

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
27 JANUARY 2015

MINUTES

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|------------------------|--|
| PRESENT: | Gordon Smith (Chair) Caroline Allen (Vice Chair) Stephan John Claire Mackie Craig O'Donnell (Chair of the Audit Committee) Frances Wadsworth (Principal) Kate Ward Jackie Wilding |
| ALSO ATTENDING: | Keith Oxspring (Chief Operating Officer -COO) Andy Smith (Deputy Chief Executive) Jill Small, Consultant (Item 15.2 only) |
| CLERK: | Melissa Drayson |
| APOLOGIES | Trevor Morgan Matt Sims Piers White Anita McGowan (Staff) Khalid Joomaye (Staff) Nulu Okuku (HE Student) Francis Uwagboe (FE Student) |
| QUORUM | The meeting was quorate throughout |
| TIMING | 3.30 – 4.40 pm |

| Item no. | | Action Lead |
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| 15.1 | i. Apologies for absence | |
| | Apologies were received from those listed above. | |
| | ii. Declaration of interests | |
| | There were no additional declarations of interests relating to items on the Agenda | |
| 15.2 | Capital Funding Bids to London LEP <i>Supporting paper and presentation by Jill Small (powerpoint slides attached)</i> | |
| | i. Main Bid Approval | |
| | The Board was given a detailed presentation of the main features of the Bid and discussed the rationale in relation to the College's strategic direction, and in the context of local and regional priorities. The benefits to the College as part of the overall property strategy, the synergies with the Croydon regeneration | |

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scheme and the reflection of LEP priorities were clear. It was hoped that a similar status 'sponsor' could be attracted for the Bistro, to mirror the partnership with Lee Stafford for the proposed Hair Academy.

Key points from the presentation and discussion were:

- The need for a clear main entrance/shopfront
- The inclusion of pop-up hubs, with a digital design zone and the possibility of an employment agency linked with an entrepreneurial zone
- The risk of not getting planning permission was considered to be low as the project aligned with LEP priorities so closely
- The college would commit £2m to the project regardless of LEP funding being granted, but the additional £1m would enable the full vision to be realised.

RESOLVED: that approval be given of the following:

- **The submission of the Detailed Application to the FE Capital Investment Fund of the London Enterprise Partnership**
- **That the design work on the project should continue during the LEP assessment period of the Detailed Application at a maximum cost of £135,000 plus VAT.**

ii. Supplementary LEP Bid – ratification of Chair's Action

The Chair approved a resolution, under Chair's Action, following consultation with members of the Search and Governance Committee on 14 January, in order to meet the bid deadline of 19 January.

RESOLVED: that the Board ratify the following resolution approved under Chair's Action:

“That the College should submit the Round 2 Expression of Interest to London Enterprise Partnership for the Retail and Commercial Refurbishment Project, with total costs of £200,000”

Claire Mackie left the meeting at 4.12pm

15.3 Other Business

Free School application

The Principal updated the Board on the Free School submission.

A revised application had been put forward to the New Schools Network to be assessed for the May 2015 round. If NSN chose to support the Bid, it would be an indicator of its likely success in May. A delegation from the College had been interviewed by NSN on 26 January and the outcome was expected by 30 January.

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Subject to NSN support being granted, delegated authority was sought to continue to develop the Bid. The costs of this were estimated to be in the region of £15k. The NSN would provide £5k, primarily for marketing.

Governors expressed the need for a clear decision point to progress with developing the detailed proposal. It was requested that the report and proposal should outline both the strategic rationale behind the bid and describe how the capacity needs of the project would be met.

AGREED: that a full report and proposal to proceed with the Free School application should be brought to the 25 March Board meeting.

Committee membership

RESOLVED: that Gordon Smith be appointed as a member of the Finance and Resources Committee

Departing colleagues

The Chair of the Board thanked Kate Ward for her contribution as a governor. Kate brought excellent local knowledge and contacts to the Board. She stated that, although she was not able to give the time currently to the governor role, she would continue to support the College. The Board wished Kate well for the future, and presented her with flowers.

Signed _____ (Chair)

Date: _____