

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Friday 7th July 2023 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor K. Nation, The Revd Professor W. Whyte, Professor A. Hills, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor A. Starinets, Professor J. Schnell, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Dr G. Kantor, Professor K. Southwood, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor Z. Olszewska, Professor I. Klinke, Professor C. Beem, Professor L. di Mare, Professor S. Kiefer, Professor N. Sugimura, Professor S. Toussaert, Mr R. Crow, Professor S. White, Professor E. Wonnacott, Dr M. Nicholls, Professor N. K. Jones, Ms Z. Hancock, Dr K. Doornik, Dr. Z. Cai (ECR Representative), Dr J. Richards (ECR Representative)

Apologies: Professor R. G. Compton, Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor S. J. Elston, Professor P. K. Maini, Professor C. A. Larrington, Professor D. Martin, Professor S. Myers, Professor A. Wright, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Professor H. Skoda, Professor A. Russell, Professor C. Newton, Professor G. Gottlob, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor Sir R. Collins, Professor L. Pratt, Professor G. Rose, Professor E. Greensmith, Professor B. McFarlane, Dr S. Campbell, Professor B. Stevenson, Professor R. Hoyer, Professor R. Lall, Professor L. Hunt, Professor K. J. Patel,

In attendance: Ms. D. Cripps

AGENDA 'B'**ACTION**1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 20th June 2023 were **approved**.

2. Sports Report

The Sports Fellow's annual report was received. He noted that the Domestic Bursar would be responsible for managing the sports budget next academic year and thanked everyone involved in College sport for their energy and engagement.

The Governing Body noted that it had been a good year for sport in College and thanked the Sports Fellow for all he had done. He was also congratulated on the installation of Salto access to the sports ground during his tenure.

3. Garden Report

The Keeper of the Groves' annual report was received.

She thanked Phil Shefford and his team, together with Professor Sugimura, for their support and hard work on the College's green spaces, noting that these also extended to a number of gardens outside the College walls. She also thanked Governing Body for their support of Trinity Term's Perambulation in celebration of Phil Shefford's fortieth anniversary and encouraged future attendance.

She noted that all the College's green spaces – not only the main garden – could contribute to the aims for biodiversity gains in the College's Masterplan and that planning for this at the start of all new building projects was key.

The Governing Body thanked the Keeper of the Groves.

The President noted that future projects would support the aims highlighted.

4. President's Report

The President reported on a busy and fulfilling year. She noted with sadness the deaths of Sir Alan Bailey, Professor Dominic Kwiatkowski and Professor Wilferd Madelung. Professor Kwiatkowski's memorial service would be held on 27th September.

The College's access and outreach activity continued to grow with increasing evidence of its effectiveness: 78% of tracked students attended a higher education institution in the top third in the UK with 10% attending one within the top three.

There had been significant awards and recognition of Fellows' excellence throughout the year, including the election of three members of St John's as Fellows of the Royal Society. There were also significant anniversaries for long-serving staff. The President congratulated Joanna Champion in the SCR on achieving distinction across the board in her hospitality exams.

The College had celebrated new events for the whole community, including Burns Night, the first Arts Dinner and a formal hall for professional staff and their guests. There had also been six gaudies to catch up post-Covid. In addition, there had been openings for the new artworks in the Study Centre, three new kittens had been welcomed to College (the first cats since the death of Oscar in 2004) and there was a successful College Ball (the first since 2017). The President had also delivered three Christmas Lectures for the Royal Institution.

The President thanked demitting College officers and Professors Compton, Whittaker, Larrington, Harberd and Collins who were retiring (but continuing as Emeritus Research Fellows). Professor Whistler had also retired during the academic year (in December 2022). Four new trustees had joined Governing Body in October 2022 and the College had welcomed Kerry Jenkins as Finance Bursar and Hanne Clark as Head of Student Wellbeing.

Looking forward, the Governing Body would be focusing on governance, students' wellbeing, the Masterplan and sustainability, as well as the new CDRF and College Lecturers' schemes.

The President offered her thanks for the warm and supportive welcome she had received to Oxford and the College. She also thanked Governing Body on behalf of the President's Office for their support.

BELOW THE LINE ITEMS – TO NOTE

5. Michaelmas Term 2023 Calendar

The Michaelmas Term 2023 Calendar was received.