

Present: Anthony Abrahams (AA) (Chair), Paul Clarkson (PC), Lesley Glover (LG), Pat Jones (Accounting Officer) (PJ), Mark Kiteley (MK), Jasmin Masih (JM), Christine O'Reilly (CO'R), Ian Pryce CBE (IP), Kay Rodger (KR), Gillian Scobie (GS).

In attendance: Rachel Nicol (Company Secretary), Rebecca Shaw (Governance Coordinator)

Company Secretary

Rachel Nicol

No.	Item
BCAT/25/21	Apologies None received.
BCAT/26/21	Declaration of interest Ian Pryce, Kay Rodger, Pat Jones and Rachel Nicol are employed by Bedford College. Rebecca Shaw is an employee of BCPS Limited Mark Kiteley is a non-executive director and Chair at BCS Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bedford College. No further declarations were made.
BCAT/27/21	Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda The directors confirmed their consent to short notice of the meeting.
BCAT/28/21	Wixams Academy 6th form update (summary of issues raised attached for information) The board discussed at length the media coverage and how to respond to recent communications from parents and the press around the proposed delay to the opening of the 6 th form. The board also explored again the ways in which a 6 th form might be delivered in due course and the space requirements for this. The board however agreed that under the proposals presented by the Principal with expansion requirements they did not have assurance that the best educational experience could be delivered to open by September 2022. Ways in which the pupils can be best prepared for their future further education studies were discussed. One of the primary reasons for the agreement to delay opening was to ensure pupils were not left disadvantaged if a project commenced but could not be finalised in time as they would have less time to secure a place.

	<p>It was agreed that no members of the board would engage with the press and that they would maintain the statement previously given. No answers to frequently ask questions were to be prepared, the need for “one voice, one message” was reiterated.</p> <p>The board stressed the need for the Academy to prioritise careers support and information on options as soon as possible to allow year 10 pupils to make arrangements.</p>
<p>BCAT/29/21</p>	<p>Budget setting</p> <p>The Accounting Officer had circulated funding calculations, budget and capital programme and outlined key points to the Board. Principal and Head teacher of WA and WTP had already received indicative figures and WA had presented a staffing budget on that basis to the March meeting. The Board discussed the budget submitted by the Principal of Wixams Academy at the March meeting and the subsequent email trail presented to the Board outlining the Principal’s suggestion that he is now considering discontinuing PREP. It was agreed that it is the Principal’s decision to make operational adjustments within the established policies. It was noted that no paper for decision has been presented to the Board.</p> <p>The Board received assurance that the budget presented fulfils legal requirements.</p> <p>PJ outlined the capital programme to the board and confirmed that it includes options to fund the installation of a Canopy at Wixams Academy.</p> <p>It was recommended and approved that the Academy be permitted to use their planned £113k surplus for 2020-2021 to fund the canopy purchase.</p> <p>PJ drew the Board’s attention to the executive summary table, detailing how income split between services and how money was allocated at the highest level from receipt of the annual grant, treatment of depreciation, central functions, Trust appointments that provide schools based services, Trust direct costs and management of reserves.</p> <p>Assurance was given that budgets had been set within the framework of financial control.</p> <p>The amendments since the report received in March were noted and the Board noted approval of the budgets as presented.</p>
<p>BCAT/30/21</p>	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting</p> <p>Subject the inclusion of Gill Scobie as being present the minutes of the online meeting held on 22 March 2021 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>

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