

## Hastings Local Board Committee - Minutes

Date	14/06/2022	Time	3-5PM
Venue	Station Plaza Boardroom		
Chair	Rebecca Conroy		

**Membership:** Carlotta Zorzi; Paul Turton, Tim Clark; Chris Connelley; Dan Wahnon; Nicola Taylor; Tracy Griffin (Staff Governor); Marie Sangster (Staff Governor); Isabella Bennett (Student Governor); Simone Jeal (Student Governor)

**In attendance:** Rebecca Conroy (CEO & Principal); Mark Wardle, Deputy Principal; Ruth Angel, Acting Assistant Principal; Chantal Irtelli, Acting Assistant Principal; Hayley Robertson and Vanessa Packham.

**Apologies:** Nicola Tylor, Carlotta Zorzi; Mark Wardle, Belle Howard, Marie Sangster and Tracy Griffin

	Item	Action
1)	<p><b>Apologies and welcome</b></p> <p>Apologies were noted.</p>	
2)	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>No declarations</p>	
3)	<p><b>Minutes of the meeting 3 March 2022 and matters arising</b></p> <p>Minutes were agreed and no matters arising</p>	
4)	<p><b>Green Tech Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Engineering Forum – Update</b></li> <li>• <b>IOT</b></li> <li>• <b>Town Deal</b></li> </ul> <p>RC advised that Hastings was lucky enough to achieve substantial pot of Town Deal Funding. This will be invested in Green Technology at Ore Valley. This will enable us to develop a Green Technology Centre which effectively we will be renovating the centre to enable growth development, investment and give it a real profile within the town. This will link into an institute technology bid which will really help develop the Green Technology.</p> <p>RC advised of work that came out of the Hasting Local Board. We received feedback from DW from local engineering companies about them wanting to have a dialogue with the college about what we are offering and how we are offering it and how we could do differently. On the 5th of May at Ore Valley we met with many local engineering companies where we received great feedback.</p> <p>Vanessa Packham and Hayley Robertson spoke to the board regarding the benefits and feedback they received from the Employment Forum.</p>	

	<p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customer service that we provided</li> <li>• Building trust</li> <li>• Driving supported product development directly aligned to the needs driving the sector</li> <li>• Creating an opportunity for directive discussion</li> <li>• Strengthening working relationships</li> </ul> <p>Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations on how our portfolios should look like</li> <li>• What the industry requires</li> <li>• How we should potentially design run our programmes, like T-Levels with block release.</li> <li>• Alternative funding mechanisms to support those programmes that do not sit in traditional funded roots.</li> <li>• Utilising staff development for industrial updating, currently looking at a potential visit to Birmingham for curriculum colleagues.</li> <li>• Reviewing our apprenticeship offer.</li> </ul> <p>DW commented that the general feedback was positive. DW would have liked to of seen this session presented as a series of meetings. Could maybe be set up from September, quarterly meetings with apprenticeship employers.</p> <p>DW commented that it was evident in that meeting is that the industry has no idea what the college has to do around restrictions. Teaching G-Code is not going to happen unless we make a serious investment and bring someone that knows what they are talking about.</p> <p>Could be possible to have collaboration with someone like Mills CNC. Where they would want it for their marketing, DW is looking at this. Funding, lots of funding that we are not leveraging. Spending money is standing in the way of employers making that training investment, if funding was available, it would make it easier.</p> <p>RC thanked DW for his feedback. Agreed about having more regular sessions with employers and that we will start to structure this. Great Feedback about people that need to understand that some of the limits that we have and the influx parties that we have, but also that we have to challenge ourselves to find.</p> <p>It was confirmed that these courses will be available for adults.</p> <p>RC commented that we are running a big career event in the Autumn to promote Catering and Hospitality. It is about prioritising those sectors that really need it where there are gaps and not strong enough and there is nothing stopping us doing more work with employers on construction.</p>	
<p><b>5)</b></p>	<p><b>Capital Development Update</b></p> <p>Nathan Haffenden updated the board on the Hastings Town Deal that was focused on Ore Valley campus. This was around Construction, Energy and vehicle training focusing on Green Technologies. The Business Case was submitted to Hastings Borough Council on 8<sup>th</sup> June. The Business case sets out what we look to achieve</p>	

