

## ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

## MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 2.00 p.m. in the Garden Quad Reception Room.

Present: The President, Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor S. J. Elston, Professor C. Whistler, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor K. Nation, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor A. Wright, Professor J. Schnell, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Dr G. Kantor, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor K. Southwood, Professor Z. Olszewska, Professor I. Klinke, Professor C. Beem, Professor L. di Mare, Professor S. Kiefer, Mr R. Crow, Professor S. White, Professor E. Greensmith, Professor B. McFarlane, Professor E. Wonnacott, Dr M. Nicholls, Professor N. K. Jones, Ms Z. Hancock, Dr S. Campbell, Dr K. Doornik, Professor B. Stevenson, Professor R. Lall, Professor K. J. Patel, Dr Z. Cai (ECR Representative), Dr J. Richards (ECR Representative)

Apologies: Professor R. G. Compton, Professor P. K. Maini, Professor C. A. Larrington, The Revd Professor W. Whyte, Professor A. Hills, Professor D. Martin, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor A. Starinets, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Professor H. Skoda, Professor A. Russell, Professor C. Newton, Professor G. Gottlob, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor Sir R. Collins, Professor L. Pratt, Professor G. Rose, Professor N. Sugimura, Professor S. Toussaert, Professor L. Hunt

In attendance: Ms. D. Cripps

## AGENDA 'C'

## ACTION

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were **approved** with two amendments.

2. Statutes Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 were received.

The Statutes Officer presented the Committee's preliminary recommendations for changes to the statutes and amendments to the By-Laws. He noted that the detailed substance of the changes would need formal approval at a Stated General Meeting of Governing Body and would then be subject to external approval by the Privy Council.

The Governing Body **agreed** that the principles of electing a new President (the holding of an election and the persons able to vote) should be set out in simple statutory provisions with the details of the processes of the election (the meeting of electors and the voting system) being set out in a By-Law.

It was **agreed** that the name of the College Office of Vice-President (Academic) should be changed and that related changes to By-Law II (The Vice-President) would be proposed for the next Stated General Meeting of Governing Body. The Statutes Officer noted that suggestions for a name would be welcome.

## GOVERNING BODY

It was **agreed** to consider proposals for reform of the Fereday Fellowships, observing the principles of the 'cy-pres' jurisdiction, that would:

- i) enlarge the element of preference for a Fereday Fellowship so as to encompass a target grouping of greater need and diversity;
- ii) make awards for the lower levels of academic life, rather than Fellowships generally (perhaps specifically targeted at undergraduate, graduate or early career researchers);
- iii) agree on a neutral name that recognised that the Foundation had a separate existence but that did not tie it to unacceptable origins.

It was also **agreed** that eligibility should cover a wider geographical area than Staffordshire, such as the West Midlands, (a suitable name would be found) and should be extended to include both undergraduate, graduate and early career researcher support.

Counsel's advice that an educational charity was not able to grant funds for its core charitable purpose (learning) would be further clarified.

**STATUTES OFFICER**

It was **agreed** that detail in Statute XV in the area of employee rights and obligations should be included in a By-Law to make it easier to take account of rapidly developing areas of legal rights and that the advice of a solicitor would be sought to update the By-Laws accordingly. The proposed changes would be compared with the University's reformed Statute XII.

**STATUTES OFFICER**

It was **agreed** to amend Statute XIX to require the Governing Body to have a Remuneration Committee and an Audit and Risk Committee (for example, to consider the risk register and to conduct internal audits), and that the requirement for an Estates Committee should be amended to require a Finance and Estates Committee. In addition, the Statute should empower Governing Body to make changes to the responsibilities of Committees by way of Bylaws and thus without need for continuing reference to the Privy Council.

**STATUTES OFFICER**

It was **agreed** that the delegation of powers to take or authorise executive action to any committee or Senior Officer(s) of the College should be clarified and discussed further by General Purposes Committee.

**PRESIDENT, STATUTES OFFICER**

It was **agreed** that there should be an express statutory power to amalgamate trusts in a consolidated fund.

A number of changes to the By-Laws had also been reviewed by Counsel and it was **agreed** to make these changes.

Counsel's advice on a number of other changes to the Statutes were noted. Counsel's advice that an educational charity was not able to grant funds for its core charitable purpose (learning) would be further clarified.

**STATUTES OFFICER**

3. Annual Report and Financial Statements

The Principal Bursar presented the College's Annual Report and Accounts with a series of graphs summarising the College's financial activities. She noted that the audit had raised some areas to work on and that these would be further discussed at the next meeting of the Finance and Estates Committee.

**PRINCIPAL BURSAR**

4. Summary of financial activities and endowment movements

The Governing Body noted the summary of financial activities and endowment movements.

5. Any other business

The Governing Body **elected** Mr John Fulljames to a Supernumerary Fellowship (without membership of Governing Body), coterminous with his holding the post of Director of the University's Humanities Cultural Programme, with immediate effect.

**PRESIDENT**

The President asked for feedback on the best venue for Governing Body to ensure that all could hear comfortably. She also requested suggestions of names for the new College kittens.

**GOVERNING BODY**