UNRESERVED MINUTES

THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL COUNCIL (1022)

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1st July 2015

Present: The President (in the Chair); the Vice-Chancellor; the Pro-Chancellor; the Deputy Vice-Chancellor; the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Partnerships, Civic Engagement and Enterprise; Mr J Haymer (Lay Officer); Dr A Scott (Lay Officer); Mr C Baker; Professor Helen Carty; Sir Colin Lucas; Dame Lorna Muirhead; Dr R Platt; Mrs A Pointing; Mrs P Young; Professor F Beveridge; Professor S Dawson; Professor R McGrath; Dr F Marret-Davies; the President of the Guild of Students.

Apologies: Dr P Johnson,

Clerk to Council: Mr A Flett.

In attendance: For all items: the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and KE and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education.

For items 1 -5: the Director of Finance.

For item 4.1: Professor Ken Badcock, EPVC for Science and Engineering; Ms Claire Brown, Director of Marketing; Professor Bob Burgoyne, EPVC for Health and Life Sciences; Mrs Joanne Clague, Faculty Director of Operational for Health and Life Science; Mrs Carol Costello, Director of HR; Ms Sarah Jackson, Director of Research, Partnerships and Innovation; Mrs Jenny Tucker, Director of Facilities, Residential and Commercial Services, and Mrs Anita Wright, Head of Strategic Planning.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

1.1 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members of Council were invited to disclose any potential conflicts of interest they had in relation to the items on the agenda. Any such conflicts are noted under relevant minute headings.

MINUTES/COMMUNICATIONS

2.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting, held 13th May 2015

It was AGREED that:-

i. The minutes of the meeting held 13th May 2015 should be approved as an accurate record.
2.2 President’s Communications

a. Membership of Council

Council RECEIVED a proposal to increase the membership of Council by one to allow better strategic representation.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. Council’s membership was defined in Statute 8.1 and its clauses. Membership included three of the University’s Senior Management Team: "[…]the Vice-Chancellor, and two of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and the Pro-Vice Chancellors, […]" [Statute 8.1.1].

ii. The latter two places were currently filled by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (since 2013) and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Partnerships, Civic Engagement and Enterprise (since 2008).

iii. The proposal was for these places on Council to be increased by one, to allow for more specific senior management coverage in the University’s main areas of activity: Research, Education and the Professional Services.

iv. As altering the membership in this way would require amendment to the University’s statutes, permission for the change would have to be given by the Privy Council.

v. The University’s Supplemental Charter stated that: "The Council may at any time add to, amend, alter or repeal the Statutes by ordinary resolution provided that such Statutes shall not be effective until approved by the Privy Council. Any ordinary resolution means a resolution passed at a meeting of the Council by a majority of the members present and voting."

It was NOTED that:-

vi. Were the proposal to be approved, the ratio of lay (i.e. those members not on the payroll of the University) to staff members would be 13:8.

It was AGREED that:-

vii. Permission should be sought from the Privy Council to amend Statute 8 to increase Council membership from 20 to 21 in order to improve strategic representation on the basis described above.

viii. That Professor Holloway would step down, and Professor Dinah Birch (PVC Research and KE) and Professor Gavin Brown (PVC Education) be appointed to Council.

b. Action Taken on Behalf of Council Since the Last Business Meeting

Council ENDORSED the following actions, taken on its behalf by the President since the last business meeting:-

i. That the title of ‘Professor of Metabolic and Physiological Imaging’ should be allocated to the Personal Chair held by Professor Graham Kemp. This follows the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor acting on behalf of Senate.

ii. The inclusion in Ordinance 20 of the integrated master’s award Master of Psychological Sciences (MPsycholSci) as a degree of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, with effect from September 2015. This follows the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor acting on behalf of Senate.
iii. That Professor James Stewart should take the place of Professor Malcolm Bennett as one of the four University appointed trustees of the Friends of Ness Gardens.

2.3 **Vice-Chancellor’s Communications**

a. **Bond**

It was **REPORTED** to Council that:-

i. The University had successfully launched a £250m public bond.

ii. It was launched with the best price for any UK HEI bond (3.375%).

iii. This funding would facilitate the completion of the Residential Strategy, culminating in the redevelopment of the Greenbank Halls of Residence.

