



MINUTES OF THE REIGATE LEARNING ALLIANCE MEMBERS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 08 JULY 2021

(The meeting was held via Zoom due to the Covid-19 Pandemic)

Present: Mr Ian Fortune
Mr Charles Handy
Mr John Artis

In attendance: Mr Jon Allen (Clerk)
Mr Chris Whelan – Chief Executive Officer

1. NOTICE, WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Clerk confirmed the agenda was made available to Members, Trustees and Auditors within the 14-day notice period required from the Trust's Articles.

The Clerk welcomed Members to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Michael Jones.

No Trustees were in attendance and the Clerk confirmed invitations consisting of the agenda and papers for the meeting were made available to all Trustees within the 14-day notice period.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 07 July 2020 were approved (Paper 1).

3. STRATEGY

Made available to Members was a strategy discussion document that was presented by the Chief Executive Officer (Paper 2).

The document outlined several scenarios, along with advantages and disadvantages for each scenario, for the future strategic direction for the Trust, these being:

- Remain as a single College on a single site (current Position)
- Remain as a single College but on more than one site (technically could be the current position taking into consideration the playing fields that are located off-site)
- Organic expansion via additional site (as additional college)
- Takeover / merger with other existing provision
- Takeover / merger with other existing provision via SPA process

In discussions it was noted the legal status of the Trust is defined as a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) but currently the MAT consists of just one educational

establishment – Reigate College. It was confirmed the Department of Education is not putting any pressure on the Trust to expand.

It was reported the strategy document was also made available at the June Trust Board meeting. The view of Trustees was to maintain the current structure of the MAT, especially considering the pressures arising from the Covid-19 pandemic. New opportunities to expand will always be considered. If the Trust is to expand it will be for good educational reasons with no risk to what Reigate College is able to deliver. The primary strategic focus for Reigate College is to provide high quality education to its students. The strategy is to maintain the College's reputation for excellence, and this must not be put at risk in any expansion plans. In addition, there must be in place the skills and management capacity to oversee any expansion plans. The danger of expansion is that it could distract management's key responsibility of delivering and achieving the primary purpose of providing high quality education.

Members supported and endorsed the approach outlined by the Trustees.

The Clerk informed Members that a new strategic plan for the Trust is currently being drafted. The aim is to present the proposed strategic plan to a joint meeting of Members and Trustees with a target date of spring 2022.

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Made available to Members after approval from the Trust Board in December 2020 where the Financial Statements and Year Accounts 2019/20 (Paper 3). It was noted the Financial Statements had been made available to all Members in January 2021 following the Trust Board approval of the Financial Statements at the December 2020 Trust Board meeting.

Members noted the progress made against the Trust's strategic objectives confirmed in the Trustees' Report in the Financial Statements.

Members noted the financial performance of the Trust confirmed in the audited accounts with the Financial Statements.

The Clerk informed Members that the date of the next AGM has been brought forward to January to enable Members to receive the Financial Statements immediately after approval at the December Trust Board meeting. This would also be an appropriate point in the year for the appointment of the external auditors.

5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRUST 2021/22

Membership of the Trust for 2020-21 including Members, Trustees and Local Governing Body members was noted (Paper 4).

6. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The requirement from the Academies Financial Handbook is for Members to be the appointing body for the external auditors. The Audit Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2021 resolved to ask the Members of the Trust to

approve the appointment of RSM to be the College's external audit service for the academic year 2021/22.

Following the recommendation from the Audit Committee, Members **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of RSM to be the College's external audit service for the academic year 2021/22.

7. RESOLUTIONS

Other than the resolution to appoint the external audit service, there were no other resolutions to be considered.

8. DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 18 January 2022 @ 16.30

Signed: _____

Date: _____