



Minutes of the meeting of the COMMUNITY LEARNING FAMILY CHAIRS held on THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2000 at 5.30 pm in Meeting Room 2, Saxon Court

Present: Councillor Lloyd (Chair, Community Learning Committee)
Councillors Barton (Chair, Grant Aid Committee), Gibbs (Vice-Chair, Children's and Youth Committee), Irons (Chair, Economy and Lifelong Learning Committee), Legg (Chair, Community Committee), Miles (Vice-Chair, Grant Aid and Community Learning Committees), Saunders (Chair, Education Committee), Turnbull (Chair, Children's and Youth Committee) and Woodcock (Vice-Chair, Education Committee)

Officers: J Stansfield (Strategic Director Learning and Development), V Gwynn (Head of Community and Economic Development), A Flack (Director of Education and Early Years Services), P Sutton (Head of Children's Services), J Cove (Leisure, Youth and Community Manager), P Hymers (Business Development Manager), R Schmidt (Finance Manager, Learning and Development) and S Parker (Committee Administrator)

ACTION

1.0 MINUTES

AGREED: Minutes of the meeting held on 13 January 2000, subject to noting that meeting took place at Civic Offices.

2.0 FUTURE OF MILTON KEYNES SCHOOL SYSTEM

CONSIDERED: Paper prepared by JS on the structural issues which need to be addressed in the future and the potential financial implications.

AGREED: That a paper on the review of the school system and other accommodation in Milton Keynes be presented to the Budget Issues meeting scheduled for 22 February 2000 as one of the funding options.

JS

ALSO AGREED: That a decision about when the paper should be considered by the Community Learning Committee should be taken at a later date.

**Cllr
Lloyd**

NOTED: The place of the School Organisation Plan and the rural schools issue in the discussion on the future of the Milton Keynes Schools System.

3.0 BUDGET - ALLOCATION OF BUDGET WITHIN THE EDUCATION SERVICE

CIRCULATED: By PH a note on the latest schools related budget based on near complete pupil data on which final decisions were needed in relation to the delegated schools budgets and other related expenditure at the Budget Issues Working Group on 22 February 2000 for recommendation to Council on 1 March 2000.

AGREED: That the following options for the use of the remaining sum of £380,000 be presented to the Budget Working Group on 22 February 2000:

- Further increases in individual schools budgets:

Primary ISB (add 0.35% per pupil)	£112,000
Secondary ISB (add 0.5% per pupil)	£65,000
Special ISB (add 0.5% per pupil)	£22,000
TOTAL	£199,000

- Contingency for amalgamations not happening £26,000

- Staff for strategic planning £100,000

- Reinstatement in Schools Library Service £30,000

- Pump priming for “Connexions” £25,000

- TOTAL** £380,000

4.0 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN AND THE LEARNING VISION

CIRCULATED: By PH note on latest position regarding the draft Best Value Performance Plan with details of the local Performance Indicators where there is an issue.

AGREED: That the proposed changes to the local Performance Indicators, as detailed in the paper, be supported. **PH**

5.0 FUNDING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

CIRCULATED: By RS a paper on the choices available to meet the funding requirements of the theatre shortfall debt repayment and the School Builds Programme and properties held by the Youth Service.

NOTED: That the valuation for the Olney Youth Centre now stood at £32,000 (rather than £412,000), following a decision by the Local Plan Sub-Committee.

AGREED: That Chairs needed to be briefed by the officers and make a political decision taking into account corporate accountabilities after the elections.

**ALL
CHAIRS**

6.0 DENBIGH SCHOOL

REPORTED: By AF the changes made to admissions arrangements by the head of the school and the legal advice sought by the officers to seek redress of the position.

AGREED: That Chairs should meet after this meeting without officers present to decide on a course of action for AF in the light of Counsel's advice.

**ALL
CHAIRS**

7.0 FORMER REDWAY SCHOOL, WHALLEY DRIVE, BLETCHLEY

CONSIDERED: A report outlining the main options the Council's Estates Department had identified for this former school.

AGREED: That the Valuer's advice to seek an independent health care valuation be supported and be used as a basis for further negotiation to be reported to the Community Learning Committee.

AF

8.0 ALEX CAMPBELL/CASTLES AMALGAMATION

REPORTED: By AF planning application for change of use of Castles from common use to residential use which was to be submitted to the Planning Department for consideration of the April Development Control Committee.

NOTED: Potential objections from West Bletchley Neighbourhood Council.

AGREED: That officers should push for this application to be considered as a matter of urgency and that Councillor Turnbull speak to the Chair of the Development Control Committee regarding the application.

**AF/AFE/
Cllr
Turnbull**

9.0 QUALITY PROTECTS

CIRCULATED: By PS draft "Quality Protects" Actions and Monitoring 2000/01 document which was to be reported to the next Children's and Youth Committee.

THANKED: By Councillor Lloyd PS for the work involved in producing this detailed document.

10.0 WATERHOUSE REPORT

REPORTED: By PS action taken by the Council to assist the Secretary of State in identifying whether any of the 28 name appearing in the report were past or present employees or foster carers of the Authority (which they were not).

11.0 UPDATE ON LEARNING AND SKILLS BILL

PROVIDED: By JS an update on the Learning and Skills Bill which included the setting up of the new Connexions service and the key role which will be played by Local Authorities in the service. At a sub-regional level a bigger Connexions company with a Board parallel to the local Learning and Skills Council would be set up with Council representation. The Government Office had been charged by the Government to lead on the local implementation of the Bill which would include the appointment of a Chief Executive of the new Council as well as Board Members in the summer.

AGREED: Local Authorities were encouraged to submit names to the Director of GOSE.

**ALL
CHAIRS**

ALSO REPORTED: By JS the work which had been carried out by JC with GOSE to determine the full ramifications for the Council of the proposals.

ALSO NOTED: That a report would be made to the Community Learning Committee in April.

JS

12.0 SMALL BUSINESS SERVICE

REPORTED: By VG invitations to bid for the new SBS franchises were issued to existing Business Link providers in December 1999 with a submission deadline to GOSE of 14 February 2000 (now extended to 28 February 2000).

AGREED: Councillor Irons and Economy and Lifelong Learning Committee spokesperson to respond on local bid.

JI

13.0 OTHER ITEMS FOR COMMITTEES

REPORTED: By VG that draft papers were being produced for the next meeting of the Economy and Lifelong Learning Committee on 28 March 2000, and Members input would be welcome now on the following items:

- (a) University for Industry
- (b) Student Awards
- (c) Economic Development Plan 2000
- (d) Community Language Service
- (e) Library Review
- (f) Milton Keynes as a Model for Heritage in the 21st Century (Community Committee)

CIRCULATED: By VG Library Service Review pack in draft.

13.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Asbestos in Schools

REPORTED: By AF advice from Public Relations Section that the other schools where asbestos has been discovered should be named.

AGREED: To the naming of schools where asbestos had been discovered.

- (b) Stadium

CIRCULATED: By VG Citizen item on Stadium proposals.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.17 PM