It was **AGREED** that:-

iv. The Director of Finance should be thanked for his work leading on the bond launch. Thanks should also be passed on to those other colleagues involved in preparations for the launch.

b. **Student Recruitment**

It was **REPORTED** that:-

i. The final analysis of applications for entry next session was extremely positive.

ii. Overall the University was planning to recruit 9,303 students in comparison to 8,356 for Entry 2014. This represented growth of 11.33% and reflected the increasing popularity of the University and the attractiveness of its offer to potential students.

iii. The University had experienced unprecedented growth in UK Undergraduate applications (an increase of 20.3%), outperforming both the sector (an increase of 0.8%) and key competitors (an increase of 1.75%).

iv. International Undergraduate applications had also grown by 14.1%, this position having been enhanced by the performance of key partners, XJTLU and LIC.

v. International Postgraduate Taught applications had increased by 9.5%, with significant growth in demand for subjects including Management, Engineering and Earth and Ocean Sciences.

vi. H/EU Postgraduate Taught recruitment had remained challenging, although this was an issue across the sector. In spite of significant enhancements to student funding for this year (with 125 £10,000 scholarships available) applications to the University had only increased by 3.26%.

c. **VC’s Engagements**

It was **REPORTED** that:-

i. Since the last meeting of Council, the VC had met with or attended the following:-
   - MSC/DSC Equality & Diversity Task Group (29th June 2015)
   - UUK Board, as Chair (26th June 2015)
   - Higher Education Public Information Steering Group - Sub group (26th June 2015)
   - Russell Group Board (25th June 2015)
   - Dame Julia Goodfellow, UUK (25th June 2015)
   - Mary Curnock Cook, UCAS (24th June 2015)
   - Bond Roadshows (15th -17th June 2015)
HEPI Advisory Board (12th June 2015)
UUK Executive Committee (12th June 2015)
Laureate Summit (8th - 11th June 2015)
Alder Hey Ground-breaking (5th June 2015)
Louise Ellman MP (5th June 2015)
Going Global, London (1st - 2nd June 2015)
PIN Launch, London Campus (1st June 2015)
CERN Alumni Event, Geneva (30th May 2015)
Jo Johnson MP, Minister of State for Universities and Science (28th May 2015 and 1st July 2015)
Three Queens Event, Liverpool (25th May 2015)
Freedom of the City for Alder Hey at Liverpool Town Hall (18th May 2015)

ii. In meetings with the Minister, the issues of grade inflation and the proposed equivalent of REF for teaching (the TEF) were discussed. It had been suggested that there would be a financial incentive for good performance in the TEF, although it was unclear how this would be funded.

iii. The Russell Group Board had discussed the £450bn cuts to the BIS budget expected for this year. It was expected that the majority of this saving would be found from either the Research budget or Student Opportunity funding.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR NOTE

3.1 Strategic Review: Thematic Enquiries

Council RECEIVED a presentation updating it on the outcome of the Thematic Enquiries phase of the Strategic Review, and next steps.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. In addition to detailed feedback on each of the five Thematic Enquiries it was clear that the key overarching messages to emerge from the process were that:-
   • The University’s ethical position would provide the context for its new Strategy;
   • Communications would be extremely important in the delivery of the Strategy;
   • Collaboration and partnership working would also be vital, both for the University as a whole with other institutions, and for different parts of the University working with each other;
   • The University needed to find ways to become more agile.

ii. The next phase of the Review process would be the development of a Green Paper. This would outline a range of options or questions for consideration. Consultation on these would support the identification of firm proposals to be taken forward.

It was NOTED that:-

iii. Council would be given the opportunity to contribute to the development of the Green Paper, and then be given the opportunity to have a robust, private discussion of it, before it was published.

iv. The results of the Thematic Enquiries would be used as data to inform the Green Paper, not in any way as a preliminary draft.

v. Having pursued the five Thematic Enquiries as an interrogative tool for the previous two phases of the Review, the Green Paper would reframe the debate and present this in terms of the University main activities, Research, Education and Corporate Services.
It was AGREED that:-

vi. Ways should be established to consult Council on the development of the Green Paper up to and including the Council Away Day on 30th September.

vii. The majority of the Council Away Day to be held 30th September should be given over to discussion of the draft Green Paper prior to its publication.

