The thanks of members was expressed to all who had contributed to the report, and in particular to Sue Rae.
The report was approved for transmission to the LSC
Action: Principal

2155 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting is on 18th December 2007 at 5.00 p.m.

David Stevenson
Clerk & Professional Assistant to the Board
Redcar & Cleveland College
david.stevenson@synergybroadband.co.uk
07973 934257

2152 Matters arising from the previous meeting

2135 (iii)Official Opening

The Principal indicated that he had made approaches in line with the previous recommendation and was awaiting a response

2138 Future of Level 3 Provision

This item is recorded separately in part B, and is not for publication.

2139 FE+ Proposal

The Principal reported that in line with the previous recommendation he and the Chair had attended a further meeting and had established the College's position. Subsequently further meetings of Principals were to be held to prepare a report for consultants, identifying proposals for the different levels of collaboration possible.

Action: Principal to report further to the next meeting of the Board.

2153 Annual Report of the Audit Committee

At its last meeting the Audit Committee had approved for presentation to the Board its annual report of the Committee's work in the academic year 2006-07. It had also received the annual report of the College's Internal Auditors, and this was now appended to the Committee's own report. Members were able to discuss both reports. It was noted that the audit report had indicated the most satisfactory grade possible.

The two reports were received

2154 College Self-Assessment Report

At its last meeting the Quality & Standards Committee had received a final draft of the report, and subject to its completion and some textual changes, had recommended it for consideration by the Board. The complete report was now available for inspection, and an Executive Summary had been circulated and was presented by the Principal & the Director of Quality & Standards.

The report included a summary of curriculum and cross-college grades, associated grades in respect of overall effectiveness, continuous improvement and management & leadership. It was felt that the process was becoming increasingly robust, confirmed not only by the external annual validation report, but also other external validation processes. Thus in respect of future reports or inspection it was anticipated that there would be further improvement, and indeed this was already evident in some areas.

Members discussed a range of issues, including the implications of the gradings, particularly at lower levels, and there was a perception that the application of grades had been fair and realistic. Funding/recruitment and fees were referred to in respect of recruitment and grading. Information was given concerning the observations of teaching and learning in comparison with previous years and a national benchmark, and the significant improvement was noted. It was recognised that the leadership and management grade reflected the overall grading profile.

There were many strengths. It was noted that the identified weaknesses were being addressed in some cases with improvements already evident. The complete report made reference to the ways in which the College was addressing its values and mission.

Redcar & Cleveland College

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held on Tuesday 27th November 2007 at 5.00 p.m. at the College.

Present:

Mr J Coulthard	*(V/Ch)* (Chair of meeting)(Community Governor)
Mr F Connorton	(Business Governor)
Mr R Darling	(Business Governor)
Cllr R Goddard	(Local Authority representative)
Mr G Groom	(Principal Governor)
Rev. B Harrison	(Co-opted Governor)
Prof S Hodgson	(Co-opted Governor)
Mr R Johnson	(Business Governor)
Cllr J Keenan	(Local Authority representative)
Mr P Nightingale	(Foundation Governor)
Mr G Ritchie	(Business Governor)
Miss P Rutherford	(Foundation Governor)
Mr P Smith	(Staff Governor)
Mr G Watts	(Staff Governor)

Apologies for absence:

Dr G Hillier	*(Chair) (*Business Governor)
Mr C Brayfield	(Student Governor)
Mr S Childs	(Co-opted Governor)
Mr G Flanagan	(Business Governor)
Mr R Weston-Bartholomew	(Co-opted Governor)

Officers:

Mr D J Stevenson	(Clerk & Professional Assistant to the Board)
Miss D A McFarlane	(Deputy Principal)
Ms. S. Rae	(Director of Quality & Standards)

The meeting was quorate throughout.

PART A – FOR PUBLICATION

2149 Welcome to new members

Cllr. Joe Keenan was attending his first meeting, and Bruce Harrison was returning to the Board after a period of absence. Both were welcomed to the meeting.

2150 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

2151 Minutes of the Board meeting held on 16th October 2007

The Minutes of this meeting were approved and signed as a correct record.