COUNCIL – MINUTES

14 July 2017

PRESENT: Pro-Chancellor (in the chair); Vice-Chancellor; Professor A. M. Atherton; Mr D. Barron; Mr M. J. Dormer; Mrs R. S. Georgiou; Mr I. Johnson; Professor N. Johnson; Mr R. Johnson; Baroness Neville-Jones (in the chair for items 8.5 and 8.6); Professor J. O’Hanlon; Mr S. Reynolds; Dr J. Taylor; Mr J. Woolf; Mrs V. Young.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr P. Boustead; Professor S. Bradley; Professor A. G. Chetwynd; Professor S. P. Decent; Mr Nick Fragel (for item 7.3); Mr S. Franklin; Dr Paul Harness (for item 7.2); Ms H. Hunter; Professor S. R. A. Huttly; Mr S. J. Jennings; Ms N. C. Owen; Mrs S. J. Randall-Paley; Mr M. Swindlehurst.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Ms L. Atkinson; Dr R. Boumphrey; Professor J. Garside; Professor S. Guy; Professor K. C. Jones; Professor E. Ritchie.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence were noted.

1.2 The Pro-Chancellor welcomed Mr Woolf to his first meeting of Council. He also noted this would be the final meeting for Dr Boumphrey and Professor O’Hanlon as their terms of office had ended (although Dr Boumphrey had given her apologies for the meeting) and thanked them for their invaluable contributions to Council through their membership.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 There were declarations of interest under items 8.4-8.6 for which members absented themselves from discussion as set out below. There were no other declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

3.1 The notes from the Council Awayday held on 24 May 2017 and the minutes of the formal Council meeting held on 25 May 2017 were approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 There was an update on the upcoming Court effectiveness review consultation, including membership of the review group, timing of the consultation and that a report would come to Council in November.
5. **VICE-CHANCELLOR’S UPDATE AND QUESTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE**

5.1 The Vice-Chancellor provided an oral update on activities of interest to Council, including:

(a) that following the Grenfell Tower disaster, the University had immediately initiated a fire-safety review and was able to respond to the HEFCE survey, in order to confirm that there were no buildings that raised concerns;

(b) that the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) had written to confirm that the University was a corresponding rather than a strategic partner following a miscalculation on their part. Separately, EPSRC had announced that the University would be funded as one of ten Prosperity Partnerships initiative;

(c) the appointment Nicola Dandridge as Chief Executive of the Office for Students;

(d) that the outcome of the recent election had brought tuition fees back into policy debate and the University should play a role in shaping this discussion;

(e) that applications to undergraduate programmes had increased on the previous year within the context of an aggregate 4% decrease nationally;

(f) that the most recent Destinations of Leavers in Higher Education (DLHE) employment data showed the University performing strongly (ranked 8th in absolute performance and 10th when benchmarked). The Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) data was recently published providing graduate salary information; the University would be undertaking detailed analysis and provide a report to Council in due course;

(g) that the University had been awarded TEF Gold status and noted his thanks to the group of staff responsible for drafting the submission, in particular to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) and the University Dean for Academic Quality. A link would be circulated to Council members providing recent published commentary from Professor Paul Ashwin on his analysis of the TEF results.

5.2 Council noted the report.

6. **PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENTS’ UNION REPORT**

6.1 The President of the Students’ Union introduced the report, noting his thanks for the work of the previous Full-Time Officer team.

6.2 Council noted the report.

7. **STRATEGY**

7.1 **STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY** (Restricted and Commercial In Confidence)

7.2 **DIGITAL LANCASTER 2.0**

7.2.1 The Director of Information Systems Services introduced the paper setting out the revised digital strategy.

7.2.2 Council discussed the paper noting that it would be useful to receive the implementation plan and a report on cybersecurity including recovery planning arrangements (the latter was requested particularly in light of recent global and national attacks). These items would be reported to a future meeting of Council.
7.2.3 Council approved Digital Lancaster 2.0.

7.3 STRATEGIC APPROACH TO FUNDRAISING
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER E

7.4 UNDERGRADUATE NON-CONTINUATION
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER F

7.5 UPDATE ON INSTITUTES, 50TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURESHIPS AND RESEARCH GRANTS
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER G

7.6 UPDATE FOR COUNCIL ON ENTERPRISE
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER H

8. GOVERNANCE

8.1 PROPOSED CHANGES TO GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS IN RELATION TO COMMERCIALISATION ACTIVITY
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER I

8.1.1 The Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary introduced the report proposing changes to governance arrangements in relation to commercialisation activity, noting that it was intended to bring a formal proposal to Senate and Council in September for approval.

