Minutes of the Estates Policy Committee Meeting of 9th December 2021

Via Microsoft Teams

Present:
Rachel Mathews-McKay (Chair)
Professor Eleanor Denny, Bursar & Director of Strategic Innovation (Secretary)
Orla Cunningham - Interim Chief Operating Officer
Peter Reynolds - Chief Financial Officer
Gisele Scanlon - President of the Graduate Students Union
Mike Clark - Director of Campus Infrastructure
Professor Christine Casey – Department of History of Art and Architecture
Dr Stephen Waldren – Curator of the Botanic Gardens (Botany TCD)
Trevor Payne – External member – Director of Estates – University of Birmingham

Minute Secretary
Sally-Anne Mac Mahon – Administrative Officer

Apologies:
Ciaran O’Connor – Office of Public Works

Statement of Interest:
None declared.

EPC/21-22/014 Draft Minutes of 15th October 2021
Through the Chair the Bursar requested to make some minor revisions to the draft minutes to send to the Committee members after the meeting, for approval via email.

The Bursar asked it to be noted that the actions assigned to her pertaining to the October minutes are now closed.

EPC/21-22/015 Matters Arising
Update to Dublin City Development Plan

The Director of Campus Infrastructure (DCI) gave a verbal update on progress to date in developing Trinity’s input into the DCC Development Plan, noting the deadline for submission is 4th February 2022. The issue of reclaiming space in the Stack B building for office use has been called out, along with the proposed purchase of land as part of the Portal Project, with the tender for this project due to go live in January 2022. The DCI, in line with the consensus of the Committee, assured the members that conservation of our historic campus will be a priority in working towards an overarching submission.

The Chair agreed that the EPC will be required to meet on an ad hoc basis in the time leading up to the deadline, which will ensure oversight by EPC at each stage.

In relation to the College Master Plan, the DCI undertook to seek input from EPC members into the creation of Terms of Reference for this project.

Actions
DCI to liaise with the Bursar’s Office to arrange ad hoc meetings as appropriate.
DCI to engage with EPC members re: TCD Master Plan Terms of Reference.
EPC/21-22/016  Progress Update on Live Implementation Strategy

This item was presented by the Director of Campus Infrastructure (DCI). The DCI gave a brief high-level update, taking the documentation as read and reminding members that this update is in line with the Estates Strategy Policy (2018) and is presented to allow EPC members to be kept informed regularly.

It was noted that the conciliation process related to the PHS project is deemed to be successful at this time.

In relation to the planning permission for the development of Trinity Hall, the DCI indicated that all is in order at present and there will be a more comprehensive update in the second quarter of 2022.

Action

DCI to present visual slides showing progress at next and future meetings to allow EPC members to fully understand the status of projects.

EPC/21-22/016  Update on Trinity East Project

This update was presented by the Bursar and Director of Strategic Innovation (BDSI). The BDSI opened this item by deeming the documentation to have been read in advance. She highlighted some items of importance as follows:

The Committee noted that now that pre-development phase is coming to an end, steps have been taken to ensure the orderly wind up of predevelopment activities.

All costs and tasks to be reduced to a minimum by end of January 2022.

Budget for wind up is covered by the last tranche of €1m funding approved by Board in April.

Given evolved funding landscape, a period of Strategic Review is now required to determine next steps.

There is no input required from EPC members at this time, however, this Committee will be consulted as part of the overall College Strategy review.

Section B – no items

Section C – no items

EPC/21-22/017  AOB

The President of the Graduate Studies Union (PGSU) enquired as to the situation with the opening of the Front Gate for student access, noting that there has been a concerning level of crime perpetrated in the area at the Pearse Street side of campus. The DCI undertook to
investigate and appraise the PGSU of any updates on the possible reopening of this gate and the timelines involved.

Next meetings
Upcoming meetings are scheduled for:

14 March 14.00-16.00
09 June 14.00-16.00

Signed:

____________________

Rachel Mathews-McKay – Chair

Date: