

## STRATFORD-UPON-AVON COLLEGE CORPORATION

### MINUTES OF SEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 8 MARCH 2011

<b>PRESENT :</b>	David Kent	Chair of Committee
	Cedric Irankunda	Student Governor
	Martin Penny	Principal
	Elaine Rowlands	Governor
	Ursula Russell	Co-opted Member
<b>In attendance :</b>	David Jackson	Clerk to the Corporation

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Alan Richardson, Chair of Corporation.

#### 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved **THAT:**

The minutes of the Search Committee meeting held on 9 November 2010, having been circulated, be regarded as correct and signed by the Committee Chair.

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING

##### Item 8 – Search Committee Terms of Reference

It was resolved **THAT:**

The Search Committee note its revised Terms of Reference which had been approved by the Corporation on 16 December 2010.

##### Item 9 – Governors Self Assessment Checklist

##### Item 13 – Access to College Information

The Clerk to the Corporation reported that the Governors Self Assessment Checklist would be issued to Governors in May to inform the Self Assessment Process for 2010/11. He went on to report that the Access to College Information Policy had now been placed on the College Website.

It was resolved **THAT:**

The Report be noted.

#### 5. CONSIDERATION OF GOVERNOR VACANCIES

The Clerk to the Corporation reported that a potential Governor currently working in the Third Sector had been identified and visited the College to learn more about the role of Governor. He anticipated that a CV would be received shortly, which would then be circulated to members of the Committee to determine whether they would like to invite the person to attend for interview.

It was resolved **THAT:**

The Clerk to the Corporation would keep members informed of progress in this matter.

The Committee then reviewed the current Skills Audit of Governors, gender, ethnicity and disability balance before moving on to discuss potential vacancies. The Principal indicated that the current Chair of the Corporation had indicated a wish to stand down as a Corporation member on the expiry of his current term of office in December 2011. The Clerk to the Corporation was requested to ascertain the intention of Mike Atkins and Satnam Bhogal and report back to the Committee. The Committee commented that an advert should be placed shortly in the local press for potential Governors with a business background.

It was resolved **THAT:**

The Clerk to the Corporation be requested to ascertain the intentions of Mike Atkins and Satnam Bhogal and to arrange for an advert to be placed in the local press for potential Governors with a business focus.

**6. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CORPORATION MEMBERS**

The Clerk to the Corporation presented a suggested revised Code of Conduct for Corporation Members which followed closely Evershed's recommended code of conduct which had been updated to reflect mainly the demise of the LSC and changes in legislation. After discussion:

It was resolved **THAT:**

The revised Code of Conduct be approved for Stratford-upon-Avon College with immediate effect. Governors' attention will be drawn to the revised Code of Conduct when the Annual Declaration of Interests form was circulated for current members.

**7. CODE OF GOVERNANCE**

The Clerk to the Corporation referred to correspondence received from the Association of Colleges regarding the establishment of a Code of Governance for the Further Education Sector following on from the Schofield Report. He reported on the regional event he had attended in Walsall recently where the Code was discussed. He explained that there was some disquiet amongst some in the sector that Colleges were being asked to agree to something further at this stage without seeing any relaxation of the many demands placed upon Colleges. On balance, however, the Clerk considered that the Code as currently drafted was something that the College should be able to comply with without it being an additional burden and the potential for a relaxation of the many rules and regulations surrounding Further Education was to be welcomed. He went on to say that he understood that the Association of Colleges would be asking Colleges to sign up on a voluntary basis to the Code in the summer term. After discussion,

It was resolved **THAT:**

- a) The Committee support the establishment of a Code for the Further Education Sector in principle, but felt that the current draft required further development.
- b) The Committee urged the AoC to seek immediate relaxation of some of the existing regulations with stakeholders, with whom it was discussing the Code.
- c) The concise nature of the existing Code was very helpful and clear.
- d) The Committee did not support the introduction of a Public Value Statement and furthermore considered that it was unlikely to give added value to the students of the College.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was resolved **THAT:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee was **Tuesday 5 July 2011 at 4pm**