

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 2 October 2002

Present: Mr J Leighfield (Chair) Mr M Angle, Councillor S Bains, Professor S Bassnett, Professor A Caesar, Mr I Caulfield, Professor M Cooper, Mr P Dodd, Professor R G Dyson, Councillor R Grant, Mr J Higgins, Ms S J Hobson, Professor J Jones, Professor K Lamberts, Mr J Leighfield, Professor M A McCrae, Professor A Mullender, Professor S B Palmer, Mr G Stokes, Professor D VandeLinde, Mr P Varney, Professor M Whitby, Mr B Woods-Scawen.

Apologies: Mr C Foy, Professor J Gardner, Ms V Gooding, Mr C Howgrave-Graham, Mr G Jones, Professor R Lindley, Mr T E H Walker, Ms Y Zhabina.

Minutes

The Chair welcomed new members to their first meeting of the Council.

1/01-02 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5 July 2002 be approved.

2/02-03 Appointment of Lay Members of the Council (minute 68/01-02 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Pro-Chancellor and the Registrar)

That the Nominations Committee was taking steps to bring forward two further nominations for appointment to lay membership of the University Council and that, in the meantime, the vacant place in non-academic membership of the Council would remain unfilled in order that the required balance of lay and non lay members be maintained.

3/02-03 Award of an Honorary Degree (minute 70/01-02 refers)

REPORTED: (by the Chair)

- (a) That, since the last meeting of the Council, the former Chair of Council, acting on its behalf and on the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees Committee, had approved the award of an honorary DSc to Mr Robert Dover, Chief Operating Officer of Land Rover, at the Chancellor's Installation ceremony to be held on Saturday, 19 October.
- (b) That all members of the Council had been invited to attend the Chancellor's Installation Ceremony and it was hoped that a good number of those invited would be able to attend the event.

4/01-02 Confidentiality of Council Business

REPORTED: (by the Registrar)

That, as indicated in the Code of Corporate Governance, all papers and matters discussed at meetings of the Council were confidential and must not be published or made the subject of public comment outside the University, without the agreement of the Council.

5/02-03 Horticulture Research International

CONSIDERED:

A paper prepared by the Registrar (C.9/02-03, tabled at the meeting) together with an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on the development of the relationship between the University and Horticulture Research International, the outcome of the recent Quinquennial Review Report of Horticulture Research International sponsored by DEFRA and the outcome of discussions on the matter at the meeting of the Senate held on 2 October.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Council note both the current position that has been reached in the developing relationship with Horticulture Research International and the recommendations in the Quinquennial Review Report about the strengthened role that the University might play in HRI's future.
- (b) That the Vice-Chancellor and other officers be authorised to continue their discussions with HRI and other parties through the Affiliation Steering Group with a view to negotiating the terms under which a full merger with a restructured HRI might be agreed.
- (c) That a full report with recommendations on the proposed future relationship with HRI, including the terms of a possible merger, be made to future meetings of the Senate and the Council following consultation with interested colleagues in the University.

6/02-03 Long Term Funding of Higher Education

CONSIDERED:

A paper prepared by the Vice-Chancellor on the long term funding of Higher Education (C.10/02-03, tabled at the meeting) together with an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor on discussion of the paper at the meeting of the Senate held on 2 October.

RESOLVED:

That arrangements be made for continued discussion by the Senate and the Council of the issues raised in the Vice-Chancellor's paper on the long term funding of higher education in advance of the publication of the Government White Paper on Higher Education.

7/02-03 Membership of the University Council and Council Committees

RECEIVED:

A statement of the membership of the Council for the 2002/2003 academic year (C.1/02-03).

CONSIDERED:

- (a) Proposals for amendment to the constitution of Council Committees (C.2/02-03).
- (b) The membership of Council Committees for the academic year 2002/2003 (C.3/02-03).

RESOLVED:

(a) Joint Council and Senate Strategy Committee

That the constitution of the Committee be amended to provide for the appointment *ex officio* of the Chairs of the Faculty Advisory Boards of Arts, Medicine, Science and Social Studies and the Board of the Warwick Business School in place of the two lay members of the Council.

(b) Accommodation Committee

That the proposed changes to the arrangements for the allocation of academic and non-residential accommodation be approved as set out in paper SC.2/02-03, including:

- (i) the disbanding of the Accommodation Committee in its present form to be replaced by an Accommodation Review Group.
- (ii) the referral of strategic accommodation issues to the Steering Committee.
- (iii) the integration of consideration of accommodation requirements with other resource factors, in particular through the annual estimates round.

(c) Capital Projects Committee

That the Capital Projects Committee revert to its former title of the Building Committee.

(d) Equal Opportunities Committee

That the constitution of the Equal Opportunities Committee be amended:

- (i) to remove the provision for the appointment of the Registrar and the Academic Registrar and to provide for the appointment of the Director of Student and Ancillary Services and the University's Disability Co-ordinator.
- (ii) to stipulate that that the second student representative on the Committee be a postgraduate student.

