MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCRUTINY

MINUTES

Tuesday 22 March 2022, 12:00pm
in the Fleet Room at Downing College

Present:
Professor Richard Mortier (Chair), Mr Graham Allen (Secretary), Mrs Rachel Rowe (Support Officer), Dr Gilly Carr, Dr Orsola Rath Spivack, Ms Jocelyn Wyburd, Dr Mark Purcell, Dr Mark Smith, Dr Seb Falk and Dr John Fawcett.

The meeting began at 12:05pm.

1. Guest – Dr David Cardwell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Strategy and Planning:
The Board welcomed the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Strategy and Planning, Dr David Cardwell, and the following topics were discussed:

i.)	The current financial health of the University, and its investment capacity;
ii.)	The progress of the finance transformation programme and enhanced financial transparency;
iii.)	An understanding of the term "reserves" and their future management;
iv.)	The new academic pathways and other budgetary challenges;
v.)	The impact of the Strategic Investment Fund, and current strategic objectives;
vi.)	An update on capital expenditure plans and major site developments, including NW Cambridge;
vii.)	The building maintenance funding plan; and
viii.)	The University's planned response to pressure on pay from inflation, increased NI contributions and diminishing pension benefits.

2. Apologies:
Apologies were received from Mr Gavin Flynn and Dr Rob Doubleday.

3. Declarations of Interest:
None.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2022:
The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

5. Matters arising:
None.

6. Reports from Working Groups:
This item was deferred until the next meeting due to time constraints.

7. Any Other Business:

The Board were asked to consider questions for Professor Andy Neely and Dr Mike Glover, who will be attending as guests at the meeting on Thursday 28 April.

8. Dates of future meetings with Senior Officers:
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 2:00pm.

Rachel Rowe
Support Officer