

Minutes of a special meeting of the **Corporation** held at Middleton on Thursday 29 November 2007 at 1700hrs.

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|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Present | Robert Clegg (Chair) | Derek O'Toole (Principal) | Linda Feerick |
| | James Gallagher | Clive Reid | Paul Harness |
| | Terry Piggott | Clint Street | Caroline Taylor |
| In Attendance | Mark Abbott (A&A Projects) | Sue Baines (Ass Dir Corp Serv) | Ralph Devereux (Clerk) |
| | Ian Ellis (LSC) | Max King (A&A Projects) | Margaret Kingsford (Exec Dir T&L) |
| | David Mayall (Exec Dir FP&HR) | Kevin McEvoy (A&A Projects) | Simon Parker (7 Architects) |
| | John Rawsthorne (LSC) | Henry West (former Corporation Member) | |
| Apologies | John Guinn | | |

The special meeting had been called to consider developments, progress towards and to take decisions regarding the accommodation strategy.

13/07 ELIGIBILITY, QUORUM AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The apology was accepted. No notice had been received of any member becoming ineligible to hold office, the meeting was quorate and no interests were declared.

14/07 ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY

Agencies associated with the accommodation strategy had been invited to brief on the current situation and outline timelines and critical pathways for the project as affected by current regulations and assumptions. A comprehensive briefing process starting with an architectural outline was then presented supported by detailed briefing papers; a deep and after detailed questioning the scheme was agreed. The pattern of build of the campus had been dictated by the overriding criterion that the opening date would be 2010 and the current cost estimate of the whole project was c£69.5m. In order to achieve the opening date it was necessary to move students to an alternative site and a convenient property (Mitchell Hays Mill) had recently become available and although some additional funds would be required to convert the premises for teaching and learning it would clearly present the solution. If possible the intention was to maintain parallel progress with the proposed collocated 6th Form College at all stages; it was accepted that may be some deviation from that ideal. The timings had been brought somewhat into question since the LSC were in the process of releasing (by early 2008) a mandatory framework including lists of preferred suppliers and consultants, any delay beyond that release date would translate into an equal impact on the completion plan dates and could, in extensis, involve a change of providers. The current key date remained as approval of AiP by May 2008 and a revised table of costing associated with work up to that point was considered and would be agreed at the next corporation meeting. It would be necessary to raise necessary contributions and fees through commercial sources and Banks would be invited to a formal tendering process. The necessary monitoring of the complex arrangements leading to completion of the project should be completed by a specialist committee; members would be nominated at the next corporation meeting.

It was agreed to:

- a. **approve the design brief presented by seven architecture;**
- b. **approve in principle negotiations for a lease of Mitchell Hay Mill for 3 years to be finalised concurrently (or after) with the approval date of the AiP;**

- c. **approve the project plan for the development of the Rochdale campus to meet targets (completion date late spring 2011 and full opening in September 2011);**
- d. **recognise that the intended LSC Framework may imply a change in consultants/design teams from Stage D onwards;**
- e. **support submission of the AiP to the LLSC as soon as possible after December 2007;**
- f. **support (if possible) the concurrent submission of the AiP and the application for the Rochdale Sixth Form College;**
- g. **endorse the revised costing schedule to enable the AiP (for consideration by the Corporation);**
- h. **constitute an Estates Development Committee to provide full support for and to advise the corporation on the project (Corporation to nominate);**
- i. **approve that the banking sector be invited to a tendering process for provision of the necessary funding in Spring 2008.**

15/07 URGENT BUSINESS

There had been no urgent business agreed.

16/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meetings would be:

- a. Corporation 13 December 2007;
- b. Corporation Christmas Lunch at 1200 on 20 December.