

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA

Monday, 18 May 2020

Minutes of the meeting streamed lived on You Tube at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Vivienne Littlechild (Chairman)	Marianne Fredericks
Graham Packham (Deputy Chairman)	Shreela Ghosh
George Abrahams	Steven Gietzen
Randall Anderson	Neil Greenwood
Deputy David Bradshaw	Paula Haynes
Deputy Michael Cassidy	Ann Holmes
John Chapman	Jeremy Mayhew
Professor Geoffrey Crossick	Dave Muncey
Professor Maria Delgado	Andy Taylor
	Lynne Williams

In Attendance

Officers:

Katharine Lewis	- Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Jeremy Newton	- Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Alison Mears	- Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Graeme Hood	- Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Jonathan Vaughan	- Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Orla O'Loughlin	- Guildhall School of Music and Drama
Sandeep Dwesar	- Barbican Centre
Sean Gregory	- Barbican Centre
Jonathan Poyner	- Barbican Centre
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerks

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Natasha Bucknor.

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. PUBLIC MINUTES

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2020 be approved as a correct record.

4. PRINCIPAL'S PUBLIC REPORT

The Board received a report of the Principal which provided an update on the actions taken by the School in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Governors were reminded that the School had closed its buildings on 2 March 2020, for a period of one week, after a staff member was diagnosed with COVID-19. As a result of this swift action, which included tracking and tracing those at risk and a deep clean of the School, only one student was diagnosed with COVID-19. The Deputy Chairman praised the School's handling of this situation which very likely helped to save lives.

Although the School had re-opened briefly, it was subsequently closed again as part of the Government's lockdown on 23rd March 2020. This had necessitated a move from face-to-face teaching to virtual learning, for which an innovative and challenging programme had been developed in partnership with students. A Cobra Group, consisting of a number of Board Members and members of the School's leadership team had been established to discuss overarching issues; i.e. - the City, the Office for Students, the welfare of students and staff, the status of the sector and industry and the likely financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the School in both best and worst case scenarios.

In response to a question, the Principal confirmed that there had not been an increase in the number of students deferring or cancelling on-line auditions. This had been welcomed by both staff and students and was likely to form the basis of a new, efficient model going forward. Work was underway to develop a robust teaching and learning programme for the 2020/21 Academic Year, which was likely to include a mix of virtual and face-to-face learning. A range of scenarios were being planned and it was likely that elements of the Summer programme would be brought into the Autumn programme.

The Chairman thanked the Principal, students, student representatives and staff for their excellent work in supporting the Guildhall School in developing its virtual model of provision. The Principal also thanked staff and the student representatives for their hard work and valued contributions.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

5. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD

There were no questions.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items.

7. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act as follows:-

Item	Paragraph
9	3
10, 11	1,2 & 3
12 - 15	3
16	1,2

8. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2020 were approved as a correct record.

9. **PRINCIPAL'S NON-PUBLIC REPORT**

The Board received the Principal's non-public report.

10. **CO-OPTEE NOMINATIONS FOR THE AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Board considered and approved a report of the Principal.

11. **OFFICE FOR STUDENTS EXPECTATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP TEAMS AND BOARDS OF GOVERNORS DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS.**

The Board considered and approved a report of the Principal

12. **FINANCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19**

The Board received a report of the Principal.

13. **HIGHER EDUCATION TUITION FEES FOR 2021/22**

The Board considered and approved a report of the Principal.

14. **UPDATE ON BARBICAN GUILDHALL CREATIVE ALLIANCE**

The Board received a report of the Barbican Centre

15. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE BOARD**

There were questions whilst the public was excluded

16. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE BOARD AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There was an item of urgent business discussed whilst the public were excluded.

17. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**

The Confidential minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2020 were approved as a correct record.