

# MORLEY COLLEGE LONDON



## GOVERNING BODY

Minutes of a Meeting held by Microsoft Teams on Monday 1 February 2021 at 5.00 pm.

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### **Present:**

Dr Stuart Edwards, External Governor (**Chair**)  
Ms Pauline Egan, External Governor (**Vice-chair**)  
Miss Justine Brian, External Governor  
Miss Shola Bryan, Student Governor (Items 1-2 only)  
Mr Pedro Dias Ferreira, External Governor  
Mr Nic Durston, External Governor  
Ms Gill Evans, External Governor  
Ms Heather Fry, External Governor  
Dr Andrew Gower, Principal and Governor  
Mrs Gail Le Coz, External Governor  
Ms Susan Lindsey, Student Governor (Items 1-2 only)  
Mr Victor Olowe, External Governor  
Mrs Debbie Ryle, Staff Governor  
Ms Moyra Samuels, External Governor  
Ms Heather Smith, External Governor  
Charlotte Thompson, Staff Governor  
Mr James Ward, External Governor

### **In attendance:**

Mr Marco Macchitella, Deputy Principal  
Mr Ralph Moran, Chief Finance Officer (CFO)  
Mr Martin McNeill, Clerk to the Governing Body and Company Secretary  
Mr Liam Trench, Policy and Governance Officer

### **Absent:**

Mrs Irene Lax, Co-opted Governor

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## **RESOLUTIONS**

- To extend Shola Bryan's term of office as a student governor to 30 November 2021 (Minute 3.4)
  - To appoint Susan Lindsey as an external governor, to serve until 31 July 2024 (Minute 3.6)
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### **1. Apologies for absence and quorum**

The Clerk reported that no apologies had been received and confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

### **2. Welcome, introduction and declarations of interest**

2.1. The Chair told the Board that the main purpose of the meeting was to consider proposals to appoint an external governor and to extend the term of office of a student governor. In answer to a question, the Clerk said that there was no

requirement for staff governors to withdraw from the meeting when these appointments were discussed.

- 2.2. All governors confirmed that they had no interests that they were under a duty to disclose in accordance with Article 5 of the College's Articles of Association.

*At this point Shola Bryan and Susan Lindsey withdrew from the meeting*

### **3. Governor appointments**

- 3.1. The Clerk reported that the terms of office of the two existing student governors (Shola Bryan and Susan Lindsey) were due to end on 2 February. Susan Lindsey was not seeking re-appointment as a student governor. Shola Bryan had indicated that she was willing to continue for a further period.
- 3.2. The Clerk explained that, when the new constitution of the student representative bodies had been approved by the Board in November 2020, it had been the expectation that more students would 'return to learn' from January 2021 and that by February not only the Programme Management Committees and Student Experience Fora (SEFs) but also the new Student Council would be well established. But with the great majority of courses still being delivered online, and most students only having the opportunity to make each other's acquaintance remotely, if at all, it had taken longer than expected to set up the representative bodies.
- 3.3. There were now, however, 140 elected class representatives and enough of these had shown an interest in serving on the Student Council for an inaugural meeting of the new Council to be arranged for a date later in February. It was hoped that that meeting would elect a Chair and a Student Governor (unlike its predecessor, the new constitution did not link these two roles, although there was still an expectation that the Chair of the Student Council would normally hold one of the two student governor positions).
- 3.4. Governors agreed that student voice on the Governing Body would be stronger if there were some continuity of student representation. Accordingly, the Board resolved that rather than seek two nominations from the Student Council (and have no student governor in place until both those nominations had been made and approved) it would re-appoint Shola Bryan to serve alongside any new student governor who might be nominated, and that both appointments would come to an end on 30 November 2021. By that date students enrolling from September 2021 would have had the opportunity to elect Class Representatives and the new SEFs and Student Council would have met, following the normal timetable for such meetings.
- 3.5. Asked whether Shola Bryan was currently a student, the Clerk confirmed that she had enrolled on a number of short courses in Terms One and Two (meeting the requirement that any student governor be a Morley student for at least part of the year), and for a more substantial course starting in the autumn of 2021.
- 3.6. In relation to the recent campaign to recruit two external governors with specific skill sets, the Clerk reminded the Board that the recommendations of the Search and Governance Committee had been considered at the Board meeting on 28 January. These included the appointment of Susan Lindsey as an external governor, subject to the Chair and Vice-chair of the Committee (Stuart Edwards and Victor Olowe) interviewing her and being fully satisfied of her suitability for appointment. The Chair confirmed that that condition had been met and the Board accordingly resolved to approve her appointment.

3.7. Asked about the progress of the recruitment campaign for a Chair designate, the Clerk reported that the advertisement was close to being finalised, a video message from the Chair had been recorded and the microsite should go live on 3 February. A period of at least eight weeks was required for search and selection (by the Search and Governance Committee) and it was unlikely that the process would be complete in time for an appointment to be made at the scheduled board meeting on 22 March. It was therefore agreed that an additional board meeting be scheduled for 26 April to enable an appointment to be made as soon as possible after the start of the summer term.

**4. Other business**

None

**5. Date of next meeting**

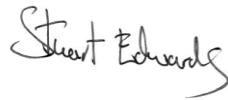
Confirmed as Monday 22 March 2021 at 4.30 pm by Microsoft Teams.

The meeting ended at 5.15 pm

Martin McNeill  
Clerk to the Governing Body

Confirmed as a correct record at the meeting held on 26 April 2021

and signed by



(Stuart Edwards) (Chair of that meeting)