

AQUINAS COLLEGE GOVERNING BODY

Meeting: 8 March 2016
Venue: College
Time: 4.30pm

Dr P Beatty, Miss M Braithwaite, Mr L Byrne, Ms C Calverley, Mr P Carter, Miss H Delahan, Mrs C H Dove, Miss C Eaton, Mr B Hickey, Mrs R Hewitt, Mr J Horan, Mr A Martin, Cllr T P McGee, Mrs J Miller, Mr C Millington, Fr P Munroe, Mrs R Phillipson, Dr A Smith and Mr D Pearson (Principal).

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs D Blackburn Assistant Principal (Finance)
Mr T Conlon Clerk to the Governing Body

Cllr T P McGee in the Chair

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mrs E Rice and Mr E Moore (Vice Principal). Mrs J Miller also apologised for her late arrival.

2. STUDENT GOVERNORS

It was noted that Miss C Eaton and Mr C Millington had been elected as Student Governors. For their benefit all of the Governors introduced themselves.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Governors and Staff were asked to declare any interest, which they may have in any of the items on the Agenda for this meeting. No interests were declared. However, Governors were reminded of the fact that there would be a confidential item on admission arrangements.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED- i) That Miss C Eaton and Mr C Millington be appointed to the General Purposes Committee and Resources Committee. The students to determine which committee they want to be on.

5. (i) GOVERNING BODY MINUTES

RESOLVED – i) That the minutes of the meetings held on 24 November 2015, 13 and 27 January 2016 copies of which had been circulated previously, (a) be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record and (b) be authorised for publication in accordance with the College Instrument and Articles.

5. (ii) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE GOVERNING BODY MINUTES

Appointment of Vice Principal - 27 January 2016

It is anticipated that Miss Carina Vitti will start when the college returns after the Summer half term.

6. (i) COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the following Committee meetings, copies circulated previously,

(i) Audit Committee	25 January 2016
(ii) Resources Committee	26 January 2016
(iii) General Purposes and Employment Committee	2 February 2016
(iv) Teaching and Learning Committee	9 February 2016

(a) be approved and signed by the Chairperson as a correct record and (b) be authorised for publication in accordance with the College Instrument and Articles.

6. (ii) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COMMITTEE MINUTES

a) Audit Committee – 25 January 2016

i) Benchmarking Report 2014/2015 – Minute 8

A report provided by Baker Tilly contained Benchmarking Data in respect of assurance levels across all assurance audits for 2014/2015. The report also showed the College's performance for 2013/2014 and 2014/2015, benchmarked against other sectors. The Benchmarking data was noted.

ii) Review of Committee Terms of Reference – Minute 9

The Audit Committee Terms of Reference had been reviewed and Mr Byrne had undertaken a tidying up exercise and the changes proposed were minor.

RESOLVED: That the amended Audit Committee Terms of Reference be approved.

iii) Appointment of Internal Auditors – Minute – 12

Mrs Blackburn was going to ascertain from RSM and Mazars LLP what the fees would be for 2016/2017 for the same level of audit that was undertaken in 2015/2016.

b) Resources Committee – 26 January 2016.

i) Technology Update – Minute 5

Mr Pearson advised Governors that the broadband had been extended to give more band width.

ii) Review of Committee Terms of Reference – Minute 10

The Resources Committee Terms of Reference had been reviewed and the only change that was needed was a reference to the number of Foundation Governors on the Committee.

RESOLVED: That the amended Resources Committee Terms of Reference be approved.

year old students. Under the lagged learner numbers methodology the funded numbers for 2016/2017 will increase to 2095.

It was anticipated that the year-end surplus would be in the region of £188,000.

RESOLVED: That the budget position for 2015/2016 be noted.

9. (i) PRINCIPAL'S TERMLY REPORT

The report of the Principal, copies of which had been circulated, was presented and discussed.

RESOLVED - That the Principal's report be received.

9. (ii) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S TERMLY REPORT

Mr Pearson reported on the following:

a) Budget – the college has not yet received final confirmation of the EFA budget for 2016/2017. Some assessments have been made on information that has already been received. The budget will be based 2095 students. The rate per student will be £4,000 in line with 2015/2016. Formula protection that was due to cease at the end of 2015/2016 has been extended to protect those badly affected. The college will see a reduction from £299,000 to £26,000 and then zero in 2017/2018.

The college will be faced with additional costs of £190,000 for national insurance and pension contributions at a time when formula protection is reducing.

b) Admissions for 2016/2017 had been dealt with under matters arising from the General Purpose Committee held on 2 February 2016.

c) Aquinas Day – On 28 January 2016 the college celebrated Aquinas Day with staff and students participating in a number of events around the college. Fr Pat Munroe celebrated Mass in the afternoon. The Learning Centre produced a Thomas Aquinas display at the main reception and Thomas Aquinas featured on the screens around the college.

d) College Visits – Governors noted the various college visits that had been undertaken.

e) PGCE Course – Governors noted that the college had been successful in its bid to run a PGCE course at the college.

The Governors recorded their thanks to Mr Pearson for his informative report.

10. GOVERNOR TRAINING SESSION

It was agreed that the training evening be held on 18 May 2016 and would include the Area Based Review and the Prevent Agenda

11. CHAIRPERSON'S ACTION

The Chairperson reported that he had spent a great deal of time on the Area Based Review for

post 16 education that involved all the Greater Manchester Colleges (21).

12. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was brought forward for Governors consideration.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- a) Governors Training – 18 May 2016 at 4.30pm
- b) Summer Term meeting - 28 June 2016 at 4.30pm

Signed _____
Chairperson

Date _____

Terry Conlon
(Clerk to the Governors)