3.2 3 Year Plan and Budgets 2015/16-2017/18

Council RECEIVED the draft 3 Year Plan and Budgets for 2015/16-2017/18.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. Levels of Operating Surplus forecast for the three years of the Plan remained similar to those stated in previous iterations:-
   • 2015/16: £13.2m
   • 2016/17: £19.5m
   • 2017/18: £21.3m

ii. This was in spite of a planned significant increase in fee income, due to the expected positive recruitment position (see 3.3 b), as follows:
   • 2015/16: c. 2,400 additional students, £32.4m additional fee income.
   • 2016/17: c. 1,950 additional students, £26.3m additional fee income.
   • 2017/18: c. 1,300 additional students, £15m additional fee income.

iii. This lack of growth in surplus was largely because additional investment was required to support the step change in student numbers in a way that would not have been necessary if growth had been more gradual.

iv. While research income was also expected to grow, the nature of this kind of funding meant it would be accompanied by a similar increase in expenditure.

It was NOTED that:-

v. The changes to Plan from iterations approved in previous years by Council had not been driven by the Strategic Review process. It was accepted that the next 3 Year Plan, that for 2016/17-2018/19, would be fully revised and support delivery of the new University Strategy, scheduled for approval in February 2016.

vi. Although additional expenditure had been put in the Plan to support the expected growth in student numbers, strict controls had also been introduced to ensure that these costs would not be incurred should growth not transpire.

vii. There was no intention that the growth in student numbers would be delivered at the expense of quality.

viii. The significant changes in student number projections from those seen in previous years’ Plans, variations in the timing in capital projects, and expenditure related to the bond, made it complex to track the change in financial performance in the context of changed activity.

It was AGREED that:-

ix. The three year plan and budget for 2015/16-2017/18 should be approved, noting that the new University Strategy, scheduled for approval in February 2016, might impact on the later years.
x. The KPIs element of the plan should be reconsidered by the Research and Impact and Education Committees at their first meeting of next session.

xi. Consideration should be given to the presentation of budgets in future, in particular whether it would be appropriate to separate out residential/property aspects from core business for clarity.

xii. A breakdown of the planned growth in student numbers and the increase in fee income, and analysis of changes compared to previous years, should be made available to Council members outside of the meeting.

xiii. A briefing note providing a simple summary of the major building projects undertaken by the University in recent years should be made available to Council members outside of the meeting.

3.3 Governance Matters

a. Revised Committee Framework

Council RECEIVED a paper proposing changes to the Committee structure and the way in which Committees were supported and managed.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. The main recommendations included:-
   - A redefinition of the role and modus operandi of the Strategic Committees;
   - A refoocussing of the Research and KE Committee and the Student Experience Committee as Research and Impact Committee and Education Committee respectively;
   - Actions to strengthen the links between the Strategic Committees and Council, particularly in relation to planning, performance and risk;
   - The disestablishment of the Corporate Services and Facilities Committee and a re-routing of its work through the Senior Executive Group and Planning and Resources Committee;
   - The formalisation of Senior Management Team’s and Senior Executive Group’s roles in relation to the committee structure;
   - The use of a model agenda for the Strategic Committees to support more strategic discussion;
   - Clarification of the process for the development of major new institutional strategies, policies and frameworks, and amendments to those previously approved;
   - Revisions to the membership and support arrangements for the Strategic Committees;
   - Realignment of the structure for QA related activity;
   - Regularisation of the approach to the committee structure within the Faculties.

It was NOTED that:-

ii. The proposed changes were intended to support the Committees in becoming more focused, effective and responsive.

iii. The case to disestablish Corporate Services and Facilities Committee was based on its business having, over recent years, tended towards the operational, with meetings often cancelled or dealt with via electronic circulation, for lack of meaningful business. However, it would still be important to ensure there was a place in the formal
governance structure, where relevant issues (e.g. HR policies and data) could be examined in detail and subject to lay scrutiny. Planning and Resources Committee would have a key role in this respect, and its terms of reference would be revised so that staffing could be discussed alongside infrastructure.

iv. In addition to this, Council would be receiving enhanced information on staff performance next session. Research and Impact, Education, and Planning and Resources Committee would also look at performance in detail at every meeting. Salient points arising from these discussions would be included in reports to Council.

v. Plans were also in place for Remuneration Committee to include more specific information in its reports to Council.

vi. There was support for the introduction of the role of Associate PVC. Each Faculty would have at least two APVCs, one for Research and Impact, and one for Education. Each APVC would report directly to the EPVC for their Faculty, supporting them in the development and delivery of the Faculty’s strategies and operation. They would also have a dotted line reporting relationship to the relevant Policy PVC, supporting them in the development of institutional strategies, framework and policies.

