

Minutes of Corporation Special Meeting

held Friday 11 January 2019

at Stourport Manor

Present Ian Jewkes (*Chair*), Helene Jones (*Vice Chair*), David Williams (*Principal*), Amanda Allen, David Allen, Peter Coley, Paul Dyson, Lance Hanson, Tiffany Harvey-Pallent, Mark Johnson, Louise Jones

In attendance Jacquie Carman (*Director of Finance and Corporate Services*)
Rachael Charles (*Human Resources Director*)
Mandy Davis (*Director of Learner Services*)
Elaine Cammies (*Assistant Principal, Faculty of Academic Studies*)
Sarah Dobson (*Assistant Principal, Faculty of Creative Arts and Services to People*)
Julie Edwards (*Assistant Principal, Faculty of Professional Services and Sciences*)
Jonathan Priest (*Information and Infrastructure Director*)
Joanne Williams (*Deputy Principal*)
Jennifer Sunter (*Clerk to the Corporation*)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Bethany Cullen.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3 College Self-Assessment Report

In consideration of the College Self-Assessment Report 2017/2018, Joanne Williams gave a presentation drawing out key findings from the review of performance across the academic year. The College had self-assessed as a Grade 2 with the basis of this in the judgement of both why the College is good and what actions are needed to continue to improve. While the College overall grading had remained the same, there were changes within areas underpinning this.

Members were provided with detail to illustrate the basis for improvements or dips in curriculum area assessment, noting that adult retention remained challenging, particularly for Access courses.

The presentation addressed key points, both on strengths and areas on which to focus under Leadership and Management, Teaching and Learning, Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare and Outcomes for Learners, in addition to Apprenticeships, High Needs Learners, Adult programmes and the work of Professional Support Areas.

David Williams emphasised that the report and the resulting Quality Improvement and Development Plan would remain live documents used by staff to move the College forward.

Next steps were highlighted and included focus on subjects placed 'under notice' and further use of intervention panels, raising achievement panels and performance management.

The Corporation resolved to adopt the College Self-Assessment Report 2017/2018 and that this be used to inform the Development Plan for 2019-2020.

4 Any Other Business

One item of confidential business was considered and a confidential minute was taken.

Minutes of Corporation Special Meeting

held Saturday 12 January 2019

at Stourport Manor

Present Ian Jewkes (*Chair*), Helene Jones (*Vice Chair*), David Williams (*Principal*), Amanda Allen, David Allen, Peter Coley, Bethany Cullen, Paul Dyson, Lance Hanson, Tiffany Harvey-Pallent, Mark Johnson, Louise Jones

In attendance Jacquie Carman (*Director of Finance and Corporate Services*)
Rachael Charles (*Human Resources Director*)
Mandy Davis (*Director of Learner Services*)
Elaine Cammies (*Assistant Principal, Faculty of Academic Studies*)
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Jonathan Priest (*Information and Infrastructure Director*)
Joanne Williams (*Deputy Principal*)
Jennifer Sunter (*Clerk to the Corporation*)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Bethany Cullen.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3 Update on the National, Regional and Local Landscape

4 Update on the new Ofsted Common Inspection Framework

5 Curriculum Development 2018/2019 – 2021/2022

6 Employer Engagement and Student Work Placements

Jacquie Carman and Joanne Williams gave presentations addressing agenda items three to six, prior to group discussions on key points of consideration informing the Colleges' educational character and strategy.

Under the national, regional and local landscape, Jacquie Carman provided a comprehensive summary of factors influencing the College, noting that there were some opportunities for job creation and economic growth.

Local competition provided wide choice for 16 year olds and the College recognised a shift in behaviour reflected in the lateness of some student applications and enrolments.

The plans of the West Midlands Combined Authority including the Regional Skills Plan held aspirational targets for 2030 and providers needed to be agile to meet skills needs.

Jacque Carman outlined that the adult education budget is devolved to the West Midlands Combined Authority and is not ring-fenced, however, there is commitment to spend on education through local providers. The adult budget is constrained to the West Midlands Combined Authority's priorities under a more commercial model. Jacque Carman further outlined challenges and opportunities regarding local flexibility, other course funding sources and specific initiatives through the West Midlands Engine.

Key areas on which to reflect included digital development, Apprenticeships and T Levels, an increasingly free market economy, political turbulence and continually challenging social issues.

Joanne Williams informed members of the proposed changes to the Ofsted Common Inspection Framework with increased focus on the curriculum to encompass educational, personal and social development and 'line of sight to meaningful progression'.

Members were asked to think about three Is; Intent, Implementation and Impact.

Members discussed potential accountability relating to curriculum and career choices and opportunities, with higher education moving in a similar direction. The College was considering what it could offer for students not wishing to go to university.

Joanne Williams also outlined developing T Levels, Apprenticeships and Applied General Qualifications and provision at Levels 1 and 2, particularly the recommendations from Ofsted's report on Level 2. Members looked in detail at challenges, which included the large number of industrial placements required and maintaining industry standard staff knowledge and skills.

The College had begun work in preparation of changes. Next steps were noted and included review of curriculum offer and quality of progression.

All present broke into discussion groups to consider key areas:

- Brand – Professional and Inclusive
- Curriculum – What and why

Employers – A step change approach

7 Any Other Business

There was none.

8 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Corporation is as scheduled for Wednesday 27 February 2019.

The meeting closed at 3.15pm