



CORPORATION STUDENT COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MEETING 13 HELD ON 6 MARCH 2009

- Present:** Jenny Wong (Student Corporation Member and Chair), Pam Blackman, Mike Noddings, Richard Smith (Principal), John Wilson, Sarah Smythe, Matthew Hunt (Student Corporation Member)
- Clerk:** Jeanette Webster on behalf of Fiona Bagchi
- In Attendance:**
Staff: Kim Higgins, Mike Rogerson (Vice-Principal, Students and Staff), Alan Woodcock (Director of Resources), Mark Rothery (Assistant Principal), Nicholas Spencer (Hull University PGCE student)
- Students:** George Shields-Lount, Lauren Jackson, Ross Bean, Danny Khan, Kimberley Maccharia, Mahsheid Khajehgeer

13.1 Apologies:

There were apologies from Jim Darmody and Fiona Bagchi.

13.2 Declaration of interests

It was noted that no interests were declared.

13.3 Minutes of Meeting 12 held on 14 November 2008

The minutes of meeting 12 held on 14 November 2008 were approved.

13.4 Matters arising and actions

Actions listed in Actions table appended to Minutes of meeting 12 completed. Report on designs for Oak Building - agenda item.

13.5 Annual review of confidential minutes

The Principal explained the concept of confidential minutes for the benefit of those students who do not regularly attend the meeting.

There were no confidential minutes produced last year and therefore none to review at this meeting.

13.6 Review of standing agenda items and terms of reference

The Principal spoke to this item in the absence of the Clerk.

The Committee reviews the standing agenda item list and terms of reference annually and makes recommendations on revisions to Corporation.

The Committee's terms of reference were considered and there were no revisions recommended.

It was agreed that the Committee's standing agenda item list would be amended to include:

- a report from the Student Association as a standing agenda item for each meeting, as agreed at the November 2008 meeting of the Committee
- a report on Learner Support Funds and EMAs at the autumn term meeting of the Committee rather than a standing agenda item for each meeting of the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to Corporation that

- ***there are no revisions to the Committee's terms of reference***
- ***the standing agenda items are amended as stated. Action: Clerk***

13.7 Student activities

(i) Verbal report from the Student Executive on current and forthcoming fundraising and other activities

Members of the Student Executive gave a report on fundraising and other activities, noting that:

- £350 was raised for the Kingston Project charity, a Hull-based charity offering emergency accommodation for young people in the area. Activities included wearing fancy dress for the day;
- the College rugby team repeated last year's success and again 'sold themselves as slaves' for a day. It was noted that the amount of funding raised was not available at the meeting but would be reported in due course;
- A collection for Comic Relief will be made on 13th March;
- A Christmas party was held at the Welly Club with the theme 'A Winter Wonderland';
- A James Bond theme party is planned for 27th March;
- A leavers' party for A2 students is being organised;
- Money raised from social events will be used to part-fund a trip to Alton Towers on 7th April. The cost to students will be £20 each;
- This year the Student Executive agreed to hold an election for next year's student representatives. The election campaign began on 23rd February with posters and information being distributed around College via tutor group representatives. Students may apply via an application form and interviews will be held for the different roles required. It was reported that 15 students had applied for the 9 available posts, the most popular positions being President and Entertainment Officer. Two candidates for each position will be selected between 13th and 17th March, and a campaign to gain votes will begin from 23rd March. Voting will take place on 30th and 31st March via an online system and the successful candidates will be announced on 3rd and 4th April. The elected candidates will shadow current Executive Members to gain knowledge of the work involved. The Corporation members commended the students for their work in starting the election campaign.
- Mahsheid Khajehgeer reported that a group of students staged a singing and dancing show in the Theatre at lunchtime on 5th February to raise money for the Candlelighters, a children and young people's cancer charity based at St James'

Hospital in Leeds. The event was organised, and this charity was chosen, because one of our first year students, Gareth Parr, lost a courageous battle with cancer in December. Gareth was a cheerful and hard-working student who demonstrated very considerable qualities throughout his illness. The students wanted to show their support for young people with cancer and Gareth's family; Gareth's parents agreed to the event taking place. The Theatre was full to capacity with both students and staff, and Mahsheid introduced the students who performed a variety of acts. Photographs of the show were included in the report. The Committee offered its congratulations and thanks to Mahsheid and the other students. The total amount raised was approximately £200 and the students may repeat the event next year. A member of the Candlelighters nursing staff will visit the College on 13th March to receive a cheque on behalf of the charity. It had been agreed that an award will be presented at the College's annual Awards Evening in memory of Gareth Parr.

A report from the Student Executive on fundraising events and other activities was received.

(ii) Student activities report

The Principal spoke to the Student Activities Report prepared by Jeanette Webster.

It was noted that the report contained:

- Higher Education news,
- news of former and current individual students
- news from the departments e.g. from Media Studies, English, Health and Social Care, Music, Business Studies, Performing Arts.