It was AGREED that:-

vii. The revised Committee framework and support structures should be approved for implementation in 2015/16.

b. Scheme of Delegation

Council RECEIVED a paper proposing a revised Scheme of Delegation.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. The Scheme had been updated to:-
   • Bring it in line with the revised Statutory Framework, agreed by Council in 2013;
   • Provide more detail on specific matters than previously, including on a range of accepted custom and practice, previously unmentioned in the Schemes, consistent with the Statutory Framework.

ii. A new format was also proposed, which would support the Scheme being mounted on a new governance website, and make it searchable and sortable by a variety of mechanisms.

iii. The new format would also, in due course, be extended to cover Committee responsibilities and those of key senior officers not included in the Statutory Framework.

It was NOTED that:-

iv. It would be important to ensure that the Scheme was actively reviewed on an annual basis.

It was AGREED that:-

v. The revised Scheme of Delegation should be approved, and the approach to its future development taken forward as proposed.
3.4 ULCCo-(SP) Options Report

[The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Dr Scott, and the Director of Finance, declared an interest as Directors of ULCCo-(SP) Ltd]

Council RECEIVED a report on various options for the future of ULCCo-(SP) Ltd.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. Following analysis of a range of options for the future, a short list of two had been arrived at:-
   • To sell ULCCo-(SP) Ltd to a going concern;
   • To retain ULCCo-(SP) Ltd as an in house construction function.

ii. A management buy-out had been considered at one stage, but was now discounted due to the high levels of risk it entailed.

It was NOTED that:-

iii. ULCCO-(SP) Ltd was currently very well positioned in terms of business. It had a secure order book with a circa £25m annual turnover projected for the next four years.

iv. The construction industry was now in a period of increasing demand but limited resource. This presented a risk to ULCCO-(SP) Ltd in terms of staff retention and being able to attract quality and experienced staff.

v. The University had a duty to be transparent and fair to the ULCCO-(SP) Ltd staff in issues regarding their future.

It was AGREED that:-

vi. The ULCCO-(SP) Ltd Board should continue to consider the short list of options for the future of the company. Should disposal be preferred, it should pursue and expedite this.

vii. The authority to ratify the recommendation of the ULCCO-(SP) Ltd Board, and for the sale process to proceed if appropriate, should be delegated to the Planning and Resources Committee.

3.5 Guild Annual Report

Council RECEIVED the Guild Annual Report, covering activities and accounts for the full year, 2013/14, and an update on activity in 2014/15.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. The Guild had moved back into the refurbished Reilly building this session.

ii. Governance reforms introduced by the Guild last session were now embedded, and being adjusted to optimise their effectiveness.

iii. A student segmentation project, aimed at allowing the Guild to better understand its membership and tailor its services more appropriately, was well underway. This work was also being used to support the Strategic Review.

iv. The Guild had worked closely with the University on its approach to external speakers and associated issues (for example gender segregation for audience members). Legal advice taken had supported the Guild’s approach in this area.
It was NOTED that:-

v. The issue of external speakers promoting controversial views was likely to become more complex in future. The Home Office had issued an update to Prevent guidance recently, and it was expected this would be added to in due course.

PLANNING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

4.1 Report of the Meeting of the Planning and Resources Committee held 23rd June 2015

Council RECEIVED the report of the meeting of the Planning and Resources Committee held 23rd June 2015.

a. Mandates

It was REPORTED that the Committee had recommended to Council for approval a number of mandates for capital works.

It was NOTED that:-

i. All mandates are within the previously agreed Capital Plan and affordable on current cash flow projections.

It was AGREED that:-

ii. The following mandates should be approved and resource released as appropriate:-
   • Mandate 173: Residences Strategy (an increase of £96.3m to £180m)
   • Mandate 174: Investment in Enhancing Condition D&DX 15/16 to 16/17 (£5.6m)
   • Mandate 176: Oliver Lodge - Surface Science Refurbishment (£5.5m)
   • Mandate 177: South Campus – 1-7 Abercromby and Faculty Summer Priorities (an increase of £7m to £23m)

b. Consolidation of Endowments

It was REPORTED that the Committee had recommended to Council for approval a proposal to consolidate c. 250 small endowments, with a total value of c. £3m, to be released to the I&E.

