

# **New College Telford**

## **Search Committee Tuesday 14 July 2009 Minutes**

**Present:** Mr D Hopkins  
Mr G Clark  
Mr J Shaw  
Dr R Hargreaves

**In Attendance:** Mr P Taylor (Clerk)  
Mrs B Tyley

### **1 Appointment of Chairman for the meeting**

Mr Hopkins was appointed Chairman for the meeting.

### **2 Apologies**

Cllr I Fletcher.

### **3 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Search Committee of 10 March 2009 were confirmed.

### **4 Declarations of Interest.**

None.

### **5 Corporation Membership**

The Clerk introduced the report (copy in minute book) for the Corporation explaining that it set out the position in respect of Corporation vacancies, the relevant appointment procedures and the decisions that it fell to the Committee to take. He reminded the Committee that there were currently three vacancies for General Members of the Corporation, and described the recent actions taken by Corporation members, the Clerk and Vice Principal to recruit potential governors. He noted that the recent recruitment exercise had resulted in the confirmed interest in governorship from two potential members: Gail Bleasby and Sarah Bass, and presented the Committee with brief biographical details of both (copies in the confidential minute book).

Members considered carefully the current range of skills, experience and expertise shared by Corporation members, and the skills, experience and expertise of Gail

Bleasby and Sarah Bass. The Committee noted that Sarah Bass had a range of experience and expertise in business improvement, procurement and lecturing, and Gail Bleasby in accountancy and information systems management. Members also noted that both were employees of Telford and Wrekin Council in the context of the fact that the Corporation already had as members one Member of the Council and two employees. However, they concluded that, given the significance of the Council as a major local employer and the fact that neither was directly employed in the Children and Young People directorate, their employment was no impediment to Corporation membership.

After further debate the Committee resolved:

- 1 To recommend to the Corporation the appointment of Sarah Bass as General Member of the Corporation; and
- 2 To recommend to the Corporation the appointment of Gail Bleasby as General Member of the Corporation.

The Clerk noted that there were serious doubts as to whether the Corporation meeting (which was to follow the meeting of the Committee) would be quorate. In these circumstances the Corporation could not make any appointments to the Corporation, and it would not be before the October 2009 meeting that the appointments could be made. In the normal course of events, should the Corporation make the appointments recommended in October 2009, new governors would be invited to attend their first Corporation meeting in December 2009.

Given that both had first expressed an interest in governorship in March 2009 this would appear to constitute an unduly long and drawn out process. He reminded the Committee that from time to time in the past the Corporation's practice had been to invite 'appointees designate' to attend on the evening where their appointment is to be considered so that, once appointed, they could join the meeting and participate fully in it. After debate, Members agreed that it would be appropriate to invite both Gail Bleasby and Sarah Bass to join the Corporation meeting in October anticipating their appointment at that meeting.

On the matter of the remaining vacancy for a General Member, Members agreed that it would be appropriate to seek potential members from the voluntary or health sectors, and the Chairman of the Corporation agreed to draft a letter for such organisations seeking the identification of potential members for consideration by the Search Committee at its next meeting.

## **6 Date of next meeting**

The next provisional date for the Search Committee is 6.30 pm on Tuesday 13 October 2009. In accordance with agreed procedure the meeting will only be called if there is competent business to conduct.