8.1.2 Council noted the report.

8.2 RESPONDING TO THE FINDINGS OF THE UUK TASK FORCE EXAMINING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, HARASSMENT AND HATE CRIME AFFECTING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER J

8.2.1 The Provost for Student Experience, Colleges and the Library introduced the report setting out how the University was responding to the UUK Task Force Report published in October 2016, including the proposed Response to Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy and changes to the non-academic disciplinary arrangements for students (which required an amendment to Ordinance and was a later agenda item).

8.2.2 Council noted the report, approved the Response to Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Policy for students, subject to consideration of minor suggestions for amendment, and agreed that a report on this area be submitted to Council annually.

8.3 RISK REGISTERS POST-ELECTION
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER K

8.3.1 This item was deferred to the following meeting.

8.4 REPORT FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE
(Restricted and Commercial in Confidence) PAPER L

[Baroness Neville-Jones was absent for discussion concerning her own appointment]

8.4.1 The Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary introduced the report containing recommendations from the Nominations Committee proposing appointments and reappointments of members to Council and sub-committees within the context of recent
decisions taken by Council in response to the Council effectiveness review. In addition to the proposals set out in the paper there were proposals for appointments of lay members to Redundancy Committee and Nominations Committee.

8.4.2 Council approved the following appointments and reappointments:

(a) Professor John Garside, Baroness Pauline Neville-Jones, Professor Ella Ritchie and Mrs Valerie Young were reappointed for further terms of office to Council and relevant sub-committees (noting that Professor Garside may not serve a full three-year term);
(b) Baroness Pauline Neville-Jones was appointed as a Deputy Pro-Chancellor;
(c) Mr John Chester and Mr Rod Burgess were reappointed for further terms of office as co-opted members to Audit Committee and Estates Committee respectively;
(d) Mr Ian Johnson was appointed to Redundancy Committee and Mrs Bobby Georghiou was appointed to Nominations Committee for terms of office co-terminus with their appointments to Council.

8.5 AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCES

[The Pro-Chancellor absented himself and Baroness Neville-Jones chaired the meeting for this item]

8.5.1 The Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary introduced the report containing proposals to amend Ordinances 10 and 11, which followed outcomes of the Council effectiveness review and the implementation of new arrangements for non-academic student discipline. Senate had recommended approval of the changes to the Ordinances at its meeting on 21 June.

8.5.2 Council approved the amendments to Ordinances 10 and 11.

8.6 APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE

[The Pro-Chancellor absented himself and Baroness Neville-Jones chaired the meeting for this item]

8.6.1 The Chief Administrative Officer and Secretary introduced the report proposing a process for the appointment or re-appointment of the Pro-Chancellor.

8.6.2 Council approved the establishment of an Appointment Committee.

8.7 ESTATES COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

8.7.1 Council approved the amendment to the Estates Committee membership constitution following recommendation from the Estates Committee.

8.8 PETER SCOTT GALLERY CHARITABLE TRUST

8.8.1 Council approved the appointment of Trustees to the Peter Scott Gallery Charitable Trust.

8.9 FORWARD SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL BUSINESS

8.9.1 Council noted the forward schedule.
9. **FINANCE**

9.1 **HEADLINE BUDGET FOR 2017/18 AND FINANCIAL FORECASTS TO 2019/20**

9.1.1 The Director of Finance and Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee introduced the report setting out the Headline Budget for 2017/18 and the Financial Forecasts, noting that it had been recommended by the Committee for approval by Council. In particular, it was noted that the budget and forecasts reflected a continued steady state approach and incorporated the recently agreed adjusted operating cashflow key performance indicator.

9.1.2 Council **approved** the Headline Budget for 2017/18, the Financial Forecasts to 2019/20 and associated commentary as part of the University’s Annual Accountability return to HEFCE.

9.2 **BRIEFING PAPER ON UNIVERSITIES SUPERANNUATION SCHEME (USS)**

9.2.1 Council **approved** the re-establishment of a Pensions Working Group, following recommendation from Finance and General Purposes Committee.

10. **ESTATES**

10.1 **FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN**

10.1.1 The Chair of Estates Committee introduced the report providing the five-year capital programme, including costs and the potential for flexibility if required. The plan had been considered and was recommended for approval by the Estates Committee and Finance and General Purposes Committee.

10.1.2 Council **approved** the five-year capital programme.

11. **UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR EMERITUS APPOINTMENTS: PROPOSALS UNDER STATUTE 10**

11.1 Council **approved** the proposal following recommendation from Senate.

12. **STANDING COMMITTEES AND REPORTS**

12.1 Council **noted** the written reports.

13. **ORAL UPDATES ON THE ESTATES COMMITTEE AND FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF 13 JULY 2017**

13.1 Council **noted** a report from the Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee.

14. **CLOSE**