



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2020 9:00

Present:

Chris Brown	External Governor	Chair
Andrew Wolfe	External Governor	
Dawn Whitemore	Principal	
Jane Wilson	External Governor	
Mark Walker	Staff Governor	
Lorraine Smalley	Staff Governor	
Bob Kelly	External Governor	
Maddy Kennedy	External Governor	
Jenny Shackleton	External Governor	
Geoff Guy	Staff Governor	
Josie Fraser	External Governor	
Simon Ashworth	External Governor	
Matthew Humphrey	External Governor	
Miles Brown	External Governor	

In attendance:

Catherine Duro	Vice Principal Corporate Services	Interim Clerk
Lisa Craddock	Vice Principal Business Development	
Sylvia Royle	Vice Principal Resources	

Apologies for Absence

168 Apologies for absence were received from; Joanna Harrold, and Peter Jordan

Declarations of Interest

169 No declarations of interest were received beyond the standing register of interest.

Minutes

170 The minutes of the corporation meeting held on Wednesday, 20 May were approved as an accurate record, for signing by the Chair.

171 As a matter arising it was reported that the sale of The Spinney was progressing and was on track.

172 The decision and action tracker was reviewed. All actions were on track.

COVID-19 Response

173 The Principal presented an update on the impact of and the Group's response to Covid-19

174 The attention of governors was brought to the key points. Detail was shared on the number of learners in each category of qualification award. The complexity of the process was explained.

175 The detail of the proposed management structure and consultation underway at the time of the meeting was shared.

176 A governor requested **further detail** on when learners would expect face-to-face contact. The pilot sessions planned and the planning for September being developed **were explained**.

177 A governor **asked** if the college had had any difficulty in contacting vulnerable learners. The Board was **assured** that all vulnerable learners had been contacted. The challenge had been in reduced participation, not lost contact, following the government announcement of awarded qualification. The Governors were **informed** that many learners had continued to engage in ongoing learning and were being supported by progress coaches in preparation for their next steps.

178 The Board asked that its thanks be passed to all involved in delivering teaching and learning during the period of lockdown.

179 A governor **challenged** when furloughed staff would be reviewed, even if further restructure was possible staff should be given as much certainty and a sense of direction where possible. Governors were advised that the executive would have a clearer plan by the end of July and would keep staff as informed as possible.

180 The Board was **advised** that the Principal remained in contact with the ESFA. The Group was not in intervention but by choosing to share information with the ESFA we were keeping them informed and supportive of our position.

181 Recruitment figures to date were shared and gaps were challenged.

Link Governor Report – Stephenson Studio School.

182 The link governor gave a brief background to the school to inform governors who had no prior knowledge of the studio school. As Chair of the school Board the link governor explained that he had been in regular contact with the headteacher, covering vulnerable learner contact, safeguarding, Teaching and Learning, the financial impact and sponsor support. These had been scrutinised in detail at a Special School Board Meeting in May 2020. At that point Trustees had been impressed with the update in particular safeguarding.

183 The partial reopening plans and risk assessments were detailed for information and the Sponsor Board informed that if the risk assessments were not deemed satisfactory by the School Board on 19th June the school would not be reopening on the 22nd June. The unique school ‘bubbles’ were explained and the wider sponsor support, particularly with estates, IT, and health and safety was recognised.

184 The Board was **reassured** by the update and knowledge that school bubbles would be completely self-contained. There were no further questions

Date of Next Meeting

185 The next meeting, will take place at 10.00am on Wednesday 8 July 2020,