

SANDWELL COLLEGE

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Search Committee
held on Friday 14th November 2014,
in the Principal's Office at the Central Campus,
commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Present:- Mr. J. Tew (Independent) (in the Chair)
Mr. G. Pennington (Principal)
Mr. R. Nugent (Independent)

Also in Attendance:-

Miss J. Berry Corporation Secretary

- S14.47 Declarations of Interest S14.47
Mr. Nugent reminded members that he was known to applicant 14/03.
- S14.48 Apologies S14.48
Apologies were received from Mr. Britton.
- S14.49 Application for Membership of the Board of Governors – Meeting with Applicant 14/03 B14.49

The Committee discussed the application received from applicant 14/03 (CP) and agreed the questions they would ask during their meeting with her. Members noted that CP was employed in the health service in a role aimed at improving and maintaining quality and that she had strong connections with Sandwell.

CP was invited to join the meeting and was introduced to members.

The Chairman informed CP that the College was an independent further education corporation. CP was informed of the College's current staff and student numbers, including apprenticeships, the composition of the Board of Governors, its responsibilities and committee structure. The number of meetings planned each year was outlined, together with the Annual Strategy, Policy and Discussion Forum. The requirement for new members to undertake induction and training was highlighted, together with the audit and inspection regimes that were undertaken in colleges and the outcome of the College's May 2014 OfSTED Inspection. The College's financial position was outlined, together with the College's main funding streams.

CP responded to a number of questions from the Committee regarding the skills and experience she would bring to the Board of Governors, her strategies for improving and maintaining quality, the divide between governance and management, the role of the Board of Governors as a critical friend, the challenges faced by further education colleges, the diversity of the Sandwell community and CP's links with Sandwell MBC. CP explained the background behind her commitment to Sandwell.

A discussion took place regarding the skills agenda, the importance of English and maths, and ensuring all learners achieved employability skills, as well as their core programmes of study. The development of higher education provision was also discussed.

CP had been a governor at both a primary and secondary school and believed that these roles had provided her with skills that were transferrable to the role of a further education governor.

In concluding the meeting, the Chairman provided CP with a copy of College Governance: A Guide, which had been published by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

CP was informed that recommendations from this meeting of the Search Committee would be considered by the Board of Governors at its meeting on Monday 8th December 2014. The Corporation Secretary would write to CP following that meeting.

The Chairman thanked CP for meeting with the Committee. CP left the meeting.

The Search Committee agreed to recommend to the Board of Governors that CP should be appointed to serve as an Independent Member on the Board of Governors for a term of office of three years commencing 1st January 2015 and ceasing on 31st December 2017.

Members agreed that, subject to the Board of Governors approval of the Committee's recommendation, CP should be invited to meet with the Principal prior to the Annual Strategy, Policy and Discussion Forum 2015.

RESOLVED:

- a) **that the Search Committee recommend to the Board of Governors that applicant 14/03 be appointed to serve as an Independent Member on the Board of Governors for a term of office of three years commencing 1st January 2015 and ceasing on 31st December 2017.**
- b) that, subject to (a) above, CP be invited to meet with the Principal prior to Annual Strategy, Policy and Discussion Forum 2015.
- c) that the report be received.

The Principal informed members that he would be meeting with the Director of Krunch during week commencing 17th November 2014 and would ascertain whether he was willing to be considered for membership of the Board of Governors.

S14.50 Determination of Confidential Items S14.50

The Search Committee agreed that none of its discussions should be minuted confidentially.

RESOLVED: that none of the Committee's discussions be minuted confidentially.

S14.51 Date of Next Meeting S14.51

The next meeting of the Search Committee was scheduled to take place on Monday 9th February 2015, commencing at 3.30 p.m., at Central Campus

The meeting terminated at 10.40 a.m.