

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Friday 12th July 2019 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor C. J. K. Batty, Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor A. Grafen, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor S. Elston, Professor L. Tarassenko, Professor P. P. Craig, Professor K. Nation, Professor W. Mattli, Professor P. Maini, Professor C. A. Larrington, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor A. Wright, Ms. S. Layburn, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor J. Obloj, Dr. G. Kantor, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Bray, Professor K. Southwood, Dr. I. Klinke, Professor C. Beem, Professor S. Kiefer, Professor N. Sugimura, Professor S. Toussaert, Mr R. Crow

Apologies: Professor R. G. Compton, Professor A. J. Parker, Professor F. A. Armstrong, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor M. Cannon, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor H. Skoda, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor G. Gottlob, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor Z. Olszewska, Professor L. Pratt, Professor A. Srinivasan, Professor R. Slater

In attendance: Ms. D. Cripps

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

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 25th June 2019 were **approved**.

In matters arising the Finance Bursar reported on consultation documentation received between 30th June and 4th July 2019 regarding USS, including legal advice to the College. It was **agreed** to send a response to UUK's consultation and subsequent information, and to request further information in order to inform the Governing Body's decision-making.

FINANCE BURSAR

The President noted that the student being supported by the Higby Trust would transfer fully from Mansfield College to St John's.

2. College Contribution Scheme

The President noted that Conference had asked that the paper for Council on the College Contribution Scheme proposal should make it clear that the separate enquiry into the position of poorer colleges and PPHs would not consider any further transfers of funds between Funding colleges and others during the life of the proposed Scheme 7.

3. EJRA

Professor Armstrong's request to work beyond his EJRA had been granted for eighteen months until 31st March 2021. The Governing Body **agreed** that he would be permitted to make a further application to extend his employment beyond the period already approved, if he wished.

It was also **agreed** that the President would write to Professor Pitcher to clarify his status from 1st October 2019.

PRESIDENT4. College Officerships

The President reported that Professor Nation would be Domestic Bursar during the next academic year and that Dr. Johnson would be Deputy Dean of Degrees.

Mr Verdon had been appointed as Interim Home Bursar for four months from 25th July.

5. Professorial Fellowship in English Law

The Governing Body elected Ben McFarlane to the Professorship of English Law from 1st October 2019.

6. Professor Tarassenko

The President reported that Professor Tarassenko had resigned from his Professorial Fellowship from 1st September 2019.

The Governing Body congratulated Professor Tarassenko on his election as President of Parks College.

7. Fellows' Housing Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2019 by email circulation were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** to contribute [] as the College's share of the works [].

PRINCIPAL BURSAR

8. Promotion of the Arts Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2019 by email circulation were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** to participate in a collaborative project with the Curator of Sculpture and Decorative Arts at the Ashmolean Museum and the Keepers of the Silver at New College, Balliol College and Pembroke College to celebrate college silver collections in a contemporary context using damaged items, or those of little value, and melting them down.

The Keeper of the Silver would bring a proposal about specific items to include in the project.

VICE-PRESIDENT (DOMUS), KEEPER OF THE SILVER

9. Portraits of long-serving Fellows

The Keeper of the Pictures noted that Governing Body had decided in the 1970s that Fellows of twenty or more years' standing should have their portraits drawn. It was **agreed** that this convention should be revived to reflect the College's current more diverse Fellowship.

The Keeper of Pictures would present a proposal to General Purposes Committee in Michaelmas Term; the Governing Body was asked to send him ideas and suggestions.

GOVERNING BODY, KEEPER OF THE PICTURES

10. Oxford North

The July 2019 Investment Report was received from Thomas White Oxford.

The Finance Bursar noted that she would receive monthly updates over the Long Vacation and would release funds subject to progress reports.

FINANCE BURSAR

11. 40 Years of Women

The President briefed Governing Body on the programme to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the admission of women to St John's under the banner 'Aspiring towards equality and diversity'. She noted that further ideas would be welcome and encouraged Fellows to attend College feasts and to invite guests who would enjoy the particular focus of the year.

PRESIDENT, FELLOW FOR WOMEN

12. Wine report

The Pinkernes' annual report was received. He noted that the new stock control system was in place and thanked the Buttery and Accounts staff for their work on the project.

13. Sports report

The Sports Fellow's annual report was received. He particularly thanked staff for their support of the Sports Dinner.

It was agreed that a proposal for a Sport Tour Fund should be made jointly by the Sports Fellow, Finance Bursar and Professor Burt de Perera (as Senior Member of the Boat Club).

SPORTS FELLOW

14. Garden report

The Keeper of the Groves' annual report was received.

The Governing Body thanked the Head Gardener and his team for their excellent work in restoring the gardens now that the new Library and Study Centre had been completed.

15. President's report

The President noted with sadness the recent loss of George Richardson, Honorary Fellow.

She highlighted Fellows' achievements over the year, the appointment of the College's first professional Senior Tutor and the admission of the Director of Development and Alumni Relations to Governing Body.

She noted the initiatives that were helping the College to broaden its diversity: the project on the College's colonial past, the first Black History lecture, the plans for celebrating the 40 years of women and the new Pre-GCSE Inspire Programme. She particularly thanked the Fellow for Access and Admissions and Ms Cripps for their work on the latter and for securing the substantial donation that had made it possible. She also noted the work on refurbishing Dolphin Quad, the launch of the intranet and progress on College communications. She thanked the staff involved and the staff across College who had covered roles during the year.

The President thanked demitting College Officers, and especially the Vice President (Domus), Domestic and Establishment Bursar, Fellow for Graduates, Fellow Librarian and Keeper of the Vestments, and the Prevent Co-ordinator for their hard work and support. She especially thanked Professors Whittaker and Grafen for their service to the SCR over many years.

16. Any other business

The Governing Body **agreed** to set up a subsidiary trading company for the College's non-charitable trading activity (primarily commercial events/conferences for non-education institutions) in line with Charity Commission advice and sector best practice.

FINANCE BURSAR