Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2022

Present: The Chair of the Council (Dame Ursula Brennan); the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Karen Cox); the Deputy Chair of the Council (Andrew Newell); Chris Barron; Colin Carmichael; Xian Chan; Daniel Cook; Michael Crick; Neil Davies; Aisha Dosanjh; Thomas Freeston; Kim Lowe; Dr Owen Lyne; Mayuri Lakhani; Gabriel MacGregor; Tobi-Temple Obaremo; Alex Perkins; Mark Preston; Professor Georgina Randsley de Moura; Professor Richard Reece; Professor Iain Wilkinson.

In attendance: Chief Financial Officer (Jane Higham); Financial Improvement Director (Peter Pentecost); Director of Governance and Assurance (Secretary to Council) (Dr Sinead Critchley); Assistant Director Governance (Sarah Megson), PA/Secretary for Governance & Assurance (Claire Taylor).

Apologies: Mark Malcomson; Professor Gill Nicholls; Timi Okuwa.

5470 DIVISION OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Professor David Wilkinson, (Director of Division of Human and Social Sciences), joined by the Divisional Senior Leadership Team, Professional Service Staff Managers and Student Representatives presented to Council.

Council noted the presentation ‘An introduction to the Division of Human & Social Sciences’ and thanked the Division of Human and Social Sciences for their engagement.

5471 CHAIR’S INTRODUCTION
The Chair welcomed everyone to the first face to face meeting of Council since the pandemic began.

It was noted Paper C2021/055 Proposal for Renaming Buildings would be reviewed by the Ethics Committee, then come back to the meeting of Council in March.

5472 MINUTES
The Minutes of the meetings held on 26 November 2021, 17 December 2021 and 27 January 2022, Paper C2021/047 were approved.

5473 MATTERS ARISING
The Action Log: C2021/048 was noted.
VICE CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT’S COMMUNICATIONS
The Vice Chancellor gave a verbal update on the crisis in Ukraine; Covid-19; Industrial action; USS Pension; Levelling Up White Paper; and the anticipated government response to the Augar Report.

Council noted that the University would be celebrating Emeritus Professor Abdulrazak Gurnah, who had received the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature for ‘his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents.’ at an event on 24 February 2022 at the Gulbenkian.

NEXT STEPS FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL STRATEGY DAY
The Vice-Chancellor presented paper C2021/049.

Council to be kept updated on progress of Next Steps priority actions.

CURRENT PERFORMANCE
C2021/050 Performance Dashboard report
Council noted the update report on current performance against KPIs.

LAMBETH CONFERENCE
The Vice Chancellor presented paper C2021/053 which outlined preparations for the Lambeth Conference due to take place on campus in July 2022. Bishop Tim Thornton joined the discussion via MS Teams link from Lambeth Palace.

It was agreed that the University’s Lambeth working group would continue to work up a risk assessment, a list of mitigating actions and a day-to-day plan for managing the event. The Director of Engagement would provide an update to Council in due course.

KENT VISION GOVERNANCE REVIEW
Panel Review of Kent Vision Governance
The Deputy Chair of Council presented paper C2021/054.

Council noted recommendations for improvements to the governance, infrastructure and management of future investments for projects. These recommendations were already being taken forward by EG via a new Project and Portfolio Board which would report to the Finance and Resources Committee.

Council approved the recommendations of the Review Panel.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS
None Raised.
5480  DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS
Friday 25 March 2022 10:00-16:00
Tuesday 17 May 2022 14:00-17:00
Wednesday 29 June 2022 10:00-16:00

5481  REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION COMMITTEE
Confidential to Council.

ITEMS BELOW THE LINE
Council approved and/or noted as appropriate the following papers:
C2021/057 Report from the Chief Financial Officer
C2021/058 Council Forward Programme 2021/22

Notes
1. Papers
   Copies are available on the Council eboard portal (Diligent Boards) or on request
   from the Secretary. Approved Minutes and many of the papers are published on the
   University website at https://kent.ac.uk/governance/council/index.html.

2. Queries
   Any queries should be addressed to Dr Sinead Critchley, Director of Governance and
   Assurance (Secretary to Council), (email: S.Critchley-2002@kent.ac.uk).

CLT 25.02.2022