

COUNCIL

26 July 2012 at 16:30
Oak 1&2

MINUTES

- Members:**
- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Mr Max Taylor (Chair) | *Mr Iain Robertson |
| Mr Dudley Eustace (Vice-Chair) | *Mr David Rogers |
| Prof Sir Christopher Snowden (President & V-C) | *Ms Sue Ryle |
| *Prof David Allen | *Mr Osama Salih |
| *Mr Thomas Chambers | Prof Jonathan Seville |
| *Dr John Forrest | Mr Keith Taylor |
| Mr Ashley Herman | Ms Anne Watts |
| Mr David McNulty | Prof Steve Williamson |
| Prof Gill Nicholls | *Prof Lord Robert Winston |
| Prof Shirley Price | |
- *denotes member unable to attend
- In attendance:**
- Mr Harri ap Rees – Director of Strategic Planning
 - Dr David Ashton – VP Administration and Registrar
 - Mr David Halls – incoming President, Students' Union
 - Ms Sarah Litchfield – University Secretary & Legal Counsel (Clerk to Council)
 - Mr Greg Melly – VP Corporate Services
 - Ms Lise Richards – University Secretariat Manager (minutes)
 - Mr David Sharkey – Chief Financial Officer
- By invitation:**
- Mr Mike Hounsell - Director of Marketing & Communications (minute 12/29)
 - Professor Lisa Roberts – Dean, FHMS (minute 12/27)

A INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

12/21 Apologies for absence

Apologies were noted from Prof David Allen, Mr Thomas Chambers, Dr John Forrest, Mr Iain Robertson, Mr David Rogers, Ms Sue Ryle, Mr Osama Salih, and Prof Lord Robert Winston.

12/22 Conflicts of interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared with any items on the agenda.

12/23 Minutes of previous meetings.

The minutes from the meeting held 22 March 2012 were **approved**.

12/24 Matters arising

.1 Actions

All outstanding actions covered on this agenda or not yet due. No additional matters arising were raised.

12/25 Chair's Items

.1 The Chair confirmed Professor Chris France as the nominate member of Senate to fill the vacancy on the Joint Committee of Council and Senate.

.2 Council membership

Council approved, on the recommendation by Nominations Committee, the appointment of Mr Jim Glover and Ms Claire Ighodaro as members of Council. Mr Jim Glover to be appointed from 1 August 2012 for a first term of three years. Ms Ighodaro had advised that she was unable to join until 1 August 2013 and the appointment was confirmed on that basis subject to circumstances then allowing.

Members noted the development of the pipeline of potential members and were reminded to continue to provide further suggestions.

.3 Achievements

Council acknowledged the achievements of members of the University community as circulated.

B ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

12/26 Budget 2012-13 and Forecast 2012-13 to 4-15

.1 Forecast 2012-13 to 2014-15

i) Members were reminded that the Rutherford forecast had been thoroughly scrutinised by Finance Committee and that, due to the timing of the submission to HEFCE Council had previously delegated authority to Finance Committee to approve the submission. This had been done at the Finance Committee on 31 May and Council now needed to retrospectively give its approval.

ii) **REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**

iii) **REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**

iv) The forecast also included the impact of the recruitment of additional academic staff.

The forecast excluded the incremental impact of the proposed new Vet School,

v) Council approved (retrospectively) the (Rutherford) forecast for 2012-13 to 2014-15.

.2 Budget 2012-13

i) Council received a presentation on the budget for 2012-13 (Shelley).

- ii) Members were reminded of the deliberate decision to reduce the surplus target for 2013-14 in order to support academic recruitment for REF and the expectation of lower student numbers following the decision to increase entry grades .
- iii) Council **approved** the budget for 2012-13 as presented and noted the forward timeline culminating in the submission of the forecast 2012-13 to 2015-15 to HEFCE in December.

12/27 Vet School Proposal

- .1 Professor Lisa Roberts joined the meeting to give a presentation on the plans for the new Vet School.
- .2 Members were reminded that the Vet School proposal had been discussed by Executive Board and Finance Committee and had been recommended to Council for approval in principle, dependent upon being able to attract adequate funding.
- .3 Council noted that this was the first vet school launch since Nottingham, 6 years ago, and that whilst there had been some talk of plans at Aberystwyth, this was thought to be unrealistic and there appeared to be no plans for any similar launches elsewhere.
- .4 In discussing construction it was confirmed that there was confidence in being able to complete the main building by 2015, however, there was little margin for delay.
- .5 Council agreed that the project clearly met the strategic objectives of the University and that there was a sustainable business case to support the proposal. On that basis Council **approved, in principle**, the proposal for the new Vet School, subject to the necessary finance being raised.

12/28 Refinancing Update

- .1 **REDACTED AS COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE**
- .2 Council **noted** the update on refinancing.

12/29 Marketing Report

- .1 Council received a presentation from the Director of Marketing & Communications providing the context for change and outlining the key objectives for 2012-13. These were noted as:
 - Implementation of campaign management
 - Website redevelopment
 - Research plan
 - Brand strategy development
 - Reorganisation
- .2 In response to questioning around cultural challenges, it was noted that some difficulties were expected largely due to the wide variety of approaches and views that existed across the University. It was believed, however, that if we remained confident in a common vision for the University and applied it in a consistent manner that behaviours will align over time.
- .3 Council **noted** the report on Marketing and Communications.

12/30 University Plan

Council received a copy of the presentation that was to be given and were asked to review it post-meeting. It was agreed that a further update would be provided at the October Council meeting.

Action: HaR

12/31 Risk Management Update

Council was advised that a review had been carried out earlier in the week by Executive Board and the outcomes had been presented to Audit Committee. There were some adjustments to be made and an update would be provided to the October Council meeting.

Action: DS

12/32 External Auditor's Contract and Fee Proposal

On the recommendation of Audit Committee, Council **approved** the KPMG contract extension and the **delegation of authority** to negotiate the fee to the Chief Financial Officer.

12/33 Friary House Disposal

Council **approved** the disposal of Friary House and the **delegation of authority** to the Treasurer to determine the best course of action for the utilisation of the insurance return.

12/34 Bribery Act Update

Council **noted** that the Bribery Act training module had now been disseminated.

12/35 Council Effectiveness Review

Council **approved** the process, as circulated, for the effectiveness review for 2012.

12/36 Report from the Senate

Council **noted** the report from the Senate and **approved**:

- the revised Ordinances 44 and 45
- the DUniv awards
- the Honorary Degree awards

C ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

12/37 Report from the Audit Committee

Audit Committee had taken place earlier the same day. It was confirmed that there were no issues to be raised for Council's concern.

12/38 Report from the Finance Committee

Council **noted** the report from the Finance Committee.

12/39 Report from the Executive Board

Council **noted** the report from the Executive Board.

12/40 Health & Safety Report

Council **noted** the Health & Safety report.

D CLOSING ITEMS

12/41 AOB

In his absence, the Chair expressed thanks to the outgoing President of the Students' Union, Mr Osama Salih for his contribution to Council during his term of office. In turn Mr Dave Halls, the incoming President, from 1 August, was welcomed to Council.

12/42 Dates of Future Meetings

All meetings (except away days) are at 16:30 unless otherwise advised.

2012:

4/5 October (away day - Barnett Hill, Wonersh)

22 November Oak 1&2 / dinner in Ivy)

**Mr Max Taylor
Chair of Council
4 October 2012**