It was NOTED that:-

i. The University had 570 individual endowment funds, valued in total at c. £150m.
ii. The University's portfolio of endowments had been under review for some time.
iii. The Charities Act (2011) included provisions in relation to small endowments which would allow the University access to previously restricted capital and change the purpose of individual endowments in appropriate circumstances.
iv. Planned income and expenditure against the identified endowment funds for 2014/15 was £95k and £55k respectively.
It was AGREED that:-

v. A number of named small endowment funds of the University of Liverpool should be consolidated into a single general purpose fund, in order to obtain effective management, efficiency and value to beneficiaries, by the passing of a resolution for the purposes of sections 267-281 of the Charities Act 2011 (“the Act”). The names of the current funds have been recorded in the Calendar to ensure they are not forgotten. The approval of the Council and the resolution passed for the purposes of the Act shall be effective on 1st July 2015 and the Director of Finance is authorised to take such steps as are necessary to transfer the property of the funds.

c. Barclays RCF

It was REPORTED that the Committee had recommended to Council for approval a proposal regarding the revolving credit facility held with Barclays.

It was AGREED that:-

i. Following the successful Bond issuance, the revolving credit facility with Barclays that is due to terminate on December 2016 should be repaid in full, subsequently cancelling the facility.

ii. The Director of Finance should terminate the two interest rate swaps with Barclays totalling £75 million, incurring the relevant mark to market costs on the day of termination up to £1m on those swaps.

d. Use of Cash Reserves

It was REPORTED that the Committee had recommended to Council for approval a proposal for the use of funds held in cash reserves at July 2015.

It was NOTED that:-

i. Following the successful issuance of a public bond, the University would have in the region of £150m cash reserves at July 2015.

ii. It had been recommended to Council by the Planning and Resources Committee that:-

- These funds should be split and managed as follows:-
  a. £60m in bond portfolio, reducing to meet investment and liquidity;
  b. £30m held in cash to ensure liquidity;
  c. £30m low risk investment portfolio;
  d. £30m in equity portfolio, split between global equity and UK equity.

- Funds a. and c. should be managed by Rothschild Wealth Management, with d. to be managed by OLIM/Bailie Gifford.

iii. Pursuant to an account application form (the “Account Application Form”), the University should apply:-

a. for Rothschild Wealth Management (UK) Limited to provide the University with investment services; and
b. to open a custody and bank account at Rothschild Bank (CI) Limited in the University’s name.

It was AGREED that:-

iv. The proposals should be approved.
v. The funds invested through Rothschild should be managed as described in the Account Application Form.
vi. In the opinion of those present, the execution of the Account Application Form was for the benefit of the University.
vii. The Agreement would not contravene:-
• The constitutional documents of the University; and
• The existing contractual obligations of the University; and
• The terms of any security or encumbrance which the University may have already entered into.
viii. Mr Robert Eastwood, Director of Finance be authorised to execute the Account Application Form in accordance with applicable laws and the constitutional documents of the University in line with the proposal above.
ix. The Account Application Form be delivered to Rothschild Wealth Management (UK) Limited (being the entity providing the investment services).

e. Levels of Delegated Financial Authority

It was REPORTED that the Committee had recommended to Council for approval a proposal to maintain the University’s levels of delegated financial authority at their current rates.

It was NOTED that:-
i. Levels of delegated financial authority were currently set at:-
   • >£5m: not delegated, reserved to Council;
   • £1m - £5m: P&R approval required;
   • £0 - £1m: VC, advised by the Senior Executive Group.
ii. This review followed PWC’s recommendation, as part of the Delegated Management Structures Review considered at an earlier Audit Committee, that the University should consider its position in relation to these.
iii. The University’s current levels of delegated financial authority were within the range of comparators within the Russell Group, and were well understood and adhered to.

It was AGREED that:-
iv. The University’s current levels of delegated financial authority should be retained.

4.2 Q3 Performance Report

Council RECEIVED the 2014/15 Q1 Performance Report.

