

# Minutes

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## Meeting of the Oldham Learning Foundation Board

Tuesday 8 December 2020

**Via Microsoft Teams**  
at 2:00pm

<b>Present:</b>	James Kempton	Director and Chair
	Jane Acklam	Director and Vice-Chair
	Helen Arya	Director
	Mary Garvey	Director
	Rob Higgins	Director
	Gerard Jones	Director
	Gillian Kay	Director
	Councillor Shaid Mushtaq	Director
	Helen Rowland	Director
	Tony Shepherd	Director
	Nicola Underdown	Director
	Ian Walsh	Director
<b>Also Present:</b>	Adrian Calvert	Chief Executive Officer – Oldham Learning
	Clare Cheetham (for items 1-4)	Oldham Learning Senior School Improvement Advisor
	Helen Hampson (for items 1-4)	Oldham Learning Senior School Improvement Advisor
	Catherine Murphy	Programme Manager, Oldham Opportunity Area

### 1 **Welcome, Apologies and Introductions**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Anne Redmond and Carol Hyde.

### 2 **Declaration of Business, Pecuniary or Personal Interests**

Board Members were asked to complete and sign the documents for the register declaring any business, pecuniary and personal interests relating to companies (goods and services) or personal relationships with pupils, volunteers and members of staff associated with the school where a matter may be discussed at the meeting.

Helen Arya declared an interest which was noted but was agreed that it did not impact on her taking part in the meeting.



## Agree Any Other Urgent Business

There was one item of other urgent business.

## Minutes

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the following amendment: Ian Walsh be added to the Present List.

## Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

### 3 Primary School Offer

The meeting moved into three discussion groups to answer the questions set out in the paper issued with the agenda.

### 4 Feedback from smaller group sessions

Feedback was received from the three discussion groups, there were several areas of agreement across the three groups with some of the key points made including:

- We need to balance that the schools are identifying the right areas alongside the role of the SIPs/external validation/peer review in this process is crucial.
- We need to make sure the model is not just reactive and uses a range of sources including where appropriate peer review.
- Subject networks mixed views but overall, the view was that they were important, and that the involvement of external subject specialist organisations was desirable where appropriate alongside local expertise. Possible examples were given of the Oldham Research School for History and The Geography Association for Geography. Another group felt that these should be a high priority.
- The group want to ensure a clear connecting thread in the provision and to see how these link to priorities for Oldham Learning in the first year.
- 'How do we quality assure' this process was asked to be considered.
- Further consultation with primary heads was welcomed as mentioned in the paper.
- Cultural capital and the question for social mobility was raised – what do we really want to achieve? We want the best curriculum with the best experts. How quickly can this be done, and do we have the right drivers?
- Questions were raised about funding for intensive support and SIPS both of which will be picked up through the next stages of the Stephen Betts work.

**RESOLVED:** that the points be considered in a paper for the next Board Meeting

**ACTION:** Clare Cheetham

## 5 **CEO Appointment Update**

The main part of this item was deemed confidential.

As part of the discussion the Chair and Board asked that their thanks be given to Helen Hampson for her work as part of Oldham Learning as she will be leaving her post in January 2021.

## 6 **Communication Strategy**

The Communications Strategy was circulated with the agenda and was discussed with the board, emphasizing key areas.

The following feedback was received:

Messaging

- Part 1 – Point 3 – could it be included that we had learnt from national partnerships as part of this work.
- Part 2 – It was asked to swap bullets 1 and 4 to ensure the values are central rather than value for money.

The benefits of face2face meetings were also raised and agreed with, once restrictions allow. This is also part of the tactics.

Tactics

- It was agreed that little and often was the correct approach

The board thanked Catherine Murphy for the clear plans and emphasized the need for to see the action taking place with a link to the high quality CPD offer.

**RESOLVED:** that the Communications Strategy is agreed subject to the changes discussed.

**ACTION:** Catherine Murphy to update the Communication Strategy and write to board members for requests for the reference group.

## 7 **Any Other Business**

The Chair expressed his and the boards thanks to Adrian Calvert for taking on the CEO role for the first term of Oldham Learning and for the support he has given to the Chair and the Board.

## 8 **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED:** that the next meeting of the Oldham Learning Foundation Board be held on:

Friday 22 January 2021 – 10:00am to 11:00am via Microsoft Teams.

**ACTION:** CEO/Clerk/Oldham Learning Foundation Board Members

9 **Confidentiality**

There was one item of confidential business.

(There being no further business, board members were thanked for their attendance and the meeting was declared closed at 3.15pm).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 9 Confidentiality

### 9.1 Item 5 – CEO Appointment Update

The recruitment panel has met and has recommended the following arrangements to run until 31/08/21.

Chief Executive Officer – Patsy Kane  
Chief Operating Officer – Clare Cheetham

It was agreed that Patsy Kane and Clare Cheetham will keep their school improvement responsibilities.

Further discussions are taking place to finalise the arrangements.

Helen Hampson will continue to be a SIP for her schools and a consultancy arrangement will be agreed to enable her to continue to give wider support for the SIP Programme.

**RESOLVED:** that the Chief Executive of Oldham Learning will be Patsy Kane and the Chief Operating Officer of Oldham Learning will be Clare Cheetham until 31 August 2021 subject to contractual agreement.

**ACTION:** Chair/CEO/Clerk