

Search Committee meeting 3 March 2009 in Ashington

	<p>Present : M Jeans (Chair) L Ions, Rachel Ellis-Jones, K Morrison, N Hall</p> <p>In Attendance: Clerk, M Barnfather</p>	
	No apologies	
Check numbering	Item3 App1: The meeting was agreed to be quorate and the minutes from the last meeting were agreed to be accurate and approved.	
	Item4: No matters arising	
	<p>Item5: Margaret Barnfather was introduced to the meeting and the Chair welcomed her to the Board and thanked her for volunteering. It was agreed that Enid Grant would be appointed subject to her receiving an induction from the Chair of Governors. The Clerk had tried to contact her without success prior to this meeting. The meeting agreed to recommend M Barnfather's appointment to the Board. Kate Morrison had kindly agreed to act as mentor and a point of contact for the student governors. M Barnfather spoke to the meeting to give a little of her background and how she was finding the Learner Parliament which she confirmed was positive and achieving a voice for the students.</p>	Recommendation to go to the full board to appoint M Barnfather
	<p>Item6: The Clerk explained that there were vacancies on the Board and that the Principal was in favour of moving to advertise them now. It was agreed that the Clerk produce an advert and that this be posted on the College website and then sent to the farming panel and Governors asked individually to pass it to friends and colleagues who may be interested. The Clerk had produced a short skills audit based on the last one carried out and confirmed that there was a gap in industries and in particular LBI. The Chair also noted that HR was a skills gap and Finance always in demand. The Principal noted that auditors had picked up on these gaps in the Board. It was suggested that the advert go to the CAMS for distribution to the members of the Industrial Liaison Committees.</p>	Clerk to prepare advert and distribute

	<p>Item7: The clerk proposed that the strategic plan launch and work on the plan could form part of the retreat programme. The Principal noted that it was important to keep a strategic focus when the temptation was to focus on financial operational issues. The meeting agreed that a programme could include, Strategic Plan, an open session for current issues, success stories and then some work on committees. It was agreed good news items were useful for the Governors to see. John Waymans was suggested as a speaker. The Clerk was to check with Gwen as to her availability to do a session.</p>	
	<p>Item8: The Clerk confirmed that the staff governor election process was underway and on time.</p>	
	<p>Item9: Ashington Learning trust has a link governor for college matters, this person was leaving and had not had much to do with college anyway. It was felt that a Governor or senior member of staff should fill the role as it was important to maintain links with stakeholders. L Ions and R Ellis-Jones were trustees but as such did not get very much operational information. There were discussions around who may be a suitable candidate with locality being a key factor. The clerk offered to be considered having experience as a school governor in Alnwick. L Ions agreed to ring C Smith the Chair and find out what was needed.</p>	<p>L Ions to ring C Smith to find out what to do about filling governor vacancy.</p>
	<p>Any other business: the clerk asked the Principal what was the timetable on setting up the farm panel sub-committee. R Ellis-Jones noted that she would contact the Farm Management team to talk about the finalisation of the contract which had been a bit delayed. She would like to set up the sub-committee and the Clerk was to liaise with M Jeans over dates to meet.</p> <p>It was suggested that a good time to interview for the new Governors would be the start of May and this was to be aimed at.</p> <p>There was to be a session on data training prior to the full governing body.</p> <p>There was to be a new style agenda with confidential items in a separate section this would make it easier with student and staff governors if they needed to withdraw.</p>	<p>Clerk to liaise with M Jeans over dates for farming sub-committee and to set up the structure</p>

	<p>Action points:</p> <p>Recommendation of the committee to appoint M Barnfather to go to the next board</p> <p>Clerk to prepare governor vacancy advert and distribute</p> <p>L Ions to ring C Smith to find out about vacancy</p> <p>Clerk to liaise with M Jeans on dates for meetings of sub-committee</p>	

