

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTEEN MEETING OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE NORTH WEST REGIONAL COLLEGE HELD IN THE BOARDROOM, STRAND ROAD CAMPUS, ON MONDAY 29 MARCH 2010 AT 4.00PM.**

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**PRESENT:** Mr A Rainey (Chair)  
Mr M Agnew  
Mrs J Doherty  
Mrs M Lestas (from 4.10pm)  
Mr S Murphy (Director)  
Mr A O'Connor

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr P McKeown (Assistant Director, Finance)  
Mr T Mahon (Estates Manager) (until 4.30pm)  
Mr D McClelland (Secretary)

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**13.1 APOLOGIES**

An apology was received from Mr H Faulkner.

**13.2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No member declared a conflict of interest in the business of the meeting.

**13.3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 FEBRUARY 2010**

It was proposed by Mr Murphy seconded by Mrs Doherty and agreed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting.

*Action: Secretary to publish approved minutes asap.*

**13.4 MATTERS ARISING**

**12.4 (11.8) Revised Budget.** A member said he considered it important to begin to identify costs which can be saved in the medium to long term. Following discussion it was agreed that the issue of medium to long term financial planning would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee by which time more information should be available about funding levels for the next financial year.

*Action: Assistant Director to prepare a paper on medium to long term financial planning for next Committee meeting.*

[At this point in the meeting it was agreed to consider item 13.8 after which the Estates Manager left the meeting.]

**13.5 CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

No business was conducted under this heading.

### 13.6 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS (Ref: paper FC13.6)

The Assistant Director updated members on the College accounts for the period to 28 February 2010. The report showed, for year to date, actual total income of £20,539,801 and total expenditure of £18,547,446. The Assistant Director discussed some of the major variances with members. The Assistant Director also referred members to the balance sheet and to current investments. In further discussion the Director mentioned the possibility of purchasing the College's share of the Clonderrmott site. Members expressed their support for this suggestion.

The Assistant Director tabled an Aged Debtors Report as of 22 March 2010. He said that there were no major concerns and the situation was comparable with last year.

### 13.7 TENDERS ISSUED (Ref: paper FC13.7)

The Assistant Director drew members' attention to the paper and, in particular, to the three tenders for reactive maintenance. It was proposed by Mr Agnew seconded by Mrs Doherty and agreed to recommend to the Governing Body that the college proceed to select on the basis of the bids received. The Assistant Director then advised members of three further tenders which would be advertised shortly. He also mentioned that the College had agreed to work with the Central Procurement Consortium, a body serving colleges in England and Wales.

### 13.8 ESTATES ISSUES UPDATE (Ref: paper FC13.8)

**Strabane Campus.** The Estates Manager referred members to the paper indicating that the economic appraisal and application for full planning permission for the temporary accommodation was proceeding. He also mentioned that a meeting had been arranged with DEL to discuss a phased development of the site. In relation to the licence issued to a third party using a building on site, he said he was hopeful that it would be signed shortly.

**Lawrence Building.** The Estates Manager told members that the College was currently seeking expressions of interest for the provision of the new fitness suite. He advised that the estimated savings would be £5000 per annum mostly on rental costs.

**Strand Road Development.** In relation to the transfer of the boundary wall he reported that DEL approval had been received and that solicitors had been asked to progress the agreement. In reply to a question he affirmed that the transfer would not take place until the building work was complete. It was agreed that a visit to the new build would be arranged for the date of the Governing Body meeting in September.

**Outreach centres.** The Estates Manager referred members to the paper listing the centres with costs. He indicated that it would be necessary to lease the City Factory for one more year with the option of a further year and the Northside building for one more year.

*Action: Estates Manager to arrange visit to new build for members on the date of the September GB meeting*

**13.9 CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**13.10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 14 June 2010 at 4.00pm in Strand Road Campus.  
This being all the business the Chair closed the meeting at 5.25pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_