	<p>both with the building and course delivery. Hastings Borough Council see this as a leader in the Towns Fund investment. We are now at the final stages of confirming our business case and getting access to the funds, this will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> July.</p> <p>Still working with Architects, Cost Consultants, and other professional services to help build the physical aspect of delivering the project onsite. Construction is due to begin in Spring 2023 and finish ready for September 2023.</p> <p>RC commented one of the next Local Board meetings should be held at Ore Valley.</p> <p>RC commented that the aim is to grow and develop that whole area, target is to increase our student numbers by 150 over the course of 25/26. The Business Case will be shared with the Local Board once it has been approved which will give more of an overview.</p> <p>Institute of Technology is woven into this project which will also be at Ore Valley. Another exciting extension of this project which will give capacity to develop our HE offers in Engineering and Green Technology.</p> <p>Station Plaza, priority will not be the building, what we are looking at is the digital infostructure.</p>	CA
6)	<p><b>Local Board Update</b></p> <p><b>Quality</b></p> <p>CI and RA updated the board. Had a strong target of 90% which was challenging. Wellbeing referrals were up by 105% this year. CI advised that we are now working with a change landscape and looking to see how we work with this new landscape and improve for next year.</p> <p>Within the actions for next year the new pathways at Eastbourne and Lewes are part of the plan especially the new online offer.</p> <p>Withing the actions there will also be changes to the Wellbeing team, exit interviews and improved absent reporting.</p> <p><b>Senior Leadership Changes</b></p> <p>Donna Harfield – Vice Principal for Business Development          Kym O’Mara – Vice Principal Student Experience          Lucy Mitchell – Assistant Principal for Hastings          Jo Folwell – Lead on Quality, English and Maths, T-level and EDI.          Keith Thompson – Director of English and Maths          Ruth Angel – Director of Inclusion</p> <p>A Chief Operating Officer is being recruited to join the Executive Team.</p> <p>A new Assistant Principal for Eastbourne is being recruited.</p> <p><b>Recruitment Update</b></p> <p>Positive up 9% from last year.</p> <p><b>Internal Progression</b></p> <p>Numbers are reduced due to our smaller year 1 cohort; this will be a key area of focus.</p>	

	<p>Curriculum teams have been working to ensure that students know what they are doing next year to make sure we are not losing any students that we should not be losing.</p> <p>Working on increasing number of applicants. Had a prospective parents evening which had a really good turnout.</p> <p>Interviews being arranged in a timely manner and making sure students who withdrawn their application are being chased up to find out why.</p> <p>Welcomes days and taster days have been scheduled. Good to get young people back in to see the campus.</p> <p>Bella commented how impressed she was when she first saw it and its definitely a selling point and does change peoples mind in wanting to come here.</p> <p>Mini Fest coming back after 2 years.</p> <p><b>Curriculum Update</b></p> <p>Pathways in Eastbourne and Lewes which will include 14-16 who are at risk of exclusion and students that have been de-enrolled during Covid.</p> <p>GCSE virtual that was set up to meet the needs of all the campuses after Covid is now going to extended to run 100% Functional skills. We were not able to meet the needs of learners working at a lower level.</p> <p><b>Learner Voice</b></p> <p>Just completed the final round.</p> <p>Bella commented that at the beginning of term in September they were asked to fill in there top 10 priorities that learners wanted. Bella feels beginning of term is too early as they have only been at college a week and the points addressed at that time were not as relevant as they thought.</p> <p>Bella advised that nothing has really changed in catering, quality is good but still expensive and need healthier options.</p> <p>Bella also commented that the online meetings across campuses do not work. It feels like they are just talking at us and not listening. They need to be localised again.</p>	
<p><b>7)</b></p>	<p><b>Adult Education Development</b></p> <p>RC reported that as a college part of our challenge around financial heath and making sure we can invest properly in our staff and students. For many years, the Hastings campus was very keen on subcontracting our adult budget. Last couple of years we have been focused in reducing this amount and developing our community offer that meets the needs to our local adults and employers.</p>	

<p><b>8)</b></p>	<p><b>Local College Member Feedback on Community and Opportunity</b></p> <p>PT asked if a report could be done on external progression. RC commented that they do track and work closely with students. Data information will be available in the Autumn and can be fed back to the Local Board.</p> <p>CC advised could we jazz up the front of the campus to make it look more exciting, using vinyl's or murals, something to demonstrate to people that never go in that this is a place that is electrifyingly fresh.</p> <p>TC asked regarding the reputation of Hastings Campus. RC commented that the reputation at Hastings is good but there is always more we can do. Reputation at Eastbourne and Lewes will be more of a challenge on improving its reputation.</p> <p>Bella commented that she has been back to her old school to mentor and thinks other students would be happy to do this.</p> <p>CC commented regarding food production on affordable food. Colleges are trying to make food poverty less stigmatising. They are using council buildings, colleges to sell on affordably unused produce. Could use the project space at the campus, could be an attractive fresh food outlet and working with students to sell it. Creating an exciting space where people can obtain things affordably and the college will be embedded within the population that would not normally come in.</p> <p>DW commented regarding Hollington in Hastings which has a Community Centre which is under used. RA advised that they have just opened a youth club in there just for certain specific young people in Hollington. DW was thinking how much recruitment we get in from that area and if its low the college could use the centre to help. RC commented that going into communities does help and we could look at doing a basic skills course in there, could be a start to help get young adults from that area into college.</p>	
<p><b>8)</b></p>	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>No other business.</p>	

**Next Meeting**

TBC