

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COLLEGE

Minutes of the meeting of the Search and Governance Committee of the Board of Governors held on Monday 4 April 2011 in the Principal's Office, Paget Road

PRESENT

Mr D Swingwood (Chair) Mr I Millard
Mr R Landman

Ms S Meddings (Clerk)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Dr V Wylie.

11/11 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – 7 MARCH 2011

Resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 March 2011 be approved as a correct record.

12/11 BOARD OF GOVERNORS – CURRENT VACANCIES

The Committee noted that as at 1 April 2011, there were four vacancies on the Board of Governors, three vacancies for Independent members and one vacancy for a staff governor nominated and elected by the College's non teaching staff.

In respect of the vacancy for a staff governor, the Clerk reported that the staff governor nomination and election process had commenced with the expectation that the process would be completed by the time the Board of Governors next met on 23 May 2011.

In respect of the vacancies for Independent members, the Chair reported that, since the Committee had last met on 7 March, he, the Principal and the Clerk had met with 6 governor applicants who had responded to the governor recruitment campaign.

The Chair provided feedback from the interviews and further reported that one of the applicants had withdrawn. The remaining five applications were considered in the context of the three elements of the Board's appointment policy, i.e. the requisite skills and experience to fulfil the Board's statutory responsibilities, external stakeholder representation and the equality and diversity profile of the Board.

The Committee agreed that all of the five applicants were of a very high calibre. In order to fully utilise and harness the breadth of skills and experience offered, the Committee agreed to recommend to the Board that the Board should determine its total membership at 18. The Committee further agreed that succession planning via the

external co-opted committee member route should be fully utilised.

In the context of detailed consideration of the Board's skills matrix, the Committee recognised that membership of the Board's committees would need to be adjusted for the remainder of the academic year and requested the Clerk to speak to the governors concerned.

Discussion arose on whether the current governance model (i.e. the traditional committee structure) was the most effective in maximising governors' skills and experience given the challenging nature of the environment the College and the Sector were moving into. In this context the Committee agreed to recommend to the Board that a Task and Finish group should be established to work with the Clerk to explore options with a view to reporting back to the Board in the Spring term 2012 (in time for implementation of any agreed changes for the 2012/13 academic year).

In noting that the governor recruitment campaign was current and ongoing, the Committee considered a recent application from a prospective governor and agreed that the applicant should be invited into College to meet with the Principal, Clerk and an available member of the Committee.

Resolved:

That the Search and Governance Committee recommends to the Board of Governors

- i) That the total membership of the Board be determined at 18.**
- ii) That the composition of the Board of Governors shall consist of:**
 - 13 Independent members**
 - 2 Staff members**
 - 2 Student members**
 - The Principal**
- iii) That Dr Jack Carnell be appointed to the Board of Governors as an Independent member for the period ending 31 March 2015 and as a member of the Standards Committee.**
- iv) That Mr Clarence Crosdale be appointed to the Board of Governors as an Independent member for the period ending 31 March 2015 and as a member of the Standards Committee.**
- v) That Mr Stephen Grice be appointed to the Board of Governors as an Independent member for the period ending 31 March 2015 and as a member of the Resources Committee.**

- vi) **That Mr Pieter Hazenberg be appointed to the Board of Governors as an Independent member for the period ending 31 March 2015 and as a member of the Audit Committee.**
- vii) **That Ms Jill Mytton be appointed as the external co-opted member of the Resources Committee for the period ending 31 May 2012.**
- viii) **That the Board gives serious consideration to future governance model options and agrees to establish a task and finish group to work with the Clerk in exploring options.**

13/11

GOVERNOR PERFORMANCE 2010/11 – IN YEAR REPORT

The Committee considered the in-year report on Governor performance and noted the interim aggregate attendance figure of 77% against a full year target figure of 80%.*

The Committee further considered the summary evaluation of the Governors Strategic Forum held on 8 November 2010 and noted that the summary evaluation of the Strategic Forum held on 28 March 2011 would be provided at the next Committee meeting.

* Figure calculated from attendance at meetings held between 1 September 2010 and 7 March 2011, i.e. 16 meetings out of 26 in total