

## Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce – Ashford Economic Development Group

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the AEDG Limited held at KICC HQ on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 8.30am.

PRESENT:	NAME	POSITION
	Nettie Buss	Chair
	Richard Stafford	
	Richard Lavender	
	Dan Sherlock	
	Maria Callow	
	Susan Bonett	
	Jason Rainbird	
	Tom Jenkins <i>for Andrew Osborne</i>	
	Andrew Osborne	
	Alexandra Syrotiuk	
[APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED FROM:]	Tim Sheppard, Dylan Laing, Peter Heritage	

### 1. NOTICE AND QUORUM

The chair reported that enough notice of the meeting had been duly given and that a quorum was present. The chair declared that the meeting was open.

### 2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

A draft of the minutes of the board meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 was sent prior to the meeting. It was agreed to approve this draft without amendment and the chair was authorised to sign them as a complete record of the relevant meeting.

### 3. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

1. The Chair welcomed Susan (Principal) and Alexandra from EKC who gave an informative presentation regarding EKC, focusing on the Ashford site, its expansion and how it has developed, as well as sharing the exciting news that it has been graded as Outstanding by Ofsted in all areas.  
There was also information regarding future plans including the film school which is being developed and the extension to the existing campus.  
The presentation created a number of discussions which included how the college is

able to develop courses for certain sectors.

Also discussed how the college can support industry with examples of Coty and the robotics.

A copy of the presentation is included with these minutes.

Q&A and comments followed – **MC** suggested some organisations that EKC could contact. **NB** agreed to pass on any details (subsequently done)

Suggested that EKC contact KCFG – **NB** has introduced subsequently.

**RS** commented that he had recently attended a breakfast at Norton Knatchbull school who invited employers to entice them into taking a pupil for work experience.

It was agreed that the next AEDG would be held at Ashford College

## 2. Round Table discussions

**RS** – commented that Cashflow was becoming a problem – discussion followed and it was agreed a couple of solutions to try were Thomas Higgins <https://www.thomashiggins.com/> and GoCardless <https://gocardless.com/>

**RL** – advised he had recently attended a BCC Global Conference with a focus on Business Education and Skills which again highlighted why we are focused on this agenda

**NB** – advised that Lucy from LSIP had been invited to this meeting but had been unable to attend.

A list of items to action was then produced as follows:

Action Items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
Bios and Headshots	All members	NB will email all those O/S	Pending
LinkedIn	NB to speak with KiCC	Before next AEDG meeting	Pending

## 4. NEXT MEETING

15th June 2023 @ 8.30am @ Ashford College (please report to reception by 8.25)

## 5. CLOSE

There was no further business and therefore the chair declared that the meeting was closed.

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Chair – Nettie Buss - Date