

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 14th February 2024 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor P. K. Maini, The Revd Professor W. Whyte, Professor D. Martin, Professor A. Hills, Professor H. Bouman, Professor A. Wright, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Dr G. Kantor, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor K. Southwood, Professor Z. Olszewska, Professor L. Pratt, Professor C. Beem, Professor L. di Mare, Professor G. Rose, Professor S. Kiefer, Professor N. Sugimura, Professor S. Toussaert, Professor R. Slater, Mr R. Crow, Professor S. White, Professor E. Greensmith, Dr M. Nicholls, Professor E. Wonnacott, Professor N. K. Jones, Ms. Z. Hancock, Dr S. Campbell, Dr K. Doornik, Professor L. Hunt, Professor R. Lall, Professor K. J. Patel, Professor T. Qutbuddin, Professor A. Lak

Apologies: Professor S. J. Elston, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor A. Starinets, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Professor H. Skoda, Professor A. Russell, Professor C. Newton, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor I. Klinke, Professor B. McFarlane, Professor B. Stevenson, Professor R. Hoye

In attendance: Ms. D. Cripps

AGENDA 'C'

ACTION

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 10th January 2024 were **approved**.

2. General Purposes Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st January 2024 were received.

The Provost for Academic Affairs reported that the College had been invited by the Department of Sociology to bid to associate with a new APTF-U post in Demography and that such a post would be associated with a Tutorial Fellowship in Human Sciences.

In discussion it was **agreed** that the College wished to retain as broad a range of subjects as possible. It was noted that there would be a strong case for fundraising for the Fellowship. The Provost for Academic Affairs would explore the position of Human Sciences after its recent review further and report back.

PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Professor Parker and Professor Armstrong were **elected** to Emeritus Research Fellowships for a second three-year period from 1st April 2024.

The Vice-President reported on the nominations for Honorary Fellowship and the criteria used in making recommendations. It was **agreed** that three candidates would be invited to accept an Honorary Fellowship from the College.

PRESIDENT

The Governing Body **agreed** the College policies that had been reviewed and updated. It was noted that the Freedom of Speech policy would change in due course in line with new legislation.

PRINCIPAL BURSAR

It was also **agreed** to extend the support offered by the College to the British Academy Researcher at Risk Scholars for a further year, should it be required.

SENIOR TUTOR

It was **agreed** that, for the President's annual review, the Vice-President would take lead responsibility for the review process together with the Provost for Academic Affairs, ensuring that feedback was gathered from a wide range of views including Governing Body, academic and professional staff, and students.

A full review would take place after the President's first year in office (the end of the probation period) – as had been initiated by the President last year – and a further full review incorporating extensive feedback at the end of the fourth year in office, when a determination for an extension of the post for a further five years would need to be made. Reviews in intervening years would not need to be as comprehensive.

It was **agreed** to amend By-Law II – The Vice-President as follows:

It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to do, if the President is absent, all the acts which the President is required to do.

It was also **agreed**, with regard to dining, that the President should not feel obliged to attend more than on average two College-related dinners (whether in the Hall or the Lodgings) each week in term-time.

VICE-PRESIDENT

3. Statutes Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2024 were received.

4. Finance and Estates Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2023 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** the 2024/25 Works Budget.

PRINCIPAL BURSAR

5. Masterplan Working Party

The minutes of the meetings held on 11th January and 8th February 2024 were received.

The Governing Body noted the business case for the Thomas White refurbishment with the helpful outline costs and thanked the Principal Bursar for providing these at this early stage. It **agreed** to move to RIBA stage 3 with estimated fees of [] in professional fees and a further [] for undertaking detailed surveys to assist design development.

The Principal Bursar noted that there was a fully developed risk register for the project.

It was also **agreed** to move to RIBA stage 2 for the energy centre with estimated professional fees [] and a further [] for undertaking surveys to progress the design work.

PRINCIPAL BURSAR

6. Governance Working Party

The minutes of the meetings held on 29th January 2024 were received.

The President thanked Professor Hunt for the work he had done on possible governance models and reported that the Working Party would now stress-test the models against a number of possible scenarios.

The Governing Body in Week 1 of Trinity Term would look at the models and explore them in greater detail.

The President also reported on the discussions at the most recent meeting of the Governance Forum.