

**No 738      Minutes 738 of the Education Committee meeting held at the Education Learning Centre on Wednesday, 15 March 2017 at 09.00hrs.**

Present:	Hon. Christine Scipio-O'Dean	Chairperson
	Hon. Dr Corinda Essex	Deputy Chairperson
	Hon. Brian Isaac	Member
	Hon. Wilson Duncan	Member
	Hon. Cruyff Buckley	Member
	Mrs. Shirley Wahler	Director
	Mrs. Wendy Benjamin	Assistant Director Schools
	Miss Santana Fowler	Secretary
	Miss Joanne Crowie	For item 38.1

Apologies: Mrs. Kerry Yon Assistant Director Lifelong Learning

## OPEN AGENDA

### 38.1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairperson welcomed all present to the meeting; a special welcome was given to the Secretary. An apology was received from the Assistant Director, Lifelong Learning, Mrs Kerry Yon who was overseas.

## 38.2 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES 737

## UPDATE ON THE TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

It was noted that the report on the Training Needs Assessment would be placed on the Agenda for April 2017.

**ACTION:** Director

## UPDATE ON KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION

The Director informed the Committee that work is currently ongoing as other policies are also being reviewed and updated; therefore it was agreed that the Committee would defer this item pending completion of these policies.

**ACTION:** Director

## ALTERNATIVE PROVISION UPDATE

The Chairperson reported that she had a meeting with Mr Rob Bryson, Head of Property and Housing regarding finding suitable accommodation for Inclusion Services, however she found she was not getting anywhere. The Director also reported that she had spoken to the Chief Secretary about this matter and registered her concern of lack of available property,

### **38.3 REPORT ON 2016-19 OPERATIONAL PLANS**

The Committee noted the update which was circulated prior to the meeting.

It was agreed that the School Improvement Plans will be presented to the Committee at April's meeting

Concerns were noted about the degree of schools' engagement with parents. However the Committee was informed that all schools had tried a different approach to encourage parents to attend school meetings and also have provided a designated space in the school for children to play whilst parents are at the meeting.

The Committee noted that the limited accommodation available for the St Helena Community College has placed a huge strain on what the College can offer. The Director informed members that accommodation is the biggest challenge which is further complicated by issues of transport and funding. Ideas were suggested and discussed for various buildings, however it was agreed that the College should remain in a central location where it is accessible for all members of the community. The Chairperson reported that she had requested at an Executive Council meeting as well as at Environmental and Natural Resources Committee meeting for a list of all available Government buildings but this list is not forthcoming.

The Director informed the Committee that from discussions with the Chief Secretary, she is convinced the Public Library will not move in the short term, and it may be useful, therefore, to consider minor renovations to the current site subject to funding

### **38.4 UPDATE ON ST HELENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

A revised summary of registration figures from September 2016 to March 2017 was circulated at the meeting. It was noted that during this period 426 individuals had registered.

The Director informed the Committee that the existing data base is inadequate for the current needs and there is every indication that both the complexity of service delivery and demands for courses will continue to increase. As no adequate accommodation has been located for the Community College, this has a severe impact on the Directorate's ability to provide services.

The Director informed the Committee that the success of the St Helena Community College has put pressure on the administration staff and therefore would like to thank the Directorate's staff for all their efforts.

### **38.5 UPDATE ON REVIEW OF EDUCATION ORDINANCE (2008)**

The Chairperson thanked the Director and her staff for providing an update on the progress on the review of the Education Ordinance.

### **38.9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26 April 2017, at 09.00 hrs at the Education Learning Centre.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was closed at 10.50hrs.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'H. O'Dean', written in a cursive style.

Confirmed:  
Honourable Christine Scipio-O'Dean

Date: 18 April 2017