



Education South West
Annual General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 27th January 2021 at 6.30pm
Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Peter Di Giuseppe (PDG), Matthew Shanks (MS), Jeremy Fothergill (JF), Stephen Tucker (ST), David Potter (DP), Lindsay Yelland (LY), Barrie Taylor (BT), Simon Gotch (SG), Kellie Knott (KK), Nick Grodhunce (NG), John Pike (JP), Lyndsay Chell (LC), Leon Winston (LW), Sharon Marshall (SM)

In attendance:

Stuart White (SW), Tracy Hannon (TH)

Apologies:

Jenny Sutton

Notes:

Caroline Battong

Meeting started at 18:31

1. Welcome and introductions from the Chair

PDG welcomed everyone and noted this was the first AGM for Sharon Marshall. SM introduced herself to all those present. TH introduced herself to the Members. No proxies were received.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies received and noted from Jenny Sutton and the auditors.

3. Minutes of previous AGM (29th January 2020)

SG proposed and ST seconded the acceptance of the minutes from the 29 January 2020 AGM.

- a. Matters arising from the minutes
All actions completed.

4. To note any appointments and resignations to Board and Members

The following resignations from the Board were noted:

- James Clark resigned on 14 May 2020 as director
- Roger Pope resigned on 31 August 2020 as CEO/director and Accounting Officer

The following appointments to the Board were noted:

- Matthew Shanks was appointed on 1 September 2020 as CEO and Accounting Officer
- Jenny Sutton was appointed on 1 September 2020 as director

The following new terms of office for board directors were noted:



- Peter Di Giuseppe was reappointed on 1 January 2021
- David Potter was reappointed on 2 January 2021
- Lindsay Yelland was reappointed on 2 January 2021

Member appointment

- Sharon Marshall was appointed on 18 September 2020

5. To receive the Statutory Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31st August 2020.

- PDG confirmed all had received a copy and noted no points of concern were raised. PDG invited questions from those present. PDG noted the trust was in good financial health with adequate reserves for the next 2 to 3 years.
- LW asked about the UTC and the impact of that on the finances. PDG talked about the UTC and the 3 year plan discussed at the board meetings pre-Christmas.
- PDG confirmed the members received a paper before Christmas where it was highlighted that UTC would bring a cost to the trust of approx. £750,000. CBD and TGN have agreed to financially support UTC during this period. There was a discussion around numbers and costings.
- MS raised awareness around ongoing issues with covenants on the land which impacted on the 1 January 2021 deadline and has put pressure on the 1 February 2021 deadline.
- SM asked about the demographics of Newton Abbot and impact on school rolls. MS talked about town growth, house building and felt the demographics were encouraging in terms of school rolls.
- JP asked about integrating UTC into TGN and CBD. MS talked about integrating curriculums and courses. We want to encourage all schools in the Newton Abbot area, including NAC. Rob Coles will be HT ad CHD and UTC, with a Head of School at UTC. A further discussion about UTC was noted in part 2.
- JP asked what we would expect a trust of our size should hold in terms of reserves. SW talked about extrapolated data across three years and how the trust plan to manage reserves e.g. two times the level of deficit of the previous year. SW has completed some research on this area and our reserve levels are around average for a trust of our size.
- LY talked about reserves and not being overly cautious. LY confirmed that UTC was something that both the board and the finance committee have discussed and had sight of.
- Members requested to discuss UTC further at the next Members meeting.

All members accepted the annual report and accounts.

Action: UTC to be added to next Members meeting agenda (LW/CB)

6. To appoint auditors

All members agreed to support the recommendation to continue using Francis Clark as the auditors for ESW.



Formal AGM concluded at 18:50

The formal proceedings were followed by an opportunity to discuss any questions arising with regards to educational progress, governance and current plans. These discussions are noted in part 2.

Meeting concluded 19:08