

<b>MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT A MEETING OF THE</b>
<b>CORK EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD</b>
<b>CORK TRAINING CENTRE, ROSSA AVENUE</b>
<b>18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2015</b>

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
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<i>Cllr. Des O'Grady</i>	<i>Mr. Paudie Palmer</i>
<i>Cllr. Claire Cullinane</i>	<i>Ms. Una O'Donnell</i>
<i>Cllr. Michael Hegarty</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. Tom Deenihan</i>
<i>Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy</i>	<i>Mr. Declan O'Leary</i>
<i>Cllr. Tim Brosnan</i>	<i>Ms. Mary O'Grady</i>
<i>Cllr. Mary Shields</i>	

<b>EXECUTIVE &amp; ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF</b>
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<i>Mr. Ted Owens, CE</i>	<i>Mr. John Fitzgibbons, EO</i>
<i>Mr. Martin Hallahan, PO</i>	<i>Ms. Clare Creedon (Minute Taker)</i>

<b>WELCOME</b>
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The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and advised that as there was not a quorum, reserved items could not be dealt with at this meeting. The meeting would just deal with correspondence and the CE's report.

<b>APOLOGIES</b>
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- Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were received from Board Members, Cllr. Mary Hegarty, Cllr. Padraig O'Sullivan, Cllr. Margaret Murphy O'Mahony, Cllr. Chris O'Leary, Ms. Maura Fitzgibbon, Mr. Sean O'Sullivan, Ms. Gillian Keating, Ms. Biddy McDonagh.

<b>CONDOLENCES</b>
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- ✠ To Edward Williamson, Deputy Principal of Coachford College and family, on the death of his father.
- ✠ To Xena Quinn, staff member and family, on the death of her brother.
- ✠ To Sarah Kelly, KOBW Architects and family, on the death of her mother.
- ✠ To Celia O'Mahony, teacher in Coláiste Choilm and family, on the death of her mother.
- ✠ To Donal O'Sullivan, Principal of Coláiste Mhuire and family, on the death of his father.
- ✠ To Maura Fitzgibbon, staff and Board member and family, on the death of her mother.

<b>CONGRATULATIONS</b>
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- Congratulations were expressed to Cllr. Chris O'Leary on becoming the Lord Mayor and wished him success during his tenure.
- Congratulations were also expressed to the outgoing Lord Mayor, Cllr. Mary Shields,

on her successful tenure as Lord Mayor.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The Board, on the proposition of Rev. Dr. Tom Deenihan, seconded by Mr. Paudie Palmer, adopted the DES, ETBI and General Correspondence as presented (**copies herewith**).

### **DES Correspondence**

- **12.05.2015 – General and post-primary non-pay grant** – The CE advised that currently schools budgets have been reduced in-line with the DES overall allocation. If a school cannot live within budget the matter will be reviewed. Cllr. Des O’Grady stated that if CETB didn’t borrow and managed to maintain services within the limits, he wouldn’t like a situation where the DES may reduce the funding permanently as it appears CETB are maintaining service on a lower level of funding. The CE stated that this is the dilemma the ETB now faces.
- **21.04.2015 – Application for rental of temporary accommodation at Glanmire CC** – Cllr. Des O’Grady expressed concerns that the application was refused. The CE stated that CETB would not be renting temporary accommodation in the Glanmire area and that he has told the Principal that academic subjects must be prioritised and if classes need to be held in the sports hall for the time being then this will have to be the case. Martin Hallahan stated that the extension works have been brought forward so the project should be ahead of time.

### **General Correspondence**

- **05.05.2015 – Correspondence from the Daughters of Charity regarding the Holyhill Knocknaheeny Family Centre** – The CE advised that he will write to the Daughters of Charity with regards to the issue that exists with the lease.
- **13.05.2015 – The Sunday Times seeking data under FOI** – The CE stated that CETB will be providing the information as it is legally required to. Mr. John Fitzgibbons stated that the task is not very onerous and the information requested regarding allocation can be extracted quite easily from CETB’s system.
- **29.04.2015 – Correspondence from Coláiste Pobail Bheantraí regarding allocation** – Rev. Dr. Tom Deenihan asked the CE if there is any update in relation to this issue. He stated that he spoke to Mr. Fitzgibbons regarding same and they are currently appealing this to the DES.

- **23.04.2015 – Correspondence from Cork Sports Partnership seeking nominee**
  - The Board agreed that the CE would remain as the CETB nominee to the Board of Cork Sports Partnership.

<b>CE'S REPORT</b>
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The Board, on the proposition of Ms. Una O'Donnell, seconded by Cllr. Laura McGonigle approved the adoption of the CE's Report, incorporating the Education Report, Finance Report and the Capital Report (**copy herewith**).

- **Item 16 – PLC Provision in Cork ETB** – The CE outlined the main recommendations of the document. Mr. John Fitzgibbons stated that Cork ETB has a major requirement to ensure that quality services are delivered. A co-ordinated management approach to PLC did not exist in the former City and County VECs. There was a lack of shared approaches and a wasteful use of resources. Cllr. Des O'Grady expressed his concerns regarding the knock on effect if smaller schools were to lose PLC courses. The CE stated that there is a need for courses to be aligned and the quality of the courses being offered needs to be considered. Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that the primary focus of CETB must be quality. The CE stated that the intention is not to centralise as CETB wants to maintain county wide provision but that there would need to be centres of excellence in the larger colleges supporting outlining centres.

SOLAS is currently reviewing PLC provision nationally. CETB wants to present its recommendations to SOLAS as part of its review. Rev. Dr. Tom Deenihan stated that he shared the concerns of Cllr. O'Grady in that many PLC students will not travel outside of the town. He sought clarification as to students will remain students of the smaller area or become virtual students for the five main Colleges. The CE stated that it is not the plan for them to become virtual students. The smaller Colleges/centres will take direction and CPD from the larger 5 Colleges. Mr. Fitzgibbons stated that there are a lot of issues that still need to be looked at. Staffing will be problematic and there is no easy answer to these issues. Mr. Paudie Palmer welcomed the work that had been put into drafting this document and stated that support will be needed to iron out the teething problems. The Chairman

stated that the area of quality assurance is becoming more difficult. He stated that CETB should be charting its own destiny and not waiting for SOLAS to push changes on the Board. Ms. Mary O'Grady stated that standardisation and uniformity of delivery will be key.

<b>DATE &amp; VENUE OF NEXT MEETING</b>
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It was agreed that this meeting be reconvene on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015 in Rossa Avenue at 4.00pm.

**THE MEETING WAS ABANDONED OWING TO FAILURE TO OBTAIN A QUORUM**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Chairman*

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_