MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCRUTINY

MINUTES

Wednesday 20 January 2021, 10:30am
Remote meeting via Zoom

Present:
Mr Graham Allen (Chair), Mr Ian Wright (Secretary), Mrs Rachel Rowe (Support Officer), Dr Karen Ottewell, Mr David Goode, Dr Annamaria Motrescu-Mayes, Professor Martin Jones, Dr John Fawcett, Dr David Butterfield, Dr Mark Smith and Dr Gilly Carr.

The meeting began at 10:31am.

1. Apologies:
Apologies were received from Professor Richard Mortier. Ms Saba Alai was not in attendance.

2. Declarations of Interest:
None.

3. Minutes of meeting on 2 December 2020:
This item was carried over to the next meeting.

5. Guest – Professor David Cardwell, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Strategy & Planning:
The Board welcomed Professor David Cardwell, and the following topics were discussed:
   i.) Improving financial transparency;
   ii.) Addressing the Chest deficit;
   iii.) The cancellation of cost of living increases and career progression schemes;
   iv.) Potential future changes to University activities as a result of the pandemic;
   v.) Changes to the finance system; and
   vi.) The current state of play with the North West Cambridge and Mill Lane sites.

4. Matters arising:
   a.) Supplementary Report on the Allocations Report:
The Board’s supplementary report was submitted to Council and is up for discussion at the next Council meeting.

   b.) Membership:
The Board had previously welcomed Dr Gilly Carr to her first Board meeting since becoming elected to the Board.

6. Preparation for future meetings with Senior Officers:
The Board were asked to begin considering questions to ask the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar in preparation for meetings with them which are scheduled for 17 February and 17 March respectively.
7. Updates from Working Groups:
This item was postponed until the next meeting.

8. Any Other Business:
   i.) The Chair informed the Board that he would notify the Registry regarding a vacancy created due to a member’s recent continued non-attendance.
   ii.) The Board discussed the different online platforms available for full Board meetings and Working Group meetings, and agreed to continue using Zoom and Google Drive alongside Microsoft Teams when necessary.

9. Date of next full Board meeting:
The next full Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 February at 10:30am via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 12:20pm.

Rachel Rowe
Support Officer