

**THE SHAREHOLDER COMMITTEE FOR THE DORSET CENTRE OF  
EXCELLENCE (DCOE)**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2022**

**Present:** Cllrs Laura Beddow (via MS Teams), Spencer Flower (Chairman), Andrew Parry (Vice-Chairman) and Peter Wharf

**Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):**

Kate Critchel (Senior Democratic Services Officer),  
Aidan Dunn (Executive Director - Corporate Development S151),  
Chris Harrod (Senior Democratic Services Officer),  
Theresa Leavy (Executive Director of People - Children),  
Jonathan Mair (Director of Legal and Democratic and Monitoring Officer),  
Matt Prosser (Chief Executive)  
Claire Shiels (Corporate Director - Commissioning, Quality & Partnerships)

**24. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Suttle.

Cllr Beddow had advised that she would be unable to attend the meeting in person, but would take part in discussions via MS Teams.

**25. Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 19 October 2022 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**26. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**27. Public Participation**

There was no public participation to report.

**28. Councillor Questions**

No councillor questions had been received.

**29. Forward Plan**

The Forward Plan, as amended in the Agenda Supplement Pack, was received and noted.

### 30. **Appointment of Non-Executive Directors**

Claire Sheils, Corporate Director for Commissioning & Partnerships, advised that there had been three new Non-Executive Director appointments to the Board: Hilary Morris, Diane Grannell and Anil Patel and set out the experience that each would bring to the Board, which the committee noted and agreed.

Although there were no questions from Committee Members relating to this item, it was requested that Board Members from both Dorset Centre of Excellence and Care Dorset Holdings Ltd were introduced to elected members.

The Executive Director for Children's services agreed that this would be appropriate and would liaise with the Chairs of both respective Boards to arrange.

#### **Resolved:**

That the three non-executive directors referred to in the report be appointed to the Board of Directors.

### 31. **Update Report from Chair of the Board**

The Chair of the Board introduced his report which set out:

Officers responded to comments and requests for clarifications, details included:

- Before the facilities could be offered for community use, there was a small amount of maintenance work to be undertaken and the wording of terms of use agreement for hire also needed to be finalised. Once this had been completed it was anticipated that the 'dry' facilities would be available for the community to use from January 2023, with 'wet' facilities to follow shortly after.
- The newly appointed Managing Director had observed that was a lot going well with the curriculum and that children were engaging well with it most of the time, although there was some work to be undertaken to ensure that it offered more variety to some pupils with EHCPs and that the provision met the needs of individual plans.
- The Board was seeking to expand the provision of what was currently offered by the School, particularly that of creative arts and sports, in terms of curriculum delivery and develop it so that became more embedded in the school day.
- There was a strong belief held by the Managing Director that all schools should live and function within their communities and that once the foundations of the school's operation were in place, partnerships were built on and that the local community and groups were invited to assist the school in achieving this. There was a strong community interest in utilising the school's music facilities in facilitating community activities, although it would need to ensure safeguarding remained robust.

- A short progress report indicating the key milestones and achievements of the school could be circulated to Members to act as a helpful narrative and ensuring that they were kept informed. It was also further suggested and subsequently agreed that a short video could be produced to add to the value of such reports.

**Noted**

**32. Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

**33. Exempt Business**

It was proposed by Cllr Parry and seconded by Cllr Wharf:

**Decision**

That the press and the public be excluded for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt business information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

**34. Commissioning Report**

The Committee received an update on the commissioning activity being undertaken at Coombe House School, including that related to its recovery plan, future ambitions, media protocol and human resources support.

**Noted**

**Duration of meeting:** 2.00 - 2.42 pm

**Chairman**

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