



MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING

Held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION	WHO
1.	<p><b><u>Apologies &amp; Absences</u></b></p> <p>For a record of attendance, apologies and absences, see attached list.</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Simon Greenhalgh (new lay member), Waleed Backler and Tariq Khan (Governance Apprentices) and Louise Parr-Morley (Interim Chief Financial Officer) to their first meeting. He also welcomed Tom Wilcox (Director of Service Transformation) to the meeting as an observer.</p> <p>It was noted that Andrew Macleod had chosen to stand down from Council over the summer due to his extensive work commitments overseas. Council thanked him for his contribution and commitment. It was noted that we would carry the vacancy for the time being.</p>		
2.	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>All the staff members of Council and all the staff attendees declared that they were members of the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). Lesley Thompson declared that her husband was also a member of USS.</p>		
<b>PART A – PRESENTATIONS</b>			
3A.	<p><b><u>Chair’s Session: Setting the Scene for 2023-2024</u></b></p> <p>The Chair talked about the role of Council and its priorities for the year ahead.</p> <p>He focused on three areas: strategy, assurance and culture.</p> <p>As the implementation of the Academic Delivery Plan continued, the need for clear business models, the assessment of risks and the right people in the right roles was critical.</p>		

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	<p>He wished to ensure that everyone on Council had an equal voice within a culture of high trust and high challenge and emphasised the importance of Council being a place for thinking as well as doing.</p>		
<p><b>4A.</b></p>	<p><b><u>University Update</u></b></p> <p>The Deputy Vice-Chancellor gave a presentation along with the Chief People Officer and the Interim Chief Financial Officer on reflections on 2022-2023. They focused on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Item commercial in confidence</i></li> <li>▪ Education and the student experience, including graduation, the Teaching Excellence Framework and Welcome Week 2023.</li> <li>▪ 2023 National Student Survey results.</li> <li>▪ 2024 league tables.</li> <li>▪ Research and innovation, particularly the Research Excellence Framework and the Knowledge Exchange Framework and research strengths.</li> <li>▪ People, including the refreshed approach to the People Strategy that was being developed, industrial action and pensions.</li> </ul> <p>It also looked ahead to 2023-2024 and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staffing and new senior appointments.</li> <li>▪ Academic Delivery Plan, including the delivery of student growth in 2022-2023 and new programmes for 2024.</li> <li>▪ Campus capital development and plans and priorities.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>5A.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Recruitment Update</u></b></p> <p><i>Item commercial in confidence</i></p>		
<p><b>PART B – APPROVALS &amp; REPORTS</b></p>			
<p><b>6B.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Insectary Building</u></b></p> <p><i>Item commercial in confidence</i></p>		
<p><b>7B.</b></p>	<p><b><u>College of Fellows</u></b></p> <p>Council approved the appointment of Manali Lukha to the College of Fellows on the recommendation of the Nominations &amp; Governance Committee following the end of her term on Council.</p> <p>The appointment was made in recognition of her support for students in the environmental and geosciences,</p>		

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	engagement in curriculum discussions around meteorology and her role in Keele becoming a partner in the University Climate Ambassadors Scheme.		
<b>8B.</b>	<p><b><u>Chair's Action</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that Chair's action had been taken on two occasions since the previous meeting:</p> <p><i>(i) Item commercial in confidence</i></p> <p>(ii) The appointment of Louise Parr-Morley as Interim Chief Financial Officer was approved by Chair's Action on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2023.</p>		
<b>PART C – ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>			
<b>9C.</b>	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that the University's first Celebrating Staff Success event would take place on the afternoon of 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, which was the day before the next Council meeting. Invitations would go out shortly, but members were asked to please hold the date in their diaries.</p>		
<b>14B.</b>	<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The date of the next meeting was 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023.</p>		

## ATTENDANCE LIST – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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	Mike Farrar	Pro-Chancellor
	Richard Barnes	Deputy Pro-Chancellor
	Sally Bucknell	Deputy Pro-Chancellor
A	Richard Callaway	Deputy Pro-Chancellor
	David Hall	Honorary Treasurer
A	Professor Trevor McMillan	Vice-Chancellor
	Professor Mark Ormerod	Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost

### MEMBERS OF UNIVERSITY STAFF

	Dr Abbie Rutter	Senate Member
	Dr Masi Noor	Senate Member
	Dr Shalini Sharma	Senate Member
	Emma Colley	Appointed by the Professional Services Staff

### LAY MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL

	Ruth Bagley
	Tracy Bullock
	Jane Burns
	David Brown
	Tim Forman
	Simon Greenhalgh
	Hifsa Haroon-Iqbal
A	Sherree Schaefer
	Dr Lesley Thompson

### STUDENT MEMBERS

	Jade Cioffi	Union Development & Democracy Officer, SU
	Rachana Dhaka	President, Keele Postgraduate Association

### SECRETARY TO COUNCIL

	Clare Stevenson	Secretary to Council
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### IN ATTENDANCE

	Dr Mark Bacon	Chief Operating Officer
	Frances Hewison	Chief People Officer
	Louise Parr-Morley	Interim Chief Financial Officer
	Waleed Backler	Governor Apprentice
	Tariq Khan	Governor Apprentice
	Tom Wilcock	Director of Service Transformation

### SECRETARIAT

	Fiona Dumbelton	Governance Manager
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Key A = Absent