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UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

COUNCIL

5th April 2022 at 3.30p.m.

MINUTES OF MEETING

Members present: Mr Mervyn Walker (Pro-Chancellor and Chair); Professor Helen Abbott; Professor David Adams (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Mr Mikey Brown, President of the Guild of Students; Ms Deborah Cadman OBE; Mr Wei-Lun Chen, Guild International Officer; Mr Tim Gardam; Professor David Hannah; Mr Malcolm Harbour CBE; Ms Rosie Harris; Dr Clive Hickman OBE; Mr Steve Hollis; Dame Lin Homer; Professor Tim Jones (Provost and Vice-Principal); Mr Harjinder Kang; Mr Mick Laverty; Professor Catherine Mangan; Professor Una Martin; Mr Richard Swann; Professor Adam Tickell (Vice-Chancellor and Principal).

Also present: Professor Richard Black (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Ms Erica Conway (Finance Director); Ms Cathy Gilbert, Director of External Relations - Minute 22/28; Professor Laura Green (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Professor Stephen Jarvis (Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Professor Deborah Longworth, (interim Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)); Professor Robin Mason (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International)); Mrs Colette McDonough (Head of Governance); Ms Gillian McGrattan, Director of Human Resources - Minute 22/27; Professor Corey Ross (interim Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College); Mr Lee Sanders, Registrar and Secretary; Mr Mark Senior, Chief of Staff; Professor Heather Widdows, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Knowledge Transfer).

Apologies: Mr Richard Haywood (Deputy Pro-Chancellor); Mr Anthony Lilley OBE; Ms Jacqueline Taylor.

Papers: The minute book contains copies of all written papers or reports to which reference is made below unless indicated otherwise.

22/20 Declarations of Interest

Noted that:

- (i) no changes to the Register of Interests were declared;
- (ii) Professor Stephen Jarvis, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, declared an interest in Minute 22/26 as Chair of Governors for NCATI.

22/21 Minutes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 2nd February 2022 be approved (CO.22.04.01).

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22/22 Matters Arising from the minutes not addressed elsewhere on the agenda

[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]

22/23 Pro-Chancellor's Items

Reported that:

- (a) the search for new members of Council was being progressed by Odgers and longlisting of candidates was scheduled for early May 2022. Members of Council were invited to suggest potential candidates to the Pro-Chancellor;
- (b) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**

22/24 Vice-Chancellor's Items

Considered: the report of the Vice-Chancellor (CO.22.04.02).

(1) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**

(2) Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College of Arts and Law

Reported that:

- (a) the vacancies for Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of College of Arts and Law had been advertised;
- (b) Odgers were supporting the recruitment search for both vacancies;
- (c) final interviews were scheduled for May and June respectively;
- (d) the aim was for both appointments to be made by Council in June.

(3) Ukraine

Reported: further to the update on the Ukraine situation provided in Paper CO.22.04.02, that:

- (a) the University had signed up for the UKRI matching service to identify potential research collaboration opportunities with Ukrainian universities and had been partnered with the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv;
- (b) the Russian partner had been removed from the large European consortium of 33 institutions, a research project led by an Italian institution and including the University of Birmingham.

(4) USS Update

Reported: that USS had announced on 1st April 2022 that its latest interim monitoring report on the 2020 valuation of the scheme provided some positive indicators of the current funding status and contribution requirements of the scheme. However, it was important to note that these were as a result of the changes to benefit structure agreed by the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) and recently implemented. **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**

22/25 Council Strategy Day Follow Up

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]

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22/26 National College for Advanced Transport and Infrastructure

**STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]

22/27 Support Staff Pay Reform

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Considered: a presentation on the proposed reform of support staff pay.

Reported that:

(a)-(h) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**

- (i) members of Council expressed their support for the proposed principles and objectives of the support staff pay reform and recognised that further work was required on the detailed business case, noting the aim of implementing the new pay model from 1st August 2022.

Resolved that:

- (i) Council endorsed SPRC's approval of the proposed principles and objectives of the support staff pay reform;
- (ii) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**
- (iii) approval of the principles was subject to a recommended pay model and business case for support staff pay reform, including detailed costings, which would be submitted to Strategy, Planning and Resources Committee in May 2022 and Council in June 2022.

22/28 Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Partnership Update

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Considered: a progress update on the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Partnership (CO.22.04.05).

Reported that:

- (a) the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games (CWG) would take place between 28th July and 8th August, with 6,500 athletes from 72 nations competing across 19 sports. For Birmingham and the West Midlands, the Games would provide a catalyst for further development of the city and region, accelerating tourism and business infrastructure development, transport, developing skills and jobs whilst also delivering trade and investment opportunities. The legacy programme should have a positive impact for the city and the university regionally, nationally and globally;
- (b) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**
- (c) the three interconnected areas of the University's involvement in the delivery of the Games were as the venue for hockey and squash, the premier athletes village and a Tier 1+ sponsor. **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**
- (d) Internal Audit had reviewed key aspects of the project structure to offer assurance that key risks were being managed, including Estates, tracking and monitoring of financial benefits and governance of the project. This had provided substantial assurance and the recommendations from these audits had been agreed and implemented;
- (e) members of Council commended the progress report and recognised the

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opportunities and benefits for the University of its involvement in the Games, particularly in terms of legacy. The discussion focussed on:

- (i) the proposals for establishment of a Commonwealth Games Legacy Board;
- (ii) **[NOT FOR PUBLICATION]**
- (iii) the significant work and dedication of the University's Commonwealth Games Project Team, led by the Directors of External Relations and Campus Services.

