## MINUTES SECTION A – OPEN FOR PUBLICATION

### Part One – Preliminary Items

#### 1. Highlighted Items

The Chair welcomed new Council members, Ms Kru Desai and Mr Simon Harding-Roots, to their first meeting.

#### 2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2018 were approved.
3. **Matters Arising**
Council noted the table of actions arising from past meetings.

**Action 1: Minute 5, 17.11.18, items brought forward by the Chair**
Council received an update on the reform of the USS Pension Scheme. City was considering its response to a second Technical Consultation on the valuation of the Scheme due by 1st March 2018. A number of HEIs had sought further clarification on the questions asked, however, which could result in an extension to the Consultation period. The second phase of work of the Joint Expert Panel had now commenced and would report in October 2019. There would be an opportunity to discuss pensions issues when Emelda Nicholroy of UCEA spoke to the next Council Plenary Dinner on 21st March.

The President reported on two high profile visits that had taken place recently at City. The deferred visit of the Israeli ambassador to the Students Union Israel Society had passed off successfully without incident. A visit from the Duchess of Sussex to the Association of Commonwealth Universities, hosted by City, had led to 870 items of news coverage, many showing the Duchess speaking to City students.

4. **Conflicts of Interest**
There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5. **Items Specially Brought Forward by the Chair**
The Chair provided a brief update on her meetings with staff and students. The staff meeting had been with representatives from the trade unions; the discussion had covered staff wellbeing, staff representation at Council, the London Living Wage, and the arrangements for temporary accommodation of staff during construction work at City. The student meeting had discussed the desire of students to have more say in decisions about sports and catering issues, the impact on Student Union resource of the external speaker arrangements, the Students Union’s work to develop a greater sense of community and the Careers Service.

The Chair also noted that Council would be asked to comment on City’s response to the current Consultation on the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF).

6. **Council Appointments**
Council approved the reappointment of Professor Marianne Lewis as a staff member of Council for three years to 4th February 2022, the extension of term of office for Professor Iain Gray to 31st July 2019, and noted that CGNC had approved new members of RemCo, ARC, SIPCo and CGNC.

7. **Cass Estate Update**
This item was deferred to the afternoon session of the Away Day.

8. **SIPCo Minutes**
Council noted the minutes of the SIPCo meeting held on 24th January and that a calendar of business had been developed for the Committee.

Council received an update on from the Chair of CGNC on the progress of the University of London (UoL) Bill. This had now completed its passage through Parliament, therefore the process for City to apply for University title had resumed. A Consultation on the changes was open until 4th March and had been publicised on the website of each of the 12 member institutions seeking University Title. In addition, the College Secretary had written to key stakeholders identified by the University of London. Council at the May meeting would be asked for its formal approval of the Supplemental Charter, previously agreed in principle in November 2017. It was anticipated that the process would be complete by the start of the next academic year.
City would not change its name or logo, but would resume the use of some senior officer titles such as Vice-Chancellor. One further change was to make provision for the Deputy President to become an ex-officio member of Council through revisions to the Statutes.

9. Any Other Business
There was no other business.

The formal meeting was followed by the Council Away Day.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Friday 22nd March 2019, 9am, Northampton Suite, University Building.

Julia Palca
Chair of Council, February 2019