

AQUINAS COLLEGE

RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: 26 January 2016

Time: 4.30 pm

Venue: The College

GOVERNORS PRESENT

Miss M Braithwaite, Ms C Calverley, Mr P Carter, Mrs H C Dove, Mrs R Hewitt, Cllr T P McGee and Mr D Pearson.

Miss M Braithwaite in the Chair.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P Beatty Governor

Mrs D Blackburn Assistant Principal

Mr T Conlon Clerk to the Governing Body

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. 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.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meetings held on 4 November 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters that were not covered by the Agenda for the meeting.

5. TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Mr Pearson circulated a paper to all Governors that provided an update on the Technology Strategy at the college. The paper included the following:

- i) June 2015 Technology Strategy
- ii) Technology Strategy – Focus and Actions for 2015/2016
- iii) Aims
- iv) Examples of Work

Mr Pearson advised Governors that the broadband had been extended to give more band width. The college spends about £100,000 a year on license and switches and servers are expensive. Mr Pearson added that the college is well served for IT at the moment but it will become more difficult

in the future as equipment needs to be replaced.

A discussion took place on Bring Your Own Devices (BYOD) whereby students bring their own devices in to the college. These are not connected to the college network.

Mr Pearson informed Governors that an update on IT will be provided at future meetings.

6. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

Mrs Blackburn introduced the Management Accounts for December 2015 that had previously been circulated. A discussion took place on the December Accounts with particular reference to the following:

a) Pay Expenditure – Mrs Blackburn advised Governors that the December 2015 accounts showed an increase of £13,000 and included the standards payment to support staff of £320 for full time member of staff and pro rata for part time staff. This amounts to £21,000 plus on costs which means the underlying costs have fallen slightly. The main reason for the drop is a reduction in cover for sickness and paternity leave.

b) The surplus year to date is currently shown as £261,000. The monthly results for December 2015 show a surplus of £12,000. A full review and re-forecast of income and costs will be undertaken in the January accounts. The revised outturn for 2015/2016 is £181,000.

c) The high needs income for the first term has been invoiced and the accounts show income of £63,000. The total income stands at £168,00 for high needs. Miss Braithwaite asked if the income for students with high needs had been resolved with Stockport LA. Mrs Blackburn advised Governors that the college has 39 students and is funded for 42 by the SFA at £6,000 per student. The top up comes from the authority where the students live and that discussion are taking place to ensure that the college receives the correct funding.

d) Continuing education income is up slightly. The college has picked up a number of courses that were previously run by the local authority.

If members had any questions on the December Accounts they were asked to contact Mrs Blackburn.

RESOLVED: That the Accounts for December 2015 be received.

7. BUDGET UPDATE 2015/2016

Mrs Blackburn advised Governors that the budget would be re-forecasted at the end of January 2016. The main points to note are as follows;

- a) The teaching staff and support budgets are being monitored.
- b) The special needs budget is being monitored.
- c) The budget is running as expected.

8. FUTURE FUNDING METHODOLOGY

Mrs Blackburn advised Governors that the college had 2096 students but had only been funded for 2074 students. Due to lagged funding the college would be funded for 2096 students for 2016/2017.

Confirmation had been received that the per capita amount for a student would remain at £4,000. The college had recruited an additional 22 students which will produce an additional £88,000. The Government have announced that £4,000 flat rate funding will remain for the life of the Parliament which is 2020.

The Formula protection will cease at the end of the 2015/2016 financial year which means that the college will lose £180,000 which is about 2% of the college budget.

Mr Pearson advised Governors that costs will increase year on year and that it is assumed that there will be 1% pay award for staff. In addition there will be increases due to an increase in pension and national insurance contributions.

Mrs Blackburn reported that there will be a small increase in the college budget of about £20,000. All the information is indicative at this stage and a great deal of work needs to be done before a budget can be set.

Cllr McGee advised Governors that some colleges will not be paying any pay award to staff. He added that the college was not as badly placed as some colleges to deal with the budget reductions. The college would, however, need to look at the possible none replacement of staff and severance payments.

Ms Calverley asked if the costs of two Vice Principals for part of the year had been included in this year's budget. Mrs Blackburn replied that it had been included.

9. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

A copy of the current Resources Committee Terms of Reference had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. After a full discussion it was agreed that there needs to be a reference to the number of Foundation Governors that are on the Committee.

The Clerk to the Governors undertook to circulate to Governors the proposed addition.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Any Other Business.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 7 June 2016 at 4.30pm.

Signed _____

Date _____