It was NOTED that:-

i. There had been positive changes in performance in a number of areas:-
   • Research income per staff FTE showed an increase on the previous year, and was currently in line to meet target;
   • Research grant applications had increased by nearly 100 and the value of applications increased by over £50m compared to Q3 2013/14;
   • Collaborative research income had grown by £2.6m compared to the previous year, with all Faculties contributing to this increase;
   • The ratio of PGR students per staff FTE had increased at a faster rate than the RG average.
ii. However:
   - The University had fallen 3 places to 23rd in the RG rankings for the proportion of 1st and 2:1 degrees awarded. With 75.3% of University of Liverpool degrees awarded as a 1st or 2:1 in 2013/14, the University was 4.6% below the RG average. In this context it was important to note that degree classification had a strong correlation to average entry qualifications. On that measure the University was performing in line with expectation.
   - The University had fallen a number of places in the recently published Complete University Guide (-8) and Guardian (-14) 2016 league tables.

SENATE

5.1 Report of the Meeting of the Senate held 24th June 2015

Council RECEIVED the report of the meeting of the Senate held 24th June 2015.

It was AGREED that:-

i. A revised Student Complaints Policy and Procedure should be approved, having been reviewed and updated in light of the OIA’s ‘Good practice framework for handling complaints and academic appeals’.

ii. The Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine should be granted accredited status, following a successful accreditation event in March 2015. This would allow LSTM more independence in identified processes and practices as preparation for their application for Taught Degree Awarding Powers.

iii. Carmel College’s status as a Recognised Institution and Associate College should be renewed. This followed an Institutional Renewal Visit in November 2014.

5.2 Fourth Annual Report on the QA of Taught Provision

Council RECEIVED and NOTED the Fourth Annual Report on the QA of Taught Provision.

OTHER COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

6.1 Audit Committee

Council RECEIVED a report of the meeting of the Audit Committee held 23rd June 2015.

It was REPORTED that:-

i. A procurement process had been undertaken to select firms to act as internal and external auditors for the next period. While the Committee was happy with its final selections it had been disappointed by the size of the field attracted by the opportunities. The Committee would seek to address this issue in future years.

ii. The Committee had received several reports setting out the work undertaken, the risk rating, recommendations being made and resulting action being undertaken in a number of audit areas. No audit had resulted in a risk rating higher than ‘Medium’.
iii. The Committee had received the Annual Report on Value for Money. The Committee would be seeking to determine the extent and rate of improvement in this area in future years.

iv. The Committee had received the Annual Report on Fraud. No material instances of Fraud had been reported over the previous year.

It was AGREED that:

v. PricewaterhouseCoopers be re-appointed as the University's internal auditors for a three year period, extendable to five years by two annual increments, with costs fixed for the first three years.

vi. KPMG be re-appointed as the University's external auditors for a three year period, extendable to five years by two annual increments, with costs fixed for the first three years.

vii. The External Audit Plan and Strategy 2014/15, intended to brief the Committee and Council on the proposed approach to the audit of the University and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31st July 2015, and sector wide developments, should be endorsed.

6.2 Remuneration Committee

Council RECEIVED and NOTED a report of the Remuneration Committee held 23rd June 2015.

It was AGREED that:

i. The VC's objectives would be shared with Council as previously agreed.

6.3 Safety Committee

Council RECEIVED a report of the meeting of the Safety Committee held 16th June 2015.

It was REPORTED that:

i. Discussion of a revised, strategic approach to Safety had been delayed due to a need to resolve how the Trades Unions engaged with the University in this area.

ii. It was expected that a separate consultative Committee would be established for this purpose, leaving Safety Committee free to deal with institutional governance and performance.

iii. The revised Strategy and action plan would be brought to Council in the autumn.

6.4 Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees

Council RECEIVED an oral report of the meeting of the Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees held 4th June 2015.

