

## **University Board Meeting**

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024, remotely via MS Teams

### **Members Present**

David Furniss (Chair)	Chair of the University Board (Independent)
Dr David Crosby	Independent Board Member
Chike Dike	President, Students' Union Bournemouth University
Karima Fahmy (Deputy Chair)	Independent Board Member
Prof Lois Farquharson	Academic Staff Member
Maggie Frost	Independent Board Member
Nick Golding	Independent Board Member
Karl Hoods	Independent Board Member
Simon Jackson	Independent Board Member
Stuart Jones	Independent Board Member
Sara Luder	Independent Board Member
Anthony Murphy	Independent Board Member
Joyce Napa	Professional & Support Staff Member
Jo Pretty	Independent Board Member
David Smith	Independent Board Member
Dr Carly Stewart	Senate Member of the Board
Deborah Ward	Independent Board Member
Robert Williams	Independent Board Member

### **In attendance**

Sally Driver (Interim Deputy Director of HR (DDHR)); Karen Parker (Director of HR (DHR)); Geoff Rayment (Senior Governance Manager); Deborah Wakely (Clerk to the Board).

### **1. Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interests**

23/177 The Chair thanked all members for making time for this extraordinary meeting to consider the VC appointment, which was a decision that could not be delegated or dealt with by written resolution. He welcomed Joyce Napa, attending her first Board meeting as newly appointed Professional and Support Staff member. Karen Parker (DHR) and Sally Driver (DDHR) were also in attendance to introduce the paper and take questions on the proposals along with members of the Nominations Committee who had also been members of the selection panel.

23/178 Apologies were noted from Deborah Warman and Susie Reynell. John Vinney had sent apologies and could not participate in the decision to appoint his successor for reasons of good governance. Jim Andrews gave apologies as he had declared a personal conflict of interest. The Chair confirmed that the

meeting was quorate and that there were no other declarations of interests from Members.

## **2. Appointment of the next Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer (Chair)**

23/179 The Chair opened the meeting by explaining that the Board was being asked to approve the recommendation of the Nominations Committee to appoint the preferred candidate, Professor Alison Honour, as Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of BU. The recruitment and selection process was set out in detail in the supporting paper, including the stakeholder engagement; the work with the executive search agency Gatenby Sanderson; the Nominations Committee process, and the detailed due diligence which had been undertaken. The candidate's full CV was also appended to the paper.

23/180 The Chair updated the Board on progress with finalising the outstanding due diligence points since the paper was circulated. [Redacted]

23/181 The DHR highlighted key points from the paper and reiterated the robustness and thoroughness of the process and additional due diligence checks which had been undertaken following the interview process. [Redacted]

23/182 One member noted that the HE sector was going through unprecedented challenges, requiring leadership which was able to be tough and radical if necessary [Redacted].

23/183 The DDHR had conducted a number of the referencing calls [Redacted].

23/184 [Redacted]

23/185 Members discussed the external stakeholder sessions, which had been attended by Board members among others. [Redacted]

23/186 - 23/187 [Redacted]

23/188 Members asked about the candidate's views on the significant financial challenges currently facing the University. [Redacted]

23/189 Members welcomed the reassurance provided by the Nominations Committee and the additional due diligence which had been undertaken. The Chair checked and confirmed that no Members had any further questions or concerns before moving to the decision. The Board unanimously **approved**, by all members present, the appointment of Professor Alison Honour to succeed Professor Vinney as Vice-Chancellor, subject to contract. The Chair reminded members of the confidential nature of Board discussions and also that the outcome remained strictly confidential until a formal announcement was made.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the University Board would be at 9.30am to 12.30pm on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024, preceded by a strategic planning day on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.