

THE FURTHER EDUCATION CORPORATION OF MIDDLESBROUGH COLLEGE

GOVERNING BODY

Minutes of the Governing Body Training Morning held on
Tuesday 10 May 2011 at 10.00 am in Seminar Room 2

Present	Mr R Brady	Chairman	College Governor
	Mrs M Britton		College Governor
	Mr A Hanif		College Governor
	Mrs A V Haskins		College Governor
	Mr M Hopkins		Principal / Chief Executive
	Mr M McClintock		College Governor
	Mr G Rogers	Staff Governor (Business Support)	
	Miss S Shepherd		College Governor
	Mrs C A Wheatley		College Governor
	Mr D Whitaker		College Governor
Mr B H Whitfield		College Governor	
Officers	Mr R Atkinson	Assistant Principal - Marketing, Communication, Registry and Admissions & Clerk to the Corporation	
	Mr D White	Interim Vice Principal - Corporate Services	
	Mrs Z Lewis	Deputy Principal - Corporate Services	
	Mrs S Morton	Vice Principal - Curriculum & Quality	

11/035 **ITEM 1 APOLOGIES**

Mr J Autherson	College Governor
Mr T Arnold	College Governor
Mrs S Bates	College Governor
Mr P Fiddaman	College Governor
Mr A Hume	Student Governor
Mr R Johns	Staff Governor (Academic)
Miss A McLaren	College Governor
Miss R Murphy	Student Governor

11/036 **ITEM 2 PRESENTATIONS & INFORMATION
(2011 & beyond)**

2.1 Governance with Impact

Dr Ron Hill, Governance Advisor and Clerk to the Corporation at two Colleges in Yorkshire, presented a number of slides titled "*Governance with Impact*" which took Governors through nine tests in relation to improving Governance.

The slides to the presentation were tabled for information and it was agreed that they would be circulated to those Governors who were unable to attend.

A number of individual and group exercises were undertaken as part of the training session. Discussion also took place with regards to best practice and testing some governance ideas, which should be considered for implementation in 2011 / 2012, as part of the Governing Body's look at alternative Models of Governance – the rationale was first discussed on the 4 October 2011.

Much of the discussion was centred on "*Student Centred Governance*" as it was felt by Dr Hill and the Governing Body this could take the Governing Body from "Good" to "Outstanding" at the next Ofsted Inspection.

Detailed notes were taken by the Assistant Principal - Marketing, Communication, Registry and Admissions & Clerk to the Corporation so that any issues identified could be discussed in the future.

After some comments from Governors during the session in terms of taking forward the ideas and concepts raised, the Chairman of Governors asked the Assistant Principal - Marketing, Communication, Registry and Admissions & Clerk to the Corporation to set up a small working party consisting of the Chairman of Governors, Mrs Moira Britton, the Principal / Chief Executive, the Interim Vice Principal - Corporate Services and the Assistant Principal - Marketing, Communication, Registry and Admissions & Clerk to the Corporation.

Dr Ron Hill would also be asked to prepare some documentation, and to facilitate and guide the group with a hope that a number of discussion points could be taken forward. A number of recommendations would then be made to the Governing Body on the 11 July 2011 so that these can be implemented in 2011 / 2012.

Following the presentation, the Chairman of Governors, on behalf of the Governing Body, thanked Dr Ron Hill for a detailed and informative presentation.

2.2 Equality & Diversity Training

Mrs Alyson Malach of Equality & Diversity UK presented an up-date to Governors on Equality & Diversity, concentrating on the three reasons why the College and Governing Body need to take Equality & Diversity seriously from an operation point of view as well as from a strategic perspective.

The three reasons related to the Business Case for Equality & Diversity (demographics), the Morale Case (hearts & minds) and the Legal Case, all of which are embedded within the Equality Act, which came into force on the 1 October 2010.

A number of documents were then tabled for Governors including a Self Assessment Questionnaire - it was agreed that these would be circulated to all Governors after the meeting for information.

The Governing Body welcomed the detailed up-date from Mrs Malach and in particular the detailed information on the nine areas of equality (previously six).

These related to:

1. Age.
2. Disability.
3. Gender Re-assignment (new).
4. Marriage & Civil Partnership (new).
5. Pregnancy & Maternity (new).
6. Race.
7. Religion or Belief.
8. Sex (gender).
9. Sexual Orientation.

After discussion on a number of issues in relation to the nine areas of equality, the role of the Governing Body and the need for further information, it was **agreed** that:

- due to the complexities of Equality & Diversity and the time given for this presentation, a further training session would be identified in 2011 / 2012.

2.3 Governance Self Assessment 2009 & 2010 Results

The Assistant Principal - Marketing, Communications, Registry and Admissions & Clerk to the Corporation reported that due to the time taken for the other two presentations, this item would be deferred.

At present, the Governance Self Assessment 2009 / 2010 Results are due to be discussed at the Search Committee on the 18 May 2011. Following this discussion, it may be more appropriate to organise another training session to discuss the themes coming out of the Governance Self Assessment Questionnaire in conjunction with some of the themes identified by Dr Hill's presentation.

11/037 ITEM 3 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Governing Body will meet as follows in 2010 / 2011.

- Tuesday 31 May 2011 at 5.00 pm.
- Thursday 16 June 2011 at 5.00 pm.
- Monday 11 July 2011 at 5.00 pm.

11/038 ITEM 4 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Principal / Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive and Vice Principal - Curriculum & Quality presented an up-date to the Governing Body on the progress being made with the University Technical College (UTC) Application, following the Statement of Intent being submitted on the 15 April 2011.

It was reported that the project is moving forward fast with the Steering Group being kept abreast of developments by the Principal / Chief Executive. There have been some recent complexities in relation to ownership and control of the UTC, which have caused the College to look again at how it can invest any money into the project or any alternative projects that would deliver the same outcomes.

It was then reported that the Governing Body is due to meet on Tuesday 31 May 2011 at 5.00 pm to formally approve the UTC Application, as the deadline for submission was the 1 June 2011. It was hoped that information would be circulated in advance of the meeting so that Governors had all of the information available before approving the application.

11/039 **ITEM 5 MATTERS FOR PUBLICATION**

All agenda papers will be made available in the normal way and circulated to the Learning & Resources Centre.

The meeting closed at 1.30 pm.

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Committee Circulation

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Mrs S Bates	College Governor
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