. Temporary classrooms will be erected in August ready for the September return to College.

The minutes were approved and signed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

3 Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting and matters arising:

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Governors were signed as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

The Principal advised the meeting of FROG has been chosen as the new reporting system. There is a possible funding of £25,000 available from central funds for this and the College has received a grant of £22,500 to upgrade catering.

4 Governors' Business:

- 4.1 Points of interest from Committee Meetings:

Strategy & Quality Committee:

- Jeremy thanked Nick for all the extensive work he has put in on the cashless catering system and parent pay.

- On a less positive note Governors were concerned that the College lacked a Health and Safety Committee and Geoff Addy was asked to form a committee comprising College staff as soon as possible and report on progress to the S&Q Committee.
- A planning application for a wind turbine would have to be made to Devon County Council and it was agreed that this should be progressed once the English block is largely completed. Governors raised the possibility of using Belle Hill for this and the Principal agreed to pursue this with the consultant.

Community Committee:

Jenny summarised the last meeting, most of which appears in the CIP.

Learning Committee:

Linda thanked Paul Brooks for the work he had done. She summarised the last meeting and informed that further discussion re timings of lunchtimes would be necessary. Success Trader initial reports planned until Easter.

The Principal confirmed that he has sent letters to parents regarding these the changes proposed from September in connection with cashless catering, uniform and SuccessTracker from which he had received only four responses (1 against SuccessTracker, 1 against uniform changes, 1 against and 1 for canteen changes).

Governor Training:

Jim Dryburgh undertook New School Governor Training on 5th July 2009.

David Tool (Devon Association of Governors) is looking for a contact point in our Governing Body. Jill Hannam volunteered and will make contact with him.

5 Principal's Report to Governors:

Learning

- Governors were pleased to note that there were no permanent exclusions reported and the re-offenders list very small.
- University College Falmouth has asked to join the Trust as a full partner and this will be ratified at the next Trust Board meeting. In the meantime we hosted a visit by Falmouth who visited students and staff last week. Jon Snell is planning a return trip to explore the facilities and expertise available and Dartington are running a dance workshop. Sara Reed, who is based at the Dartington Campus, will join the Trust Board as the University's representative.
- Rob Johnstone asked about funding from Sport England. This is a possibility and we have been approached. The Principal agreed to approach Sport England direct.
- The Principal reported that we have appointed 3 Learning Co-Ordinators and that interviews for Media Associate will take place next week. Three further TA's have been appointed. All are mostly 1 year appointments (taking into account the possible budget cuts within 18 months).
- The Principal was asked his views of pronouncements made by Ed Balls (White Paper). Discussion ensued. Possibly successful schools who have developed a 'brand' are franchised out to other schools. We already have a partnership with Dartmouth. We may be approached to be a Trust Partner. The Principal has recently been on an NCSL Fellowship Course which is designed to train system leaders – there were 20 Heads on the course last year, and 20 this year.

- Discussion took place on possible funding for next 3 – 5 years. The Principal explained the more diverse courses being offered, including BTECs and vocational courses.
- Governors congratulated the Learning Support Department in particular and to the staff for the huge effort in managing the changes of the last 12 months.
- The Chairman confirmed that he had sent congratulatory letters to Jonathan Snell and Vanessa Barton on behalf of the Governors for their success in the Teaching Awards.

6 Approve CIP 2009 – 2010:

The Principal pointed out that this was a draft only. There needs to be a tightening up of costs and budgets, success benchmarks and targets.

The Chairman commented that there was considerable overlap which indicated ‘joined up thinking’. Priorities for the next 2/3 years:

- 1 Adapting the curriculum
- 2 Appropriate reporting systems
- 3 Staff training

The Principal agreed that it would be useful to develop a diagrammatic representation of the CIP priorities.

L3 Dynamic Learning ICT:

Questioned about 95% access to home computers. The Principal explained that this is dependent on government funding through BECTA. Paul Brooks is piloting online reporting for parents. Looking at various options of attaining this and agreed to alter aspirations to 100%.

C3 Student Leadership:

- We are already doing so through Barometer Groups, team reviews and student input to teaching staff appointments. This is intended to assist teachers through the student perspective but will need to be carefully managed.
- KCC Radio Station soon to be launched.

C8 International Links:

- Comenius Project – funding through EU to bring schools together from 3 – 4 different countries to do a project. We are looking at Opening Minds and in November will go to Prague to meet representatives from other schools.
- Adumasa Funding has recently been awarded.
- May also be opportunities from Ian Jamison and his new role.

Budget:

- Expenditure going up 4 – 5 % each year whilst our income is not. Cuts from Government unknown as yet but we will face a challenge in 2011/12.
- Possible savings in the form of the cashless catering, cheaper new building running costs. We can’t afford for our carry forward to be over 5%. We are using 1 year contracts to minimise the risk.
- The CIP was approved in principle. Final copies to be discussed and ratified at next Full Governor’s Meeting in December 2009.

7 Principal's Letter re College initiatives from September:

This was discussed under item 3.1 Learning Committee.

8 Ratify Financial Administration Policy:

It was proposed to ratify the policy as it stands but the Principal agreed to submit a revised policy to include cashless catering and parent pay at the next meeting of the Strategy & Quality Committee.

Ratified:	Proposer:	Jeremy Fothergill
	Seconder:	Jan Turner
	All in favour	