

## Minutes of the Special Corporation Meeting

held on 13 January 2018

at Hogarths Stone Manor

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*Present* Ian Jewkes (*Chair*), Helene Jones (*Vice Chair*), David Williams (*Principal*), Amanda Allen, Elaine Cammies, Karen Cocker, Peter Coley, Kiran Dior, Jamie Fox, Tiffany Harvey-Pallent, Mark Johnson, Louise Jones

*In attendance* Joanne Williams (*Director of Learning and Teaching*)  
Jacquie Carman (*Director of Finance and Corporate Services*)  
Sarah Dobson (*Skills and Performance Director*)  
Louise Craddock (*Faculty Director A Levels*)  
Elizabeth Skipper (*Faculty Director Health and Science*)  
Julie Edwards (*Faculty Director Business and Professional*)  
John Murray (*Interim Faculty Director Creative Arts*)  
Jennifer Sunter (*Clerk to the Corporation*)

### 1 Apologies

There were none.

### 2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

### 3 Strategic Planning – Future Curriculum Developments

Joanne Williams gave a presentation on all aspects of curriculum changes impacting on College delivery and student pathways. This addressed linear A Levels, T Levels and Apprenticeships. However, provision for students at Levels 1 and 2 remained unclear. Proposed routes, shape of provision and focus on employability were discussed. Key points were recorded.

Governors and staff broke into three groups to conduct analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. A summary of points raised from groups was recorded.

*(Mark Johnson left the meeting)*

### 4 Strategic Planning – Financial and Estates Strategy

Jacquie Carman gave a presentation on financial and estate considerations to best enable the College moving forward. This included current strategy and position, indicative funding, other external factors including the Industrial Strategy, Local Enterprise Partnership skills for jobs focus and Brexit.

Jacque Carman went on to cover Social and Economic factors before raising key questions on financial resilience and investment for the future, competition, the College's unique selling points, marketing and maintaining student numbers.

In looking forward, key decisions on areas of investment and maintaining outstanding or good financial health were discussed. This included the benefits to the College in maintaining outstanding financial health and the parameters for investment regarding both capital and revenue and impact on measures of financial performance. Members discussed potential levels of investment.

Additional key points were noted.

**Action 4a** Jacque Carman concluded with a range of options, observations and next steps. A new Estates Strategy would be provided for Corporation approval

Governors and staff broke into three groups to Review the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.

There were some specific amendments to the wording of the mission and the core and enabling strategies proposed.

It was felt that supporting progression was the key message from each group and that this should be key to a revised mission and strategic plan, in distinguishing why a student should want to come to Halesowen College; that focus in getting a clear message to students was that it is "all about you".

**Action 4b** It was agreed that the College Executive would consolidate the work achieved and redraft a mission statement and strategy for consultation. A report on planned action would be returned to the Corporation, with the aim of launching a new Strategic Plan in September 2018.

The Principal thanked everyone for attending and summarised key areas of work:

1. A revised Estate Strategy and financial approach.
2. A new Marketing Strategy reflecting institutional self-confidence.
3. Revised IT Infrastructure including consideration of Blended Learning addressing impact on both staff and estate.
4. Employment and progression to be a clear focus in a revised strategic plan.
5. A new strategic plan to be definite rather than expectant, reflecting what we are, what we do and what we will do.

## **5 Any other business**

There was none.

## **6 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting remained as scheduled for 28 February 2018.

The meeting closed at 4.45pm

## Notes from the Corporation Residential Meeting – held on 12 January 2018

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<i>Present</i>	Ian Jewkes ( <i>Chair</i> ), Helene Jones ( <i>Vice Chair</i> ), David Williams ( <i>Principal</i> ), Amanda Allen, Elaine Cammies, Karen Cocker, Peter Coley, Kiran Dior, Jamie Fox, Tiffany Harvey-Pallent, Mark Johnson, Louise Jones
<i>In attendance</i>	Joanne Williams ( <i>Director of Learning and Teaching</i> ) Jacquie Carman ( <i>Director of Finance and Corporate Services</i> ) Sarah Dobson ( <i>Skills and Performance Director</i> ) Louise Craddock ( <i>Faculty Director A Levels</i> ) Elizabeth Skipper ( <i>Faculty Director Health and Science</i> ) Julie Edwards ( <i>Faculty Director Business and Professional</i> ) John Murray ( <i>Interim Faculty Director Creative Arts</i> ) Jennifer Sunter ( <i>Clerk to the Corporation</i> )

The Chair of Corporation welcomed governors and staff to the Corporation Residential and set the scene for the planned work, with focus on College Strategic Planning. The Chair highlighted that the College had been through a considerable period of change and it was timely to consider if the current mission and strategy remained fit for purpose.

The Principal emphasised that it was time to reflect on the College within the context of changes, particularly as the Further Education Sector was undergoing the most significant period of change since incorporation.

National factors included funding changes and an increase in market place mechanisms with more risk to Colleges, increased costs including pension costs, Ofsted, new curriculum changes bringing a wholesale change of vocational provision affecting both teaching and work experience provision.

Regional factors included the outcome of Area Based Reviews with College mergers, the formation of the West Midlands Combined Authority, the work of the FE and Productivity Working Group and Local Enterprise Partnership uncertainties.

Local factors included increased competition amongst Black Country Colleges, Ofsted outcomes, academy chains and demographic changes.

The College remained in a strong position with high quality provision, a strong financial base and strong reputation. However, there were still recognisable challenges. Planning should focus on continuing to improve in light of current sector drivers; continuing to push towards being an outstanding provider.

Members divided into three groups for briefing sessions on:

- Quality Assuring Apprenticeships
- Learner Progress – Value Added
- The impact of linear A Levels

It was agreed that the briefing sessions would be repeated so that governors had the opportunity to attend each session.

<b>Actions from Meetings</b>			
<b>Ref</b>	<b>Agenda item and action</b>	<b>Date/item for review</b>	<b>Reported by</b>
<b>Corporation Meeting 13 January 2018</b>			
<b>Action 4a</b>	Jacque Carman concluded with a range of options, observations and next steps. A new Estates Strategy would be provided for Corporation approval	February 2018	JCa
<b>Action 4b</b>	It was agreed that the College Executive would consolidate the work achieved and redraft a mission statement and strategy for consultation. A report on planned action would be returned to the Corporation, with the aim of launching a new Strategic Plan in September 2018.	March 2018	DWi