

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCRUTINY

MINUTES

Tuesday 13 February 2023, 12.30pm
in the Portrait Room at Christ's College and via Zoom

Present:

Professor Richard Mortier (Chair), Mr Graham Allen (Secretary), Mrs Rachel Rowe (Support Officer), Dr Seb Falk, Dr Gilly Carr, Dr Orsola Rath Spivack, Dr Nazia Habib, and Mr Rob Hopwood.

The meeting began at 12.30pm.

1. Welcome and apologies:

Apologies were received from Dr Mark Purcell, Dr David Butterfield (sabbatical leave), Rev Andrew Hammond, Dr Charles Read, and Dr Rob Doubleday. The Board welcomed new Board member Rob Hopwood to his first meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest:

None.

3. Guest – Professor Andy Neely, Senior PVC:

The Board welcomed Professor Andy Neely and the following topics were discussed:

- i.) An update on the progress of the Change and Programme Management Board & Office;
- ii.) The work and priorities of the Property Board;
- iii.) The effectiveness of the relationship between the University and the Colleges;
- iv.) An update on the review of the policy covering eligibility for @cam email addresses;
- v.) The interface between the University, local government and the local business community;
- and
- vi.) The role of Innovate Cambridge.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2023:

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

5. Matters arising:

The Secretary had circulated a communication received from the Registry regarding the closure of catering facilities in the University Centre.

6. Guest – Dr Michael Glover, Academic Secretary:

The Board welcomed Dr Michel Glover and the following topics were discussed:

- i.) Dr Glover's current priorities at the start of his fourth year in post, and aspects of the University which may benefit from streamlining;
- ii.) An update on the Recovery Programme, particularly the Reshaping our Estate and Reimagining Professional Services projects;
- iii.) Actions being undertaken by the General Board in response to REF 2021 and in response to the decline in research funding (e.g. from Horizon Europe);

- iv.) Support available during both the application process and post-award for large grants, and the current position of the Research Office in relation to this;
- v.) Potential challenges faced in the recruitment of senior academic posts which lead the research effort; and
- vi.) Possible further governance changes.

7. Discussion of possible questions for Professor David Cardwell, PVC for Strategy & Planning:

The Board discussed possible areas of questioning for Professor David Cardwell who has been invited to attend the next Board meeting on 2 March, and agreed to send him the finalised list of questions next week.

8. Updates from Working Groups:

Deferred until the next meeting.

9. Any Other Business:

None.

10. Date of next full Board meeting:

Thursday 2 March 2023, 2-4pm in the SCR at Christ's College, with Professor David Cardwell invited to attend.

The meeting closed at 3.05pm.

Rachel Rowe
Support Officer