(e) Membership of Council Committees for the academic year 2002/03

That the membership of Committees of the Council for the academic year 2002/03 be as set out in the Appendix attached to the copy of the minutes in the official minute book.

8/02-03 Effectiveness Review (minute 63/01-02 refers)

RECEIVED:

An oral report from the Pro-Chancellor on the review of the effectiveness of the University Council noting that the first meeting of the Review Group was scheduled for early November and it was expected that good progress would be made in conducting the review during the Autumn Term.

9/02-03 National Grid Building

CONSIDERED:

A report on the proposed acquisition of the National Grid Building together with an oral report from the Vice-Chancellor (C.4/02-03).

RESOLVED

That the acquisition of National Grid House at the price set out in paper C.4/02-03 be approved in principle, with the overall funding being substantially met by borrowing, subject to survey and contract, agreement on VAT matters with National Grid and receipt of acceptable offers of funding from external sources and noting that the Finance Officer had been authorised by the Finance and General Purposes Committee to commence a process for obtaining competitive offers of external finance from appropriate banks.

10/02-03 Leicester Warwick Medical School (minute 69/01-02 refers)

REPORTED:

- (a) That the Secretary of State for Health, Mr Alan Milburn, would visit the University on 10 October to open formally the Medical School building.
- (b) That Professor Jeremy Dale had been appointed to the position of Interim Vice-Dean (Warwick) of the Leicester Warwick Medical School.

CONSIDERED:

- (a) A paper from the Joint Committee of the Leicester Warwick Medical School on the development of a new structure and constitution for the School (S.5/02-03).
- (b) Proposed revisions to University Ordinances 6 and 10 consequent upon the proposed changes to the structure and organisation of the Leicester Warwick Medical School (SC.3/02-03).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the recommendations of the Joint Committee regarding the future structure and constitution of the Leicester Warwick Medical School be approved as set out in paper S.5/02-03 including the adoption of a federal framework for the School and its renaming as the Leicester Warwick Medical Schools.
- (b) That University Ordinance 10 on the Governance and Management of the Leicester Warwick Medical School be rescinded.
- (c) That the proposed amendments to University Ordinance 6 to establish a single Faculty of Medicine at the University of Warwick be approved as set out in paper SC.3/02-03.
- (d) That the further action required during the Autumn Term to prepare proposals for the structural organisation of the Leicester Warwick Medical Schools at Warwick and the revision of Regulations governing the MB and ChB degrees be noted.

11/02-03 Report from the Finance and General Purposes Committee

CONSIDERED:

An oral report from the Treasurer on the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held immediately before the meeting of the Council, selected papers relating to specific items of business on the agenda for the meeting (C.6/02-03) and the Committee's receipt of reports and resolutions on the following matters:

- (a) the report of the Earned Income Group noting that the financial performance of the Group for 2001/02 had been strong with a surplus of £1.6m above the original forecast.

- (b) the arrangements for the conduct of business and membership of the Commercial and Related Activities Group and the Academic Enterprise Group (FGPC1(a)/02-03).
- (c) The borrowing arrangements for Lakeside 2 student residences and apartments and the Medical School Building (FGPC4/02-03) noting that the Finance Officer was authorised to enter into the relevant documentation on behalf of the University.
- (d) The endorsement by the Committee of the decision reached by the Treasurer and the Vice-Chancellor to approve the release of funds, as set out in paper FGPC7/02-03, for construction of a loop road on the Warwickshire land.
- (e) A report on Students' Union finances for the year ended 31 July 2002 (FGPC10/02-03) and the arrangements in place for ongoing monitoring of the Students' Union finances.
- (f) The improved financial position of the Warwick Manufacturing Group and the decision of the Committee to reduce the level of financial monitoring of the Group to normal levels.
- (g) The HEFCE report on financial strategy in higher education institutions (FGPC12/02-03)
- (h) An analysis of the University's cash and investment position as at 31 July 2002 (FGPC12/01-02)

12/02-03 Code of Corporate Governance

CONSIDER AND ADOPTED:

The University's Code of Corporate Governance as set out in paper (C.7/02-03).

13/02-03 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out the awards and distinctions that have been conferred on members of the University since the last meeting of the Council held on 5 July 2002 (C.8/02-03).

14/02-03 Amendments to University Ordinances

CONSIDERED:

For the second time, proposed amendments to University Ordinances (C.49/01-02).

RESOLVED:

That, for the second time, proposed amendments to the following University Ordinances be approved as set out in paper C49/01-02:

Ordinance 6: Constitution of the Board of the Faculty of Social Studies

Ordinance 8: Governing the Board of the Institute of Education

Ordinance 14: Degrees and Diplomas

15/02-03 Awards and Distinctions

RECEIVED:

A paper setting out the awards and distinctions conferred on members of the University since the last meeting of the Senate held on 5 July 2002 (C.8/02-03).

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11/10/02