It was REPORTED that:

i. In accordance with the provisions of Ordinance 30 (Honorary Degrees), the Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees had met to consider nominations which were received for the conferment of honorary degrees.
ii. The Committee had recommended that the following persons be invited to accept honorary degrees to be conferred at degree ceremonies to be held in 2016:-

- Professor Mary Beard (classical scholar) – LittD;
- Jean-Luc Courcoult (Director of Royal de Luxe, the street theatre company behind the Liverpool Giants Spectacular) – LittD;
- Frances Crook (Chief Executive of the Howard League for Penal Reform. University of Liverpool graduate) – LLD;
- Professor Sir David Greenaway (Professor of Economics and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nottingham. Newly-elected Chair of the Russell Group. Postgraduate of the University of Liverpool) – LLD;
- John Kennedy (Philanthropist and entrepreneur in engineering. Long-time supporter of the Institute of Irish Studies) – LLD;
- Paul Lewis (classical pianist from Liverpool) – DMus;
- David Morrissey (Actor, producer, director and screenwriter from Liverpool) – LittD;
- Chief Constable Jon Murphy (Chief Constable of Merseyside) – LLD;
- Tom Murphy (Sculptor. Creator of sculptures and memorials including the Hillsborough memorial, The Liverpool Blitz, Noel Chavasse VC memorial, The Liverpool Pals memorial and the Traffic Memorial) – LittD;
- Professor Rodney Phillips – (Professor of Medicine at the University of Oxford, and an expert in infectious diseases. Supporter of the University of Liverpool’s Institute of Infection and Global Health and Chair of its External Advisory Panel) – DSc;
- Dame Carol Robinson (Royal Society Research Professor at the Physical and Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory, University of Oxford) – DSc;
- Andrea Spyropoulos – (Former President of the Royal College of Nursing. Now Clinical Strategist at Alder Hey) – DSc;

iii. The Joint Committee on Honorary Degrees had also recommended that the Honorary Degree of LLD be awarded to Professor Sir Howard Newby on a suitable occasion to be agreed.

iv. All of these recommendations had been endorsed by Senate at its last meeting.

It was NOTED that:-

v. Members of the Council should treat this information as confidential pending acceptance of the invitations by the individuals concerned.

It was AGREED that:-

vi. The recommendations of the Committee should be approved.

**ROUTINE ITEMS**

7.1 **Use of the University Seal**

Council NOTED that a report on the use of the University Seal since the last meeting had been made available through the Council Members’ intranet.
7.2 HR Summary Report of Action Taken Under Delegated Powers

Council NOTED that HR Summary Report of Action Taken Under Delegated Powers since the last meeting had been made available through the Council Members’ intranet.

7.3 Dates of Next Year’s Meetings

Council NOTED the dates of next year’s meetings as follows:-

- Wednesday 30th September 2015 (Away Day)
- Wednesday 18th November 2015
- Wednesday 10th February 2016
- Wednesday 6th April 2016 (Away Day)
- Wednesday 11th May 2016
- Wednesday 6th July 2016

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Attendance at External Events

Council NOTED that:-

i. Mrs Pointing attended the launch of the Equality Challenge Unit report on governing bodies, equality and diversity in Scottish HEIs on 30th June.
ii. She would make a report to members in due course.

8.2 Thanks

Council NOTED that:-

i. Following the decision to amend Council membership, this would be Professor Holloway’s final meeting as a member.
ii. Professor Holloway had been a valued contributor since joining Council in 2008.

It was AGREED that:-

iii. Professor Holloway should be thanked warmly for his service.
Endowment Review

On 1st July 2015, the Council approved the consolidation of a number of small endowment funds of the University of Liverpool into a single general purpose fund, in order to obtain effective management, efficiency and value to beneficiaries, by the passing of a resolution for the purposes of sections 267-281 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The names of the current funds have been recorded in the Calendar to ensure they are not forgotten. The approval of the Council and the resolution passed for the purposes of the Act shall be effective on 1st July 2015. The full text of the resolution is set out below.

The Council agreed to:

(i) **note** that the gross income of each of the endowment funds in its last financial year did not exceed £1,000 or that the market value of each fund does not exceed £10,000, and that therefore section 281 of the Charities Act 2011 applies to them:

(full list of affected endowment funds attached)

(ii) **resolve** for the purposes of section 281 of the Charities Act 2011 that the above-mentioned funds should be freed from the restrictions with respect to expenditure of capital that apply to them, the Council being satisfied that the purposes set out in the trusts to which the funds are subject could be carried out more effectively if the capital of the funds could be expended as well as income accruing to it, rather than just such income;

(iii) **resolve** that once the resolution above takes effect the Director of Finance is authorised to take such steps as are necessary to transfer the property of the funds in accordance with the above resolution.

The Earl of Derby

President of the Council

Dated: 15 September 2015