

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCRUTINY

MINUTES

**Tuesday 4 June 2024 at 11.15am
in the Pavilion Room at Newnham College and via Zoom**

Present:

Dr Rob Doubleday (Chair), Mr Rob Hopwood (Secretary), Mrs Rachel Rowe (Support Officer), Dr Charles Read (Junior Proctor), Rev'd Andrew Hammond (Senior Proctor) (via Zoom), Dr Markus Gehring (Senior Pro-Proctor), Dr Fraz Mir (Junior Pro-Proctor), Dr Orsola Rath Spivack, Dr Richard Lloyd, Dr Stephen Cowley, Dr Judith Plummer Braeckman, and Professor Nazia Habib.

The meeting began at 11.15am.

1. Welcome and apologies:

None.

2. Declarations of Interest:

There were no new declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2024:

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising:

None.

5. Report from Proctors:

The Board had previously received an update on recent Council business from the Junior Proctor.

6. Guest – Professor Deborah Prentice, Vice-Chancellor:

The Board welcomed Professor Deborah Prentice, and the following topics were discussed:

- i.) Professor Prentice's view on the University's current challenges and priorities, particularly financial challenges, resource distribution and proposed cuts;
- ii.) The functioning of the Council, the General Board and other governance and decision-making mechanisms of the University;
- iii.) The progress of the change programmes;
- iv.) Considerations on how to promote those from underrepresented areas of society to become research leaders;
- v.) How to reinvigorate collegiate University collaborations post-pandemic;
- vi.) Progress on the University's net zero and sustainability commitments; and
- vii.) Mitigating the risks of working with automated systems such as Peregrine Foresight.

7. Any other business:

The Board agreed to hold an additional meeting on Thursday 13 June to receive an update from each Working Group and to begin considering the structure of the Annual Report.

8. Dates of future meetings:

Thursday 13 June, 12 – 1.30pm, via Teams.

The meeting ended at 1.35pm.

Rachel Rowe (Support Officer)