Members noted in particular that:

- sporting activity in the College continues to be healthy, with 9 teams training and competing each week, in addition to a mixed martial arts class, badminton club and a darts tournament. The College's 1st netball team remains unbeaten in the BCS League;
- the College's musicians last concert included a performance of Vivaldi's *Gloria* for choir and orchestra. The performance was recorded and will be on the College website in due course;
- Business studies students took part in a 'Global Agendas' conference organised by the NorVlc Federation;
- English students took part in the annual Youth Speaks competition;
- as in previous years, the English Department continued its successful relationship with Professor David Crystal, a world authority on the English language, and organised a lecture at the University of Hull at which our students attended;
- the Media Studies department visited the Imax Cinema in Bradford;
- Katie Scott, a first year student, had been invited to Buckingham Palace in recognition of her work with the St John Ambulance Humberside;
- 300 higher education applications were sent to UCAS; this figure marks an upward trend.

The student activities report was received.

13.8 Smoking Policy and the Promotion of Health

Kimberley Maccharia declared an interest in this item as a smoker.

The Principal spoke to this item.

It is the policy of the College to maintain, promote and develop the health of young people as part of their education here. Prior to July 2007, smoking was permitted on the College site and in the latter years a shelter was erected for the purpose. On 1st July 2007 smoking became illegal inside public buildings in England, and the decision was taken after discussions with staff and students that the College site would become non-smoking from this date onwards.

Since that time students and staff have smoked in the Grammar School Road entrance to the College and have been asked to move away from the College gates i.e. the College's legal boundary. The gathering of students in this place has caused significant inconvenience to and at times vociferous complaints from local residents. There is also a cause for concern with regard to student safety because of traffic congestion involving student transport.

The issue of smoking has therefore been raised in recent discussions of the College SMT and CMT groups. It was agreed by both groups that the current situation is unsatisfactory and that the College should review its approach and make other provision.

It was noted in discussion that:

- overall the proportion of students who smoke is low, however there may be up to 40 to 50 students who gather at the Grammar School Road entrance at the busiest times; these numbers have probably not changed from when a shelter on site was used;
- some staff and students had commented that they feel intimidated when walking through groups of students smoking at the front of College;
- the entrance is currently a mixed use entrance; on completion of the redevelopment project, the main entrance to the College will be from Bricknell Avenue and there will therefore be two entrances to the College, with this entrance becoming pedestrian only. The Principal stated that Kelvin Hall School is also to be rebuilt and there will be an increase in pupil numbers. In future, some of their pupils will access the school site past the College; entrance and we would not wish their pupils to see our students smoking
- Sarah Smythe spoke in her capacity as Head of Kelvin Hall School and concurred with the Principal's comments. She stated that pupils at Kelvin Hall School are concerned about a minority of pupils who should not be smoking and that the school is keen to disperse the smokers from the entrance;
- The Principal stated that it had been proposed in College meetings that a garden space should be created behind the current mobile classrooms on the College site; that space would be the only space where smoking could take place and that students would be asked to sign an agreement to this effect at enrolment;
- Kimberley Maccharia stated that she had discussed the concept of a garden area with other students who smoke and they were in favour of this proposal;
- the Corporation members felt that a poor College image was created by youngsters smoking at the entrance to the College, and that others should not have to walk through people smoking. They agreed with the issues of student safety and annoyance to our neighbours as stated.

The Committee supported the proposal to create a dedicated garden area for smoking on the College site.

13.9 Annual Student Equality and Diversity Report

The Vice Principal (Student and Staff Support) summarised this item within the time constraints.

It was noted that:

- last year the imbalance between the number of male and female students in the College was noted. The figure reflects the inclusion of Newland School for Girls in the College catchment area. The gender split for 2008/9 is 38% male and 62% female. Applications for next year are currently showing an approximate 60:40 split. The figure is widening and advertising has been targeted accordingly. It was recommended that the Committee discuss this issue at a future meeting.
Action: Clerk
- it was noted that the ethnicity report for 2007/8 indicated that 7.98% of the student population were classified as Black Minority and Ethnic. The current figure indicates an increase to 8.91% of the College population, above the figure for the city which is currently around 6.6% of the population.
- the College marketing group involves the students in preparation of the prospectus and the making of marketing material. The group continues to seek ways of encouraging more male students to apply to the College.

The Committee accepted the Annual Student Equality and Diversity report noting that the gender split for 2008/9 was 38% male and 62% female, and that 8.91% of the College population were from Black Minority and Ethnic groups, compared with 6.6% in the city population.

13.10 Report on designs for the Oak Building

There was insufficient time for this item and it was therefore agreed that the Director of Resources would make a presentation to a meeting of the Student Association.

Action: AW

13.11 Any other business

It was noted that there was no other business.

13.12 Date of next meeting

The meetings for the year 2009/10 had yet to be arranged.

Action: Clerk

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 6 MARCH 2009

NO.	FOR:	ACTION:	ACTIONS COMPLETED
1	Clerk	Recommend to Corporation that there are no revisions to the Committee's terms of reference; that the standing agenda items are amended as stated.	Done. Corporation approved the Committee's revised standing agenda item list at its Sept. 2009 meeting.
2	Clerk	Include student gender imbalance as a future agenda item.	
3	Director of Resources	Report on designs for Oak Building to a meeting of the Student Executive.	
4	Clerk	Arrange the dates for Committee meetings in 2009/10.	Done.