

CIPFA in the Midlands Regional Council

Notes of meeting held: 8 September, 2016

Present: Alison Jarrett, Kelly Watson, Owen Campbell, Lisa Commane, Alan Edwards, Andy Morley, Martin Reohorn

Conference call: Paul Hector, Colin Sharpe

Agenda Ref	Notes	Action Owner
1 Apologies	Andrew Burns, Theresa Channell, Nick Harvey, Victoria Hundleby, Tony Crawley, Gus Miah, Sean Pearce, Joe Reeves, Brian Roberts	
2 Review of actions		
2.1	Mentoring. No progress. Agreed to be a worthy ambition, and local initiative is welcome – but AE asked CIM to hold off for a while pending further input from Mansell Street. There was a national mentoring initiative for overseas students. AE to investigate and report back.	Alan Edwards
2.2	Paid Support. AM said that after further consideration he does not want to take on the paid support role.	
2.3	Biennial survey. The survey has been completed and results are being analysed. AE to inform CIM of any regional trends or issues	Alan Edwards
2.4	Volunteer form. Still not clear what has happened to this. We agreed to put a “banner” on the front of the Midlands page, and also to try to resurrect the old form that used to be on the website	Colin Sharpe
2.5	CATS. Matt Davis (Leics County Council) remains keen to progress the CATS initiative. One event is planned for November 2016, and a further one in February 2017	
3 Student Society update	There was no report.	
4 Events update	a) Two speakers are confirmed for the annual seminar, including Rob Whiteman (or a suitable substitute!) AJ to send the details of the session titles and speakers to CS for inclusion on the website. AJ to also send these details to Mansell Street for national publicity. Alan Edwards will contact David Melbourne to see if he is available to speak from an NHS perspective.	Alison Jarrett Alan Edwards
	b) AGM. The date will be Thursday March 9 th , 2017. Grand Central was chosen as the AGM venue. The	Kelly Watson

	<p>capacity is a maximum of 40. KW to pursue this and confirm the booking. The development speaker and theme were not decided.</p> <p>The AGM preparation needs more helpers. MR volunteered; LC offered to find someone and KW will contact Hayley Mason at Nottingham City (See item 10 (AOB) below)</p> <p>An item needs to be put on the CIM website to invite new members or reapplications</p> <p>AM will prepare a list of the Council positions that need to be filled / refilled</p> <p>Michael Page Ltd have already pledged sponsorship of £500 towards the costs of the 2017 AGM</p>	<p>Lisa Commane</p> <p>Colin Sharpe</p> <p>Andy Morley</p> <p>Owen Campbell</p>
	c) Question Time. There was positive feedback from this event	
5.	<p>6th Form Management games. The decision was made at the recent CIPFA conference to take stock of the 6th form management games offer. KW will meet Chris Gill w/c 12/9/16. Key issue: Do the games really put CIPFA into the young students' minds for future "use"? The games certainly get our volunteers engaged and offer an opportunity to promote the public sector ethos to the young people involved.</p> <p>Nationally, the view from Mansell Street is that the games do not represent a worthwhile return for the amount of time and effort spent on them. We noted, however, that we have never received any bad feedback with regard to the games.</p> <p>Sponsorship for the games was discussed – but it was agreed that branding is a problem, and it is not clear what benefits sponsors would get, as they would not be gaining access to potential new clients.</p> <p>The potential link to the apprenticeship scheme was discussed – ie this could give us something tangible to offer to participants. We agreed it would be useful to try and link the games venues to where there are apprenticeship opportunities. KW to talk to AE about the possibility of utilising Lincoln University for some work on developing the games.</p> <p>There will be a further full discussion on these matters at the December meeting.</p>	<p>Kelly Watson</p> <p>Kelly Watson / Alan Edwards</p> <p>Andy Morley</p>
6.	<p>Communications issues. We noted the presentation prepared by Mansell Street on the appropriate use of the different social media options.</p> <p>AW queried whether we tap effectively into bye-law 5 members when they join.</p>	
7.	Development Plan. The general recruitment freeze has	

	implications for what we can achieve and how we should be developing our strategy.	
8.	<p>National CIPFA issues.</p> <p>a) Conference was deemed a success</p> <p>b) Some positive news re training: The Regional HFMA training scheme has been won; The National Graduate scheme has also been renewed;</p> <p>c) a new company has been formed to offer some new services</p> <p>d) Targeted newsletters are now produced, for Local Government, NHS, overseas members.</p> <p>e) Dual membership is actively being sought by many – including overseas bodies.</p> <p>f) press coverage for CIPFA has been very good under Rob Whiteman</p> <p>g) BUT the UK markets and student recruitment remain very difficult. The average age profile continues to rise, and recruitment is falling. Some other accountancy bodies are now offering much greater flexibility re. exams: students can choose pretty freely what exams they want to take and when. Also, ACCA and CIMA are gearing up seriously for globalisation and expansion.</p>	
9	Financial Report. The budget items for “Low Cost events” and “Student Society” will probably not be needed in 2016. The next financial report should be prepared by the new Treasurer, Owen Campbell!	Andy Morley / Owen Campbell
10 AOB	a) Theresa Channell, Nottingham City Council, reported that one of her staff, Hayley Mason, is keen to help with the organisation of some events.	Kelly Watson to contact Hayley
Date of next meetings:	<p>a) Council: Thursday December 8 @ KPMG Nottingham</p> <p>b) AGM & Council: Thursday March 9th @ Grand Central Birmingham</p>	