

BOSTON COLLEGE

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE CORPORATION HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY 2009

1. PRESENT

Mr P Cropley (Chair), Ms S Daley, Mr M Gallagher, Mr D Hanson, Mr R Haynes, Mr T Huggins, Mrs L Ladds, Mr T Lascelles, Mr S McCracken, Mr A Reynolds, Mrs P Smith, Mrs B Ward, Mr D White, Mr R Whitehead and Mrs H Wright

Also in attendance: Mrs J Hemmant (Clerk to the Corporation), Mr A Blackburn (Turner and Townsend Project Manager), Mr N Marcoolyn (Bond Bryant Architect) and Mr G Marrows (Turner and Townsend Project Manager)

2. PROPERTY

Members of the Corporation were advised that the Extra-ordinary Meeting had been called with the approval of the Chairman, to consider the impact of a moratorium which had been imposed by the Learning and Skills Council on the processing of Applications for Capital Projects. Members were advised that the Learning and Skills Council would not be considering or processing any applications until a review of capital projects was completed and the Council had given consideration at a meeting to be held on the 4 March 2009.

Greg Marrows presented a report from the Project Manager on the potential impact on the College's programme and a discussion took place about the level of commitment to which the Corporation was exposed on fees at the present time. A number of elements to the project review were reported to be likely although it was noted that these were only hearsay, and it was noted that the Government appeared to be confirming its commitment to capital infrastructure developments generally. Turner and Townsend reported that different colleges had adopted different approaches to the development of their projects as a result of this moratorium, with some suspending activity and some agreeing to continue with their work.

The project advisers withdrew from the meeting whilst the Corporation considered its position.

Robin Whitehead left the meeting at this point but advised that he would support continuing development of the project.

Members of the Corporation were provided with cashflow information and identified the impact of the fee commitment which they had made on the college's cash position and how this might impact upon its other commitments. It was noted that the college had sufficient cash resources to support its development of the Spalding element of the project, subject to LSC consent to do so without further grant support.

Becky Ward left the meeting at this point and confirmed that she also supported the project proceeding.

The Corporation felt that it had committed with the consultants to complete the Stage D design at risk when this had been considered earlier in the academic year. With this commitment in mind the Corporation agreed that the advisors should be asked to determine what has to be done to achieve this now, which items might be deferred and how these might impact upon the delivery programme. Senior managers of the college were asked to discuss progress on the essential items and identification of items which could be deferred with the project advisers. The Corporation agreed that it had to proceed with its existing commitments unless anything more negative appeared to influence this decision.

Members of the project team were invited to return to the meeting and were advised of this decision.