

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCRUTINY

MINUTES

Thursday 3 February 2022, 12.00pm
in the Tim Cadbury/Music Room at Downing College

Present:

Professor Richard Mortier (Chair), Mr Graham Allen (Secretary), Mrs Rachel Rowe (Support Officer), Mr Gavin Flynn, Dr Gilly Carr, Dr Rob Doubleday, Dr Orsola Rath Spivack, Ms Jocelyn Wyburd, Dr Mark Purcell, Dr David Butterfield, Dr Seb Falk and Dr John Fawcett.

The meeting began at 12:05pm.

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Dr Mark Smith.

2. Declarations of Interest:

None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2021:

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment: under Item 6, Work Plan 2021-22: "The Board received updates from each of the Working Groups regarding areas of investigation for the coming year" – insert, "apart from the Finance Group".

4. Matters arising:

None.

5. Guest – Emma Rampton, Registry:

The Board welcomed Ms Emma Rampton, and the following topics were discussed:

- i.) The Council's response to the Board's 26th Annual Report;
- ii.) The recruitment process and salary-setting of the new VC (and the Acting VC);
- iii.) The current state of the UAS;
- iv.) The progress of the Recovery Programme;
- v.) The resourcing of the University's machinery of self-governance;
- vi.) Proposals regarding strategic decision-making in any future crisis;
- vii.) An assessment of the current functioning of the Council;
- viii.) The frequent tight timetabling for responses to consultations;
- ix.) Concerns raised about a template letter circulated regarding industrial action.

6. Meeting with the Vice-Chancellor, 3 March 2022:

The Board were encouraged to continue submitting in the Shared Drive possible questions for the meeting with the Vice-Chancellor in March.

7. Reports from Working Groups:

The Board received updates from each of the Working Groups except Research regarding University Officers with whom they would like to meet. Board members were reminded to check with other Working Groups when arranging meetings with Officers, as there may be overlapping areas of investigation.

8. Any Other Business:

None.

9. Dates of future meetings with Senior Officers:

Thursday 3 March, 12-2pm (at Downing with lunch) – with the VC

Tuesday 22 March, 12-2pm (at Downing with lunch) – with the PVC (Strategy & Planning)

Thursday 28 April, 12-2pm (at Downing, with lunch)

Tuesday 24 May, 12-1pm (via Zoom)

Monday 27 June, 10-11:30am (at Downing)

The meeting closed at 2.05pm.

Rachel Rowe
Support Officer