22/29 Strategy, Planning and Resources Committee

Considered: the report from the meeting of the Strategy, Planning and Resources Committee held on 3rd March 2022 (CO.22.04.06).

Noted:

- (i) the Recruitment and Admissions Update;
- (ii) the approval of the funding request from the Guild of Students;
- (iii) the Q2 Projected Financial Outturn for the financial year ending 31st July 2022;
- (iv) the approval of the proposal to improve the University's Cyber Security Defence and Response Enabling Services.

22/30 Annual Assurance Report on Managing Security-Related Risks in Internationalisation

Considered: the Annual Assurance Report on Managing Security-Related Risks in Internationalisation (CO.22.04.07).

Reported that:

- (a) the Annual Assurance Report brought together a summary of relevant sector and external developments with an update on the University's position, including a progress report on against actions set out in the last report to Council;
- (b) priorities for the coming year were to support Colleges in ensuring that due diligence on locally managed education arrangements met institutional requirements. Strengthened training and support for targeted staff groups would be rolled out by the end of the academic year;
- (c) as a global university experienced in operating in multiple countries, the University had sound controls in place which managed security-related risks in a robust and proportionate way. Focused work to enhance existing processes had been completed to give even greater resilience and assurance. Council could therefore be assured that security-related risks were being managed appropriately in support of the University's international reach and profile.

Resolved: that the Annual Assurance Report on Managing Security-Related Risks in Internationalisation be approved.

22/31 Senate

Noted: the report from the meeting of the Senate held on 16th March 2022 (CO.22.04.08).

22/32 Audit Committee

Considered: the report from the meeting of Audit Committee held on 16th March 2022 (CO.22.04.09).

Reported:

- (a) the assessment of the 2020/21 external audit and the actions being taken to

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- (b) improve the process for 2021/22;
- (b) progress with work to refresh the institutional risk register in light of the Birmingham 2030 Strategic Framework;
- (c) the challenges facing the StARS programme, noting that the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International) had been appointed as the new UEB Sponsor for the programme and would report on progress with the programme to Audit Committee later in 2022.

22/33 Amendment of the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations

Considered: the amendment of the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations of the University (CO.22.04.10).

Reported that:

- (a) Council on 2nd February 2022 had unanimously approved the amendment of the Charter and Statutes of the University, subject to:
 - (i) such changes as the Privy Council might require and which were agreed by the University;
 - (ii) Senate on 16th March 2022 being invited to comment on the amendment of the Charter and Statutes of the University;
 - (iii) consideration by Council on 5th April 2022 of the comments of Senate on the amendment of the Charter and Statutes and the passing of a Special Resolution of the Council to amend the Charter and an Ordinary Resolution of the Council to amend the Statutes;
- (b) Council noted that Senate on 16th March 2022 had not made any comments on the amendment of the Charter and Statutes of the University.

Resolved that Council unanimously:

- (i) approved, by the passing of a Special Resolution of the Council, the amendment of the Charter as set out at Appendix 1 to Paper CO.22.04.10, with effect from the date the Order is approved by the Privy Council, subject to such changes as the Privy Council may require and which are agreed by the University;
- (ii) approved, by the passing of an Ordinary Resolution of the Council, the amendment of the Statutes as set out at Appendix 2 to Paper CO.22.04.10, with effect from the date the Order is approved by the Privy Council, subject to such changes as the Privy Council may require and which are agreed by the University;
- (iii) noted that, following the passing of the Special and Ordinary Resolutions, the University would seek approval of the amendments to the Charter and Statutes from the Privy Council. The amendments would take effect from the date that the Order is approved by the Privy Council (expected to be May/June 2022);
- (iv) approved the amendment of the Ordinances and Regulations of the University arising from the amendment of the Charter and Statutes as set out at Appendix 3 to Paper CO.22.04.10, the amendments to take effect from the date that approval of the amendments to the Charter and Statutes is granted by the Privy Council.

22/34 Appointment of PHTA Board

Noted: the appointment of the PHTA Board (CO.22.04.11).

22/35 Capital Projects over £10m

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Noted: the progress update on Capital Projects over £10m (CO.22.04.12).

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22/36 Affixing of the University Seal

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Received: a report noting the transactions which had required use of the University Seal since the last meeting of Council (CO.22.02.13).

22/37 Any Other Business

Reported: that there were no items of Any Other Business.

22/38 Programme of Meetings

Noted: the programme of meetings of Council for the remainder of 2021/22 and 2022/23:

2021/22

Tuesday 28th June 2022, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 29th June 2022, 9.00am, Council Meeting

2022/23

Tuesday 4th October 2022, 6.30pm, Council Dinner

Wednesday 5th October 2022, 9.00am, Council Strategy Day

Tuesday 29th November 2022, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 30th November 2022, 9.00am, Council Meeting

Tuesday 31st January 2023, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 1st February 2023, 9.00am, Council Meeting

Thursday 20th April 2023, 9.00am, Council Strategy Day and Dinner

Tuesday 27th June 2023, 5.00pm, Council Presentation and Dinner

Wednesday 28th June 2023, 9.00am, Council Meeting