

**Minutes of the meeting of the Major Projects and Investment Committee
held at 4.00 pm on Thursday, 19 September 2019
Technopark, SE1 6LN**

Present

Douglas Denham St Pinnock (Chair)
Jerry Cope
Nelly Kibirige
Jeremy Parr
David Phoenix
Rashda Rana
Tony Roberts
Vinay Tanna

Apologies

Nazene Smout

In attendance

Richard Flatman
Anita Ikpa
Paul Ivey
Janet Jones
Nicole Louis
Mike Simmons
James Stevenson

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting. The above apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of interest

Jerry Cope is the Chair of One Croydon Alliance and introduced LSBU to the Croydon campus opportunity. The committee noted an interest in item 8 on the agenda.

David Phoenix is a director of South Bank Colleges (SBC) and the British University in Egypt and declared an interest in item 5 and item 11.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The committee agreed the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 July 2019 as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising

The matters arising formed part of the agenda. The committee noted the updates to the actions.

The committee noted that the decommissioning of the K2 building has progressed and is no longer required. The University has received reassurance that the input of sprinklers are no longer required. The committee requested to be informed about the general consensus for the provision of sprinklers in buildings.

5. **Nine Elms STEAM Centre (NESC) funding**

The committee discussed and reviewed the key terms of the GLA grant offered to SBC to part-fund the SBC NESC building. The GLA will fund £20m with SBC contributing [REDACTED]. The funding is part of the European framework agreement and is required to be utilised by 2022. The issues and responses from discussions with the GLA and the external legal advisor were noted.

At its meeting of 18 September 2019, the SBC Board approved the draft funding agreement, subject to consent by LSBU. The LSBU Board at its meeting of 18 July 2019 delegated authority to the Project Larch sub-committee, which is incorporated within the MPIC membership. The sub-committee confirmed its consent to the execution of the funding agreement.

Stafford Critchlow (Director, Wilkinson Eyre Architects) joined the meeting

6. **Chapel site**

The committee received a presentation from Wilkinson Eyre Architects. The committee noted that the base option will provide seven new teaching spaces at a projected cost of [REDACTED] including VAT. The reduced option will provide three new teaching spaces at a projected cost of [REDACTED] including VAT. The committee discussed the different options proposed for construction of the additional teaching space at the Chapel site.

The committee questioned and explored the costs, available funding and value for money. The committee noted the projected timescales. The works would be complementary to a wider future development of the whole St. George's quarter. Work on the site is estimated to start in the Autumn of 2020 with an estimated completion time of eighteen months.

The committee accepted the Executive's recommendation of the base option. The Executive will prepare a final business case, which will be subject to approval from MPIC and the LSBU Board.

Stafford Critchlow (Director, Wilkinson Eyre Architects) left the meeting

7. **Group cashflow**

The committee discussed the 5 year cashflow forecast 2019-23 and the requirements for additional funds for ongoing and proposed projects. The need for additional borrowing would increase from approximately [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] with a need to generate increased cashflow over the next few years.

The committee reviewed various options for additional borrowings and noted that the University is currently testing the market.

The committee requested that an update is provided at a later MPIC meeting and that the LSBU Board is provided with visibility of the cashflow arrangements. The committee noted that a financial context presentation will be provided at the Group's strategy day to be held on 26 September 2019.

Richard Fenn, Michael Simmons and Janet Jones joined the meeting

8. Croydon campus

The committee received a presentation on the proposed Croydon Campus. A full business case is currently being drafted. Further consultations with Croydon Council have been scheduled for the end of September 2019. Discussions with Deans are taking place to finalise courses and the curriculum. The committee noted concerns with the building due to it being occupied on a few floors. The building infrastructure is currently being addressed to ensure it is fit for the delivery of courses and will meet the needs of the students.

The committee noted the benefits of the proposed new campus for LSBU and Croydon Council. A soft launch is proposed for September 2020. The campus is scheduled to be fully open in September 2021.

The committee members agreed that engagement with LSBU governors may be required to expand on ideas and were in support of the campus developments. A full business case would be presented at a future meeting.

Richard Fenn, Michael Simmons and Janet Jones left the meeting

9. Project LEAP update

The committee noted the LEAP progress update and the new governance arrangements. The benefits and positive feedback of the work package 2 enrolment accelerator were noted.

10. Estate development update

The committee noted the estates development update. The committee queried the restrictive access faced by disabled students to some buildings on campus. The committee was informed that the issue is being addressed with specific focus on the access to the Edric theatre on Borough road. The committee requested that blue badge parking spaces should be made available at all sites.

The Chair thanked the estates team for all the work undertaken on the estate redevelopments.

11. International Branch Campus Cairo update

The committee received a verbal update on the proposed international branch campus in Cairo. The outcome of the application to the Ministry of Education in Egypt for an international branch campus is pending. Work is currently being undertaken to explore leadership roles within the partnership.

**Date of next meeting
4.00 pm, on Wednesday, 16 October 2019**

Confirmed as a true record

..... (Chair)