

Key Questions for Christ Church Trustees

Dean Sarah Foot:

1. Why did she describe Martyn Percy as "evil" in a public speech heard by other heads of house? (Professor Woudhuysen walked out on hearing this).
2. Why did she turn against Percy in 2018 after he had already helped her to become ordained following her earlier divorce?
3. Why did she tell Angela Tilby at a college dinner that Percy was guilty of serious financial misdemeanours when this was not only not the case but before the tribunal was even held to investigate the allegations?
4. Why did she and Professor Hine secretly meet with and try to persuade the Bishop of Oxford that he should force Percy to resign?
5. Why did she tell others that there were other concealed scandals about Percy at Cuddesdon? What were these allegations? Was it appropriate for a future Head of House to smear her predecessor in this way? Was this a form of gaslighting?

Karl Sternberg:

1. Why did he circulate a fabricated story to the Daily Mail newspaper that Martyn Percy was masturbating under his cassock during his encounter with Alannah Jeune on 4th October 2020 when this was untrue and not an allegation that Ms Jeune has ever made (a fact she confirms). Why did he think the newspaper might print the story?
2. Why did he send a string of abusive emails about Percy to the other ex-censors between November 2017 and January 2018 referring to the dean as a "manipulative little turd" and a "little Hitler" whose "wrinkly little body" found in Osney Lock would make a good Inspector Morse episode? Were these appropriate things to say even in jest and has he ever apologised to Prof. Percy for them?

Professor Kevin McGerty:

1. Does Prof. McGerty now regret describing Lord Patten as a "dinosaur" and has he withdrawn the remark or apologised to the Chancellor of the University?

Professor Geraldine Johnson:

1. When during her period as Censor did Johnson come to the view that although she was responsible for safeguarding, she had no training for it and the duty was not featured in the job description?

Professor Edwin Simpson:

1. Is it correct that he abstracted £1,500 worth of wine from the college wine cellar without paying for it? How did the governing body deal this as a disciplinary matter and why was it not treated as a Statute XXXIX matter of scandalous behaviour?
2. It is alleged that he pursued the female wine steward abusively into the cellar when the matter came to light, such that she had to be rescued by her husband? Is this correct ? Did he subsequently pay for the wine without suffering any sanctions?

See

<https://theoxfordblue.co.uk/christ-church-hires-lawyer-to-investigate-disappearing-wine/>

See also this story from The London Times:

Mystery of Oxford college's disappearing wine

Emma Yeomans

Saturday March 14 2020,
12:01am GMT, The Times



Christ Church is investigating after internal records showed a discrepancy in stocks
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Deep in the cellars of one of the world's oldest seats of learning lurks an embarrassing secret. Christ Church, Oxford, has found that cases of burgundy and Pouilly-Fuissé have been mysteriously disappearing from its large collection of fine wines.

Between £1,000 and £2,000 worth of wine cannot be fully accounted for by the college, *The Times* understands, with one staff member saying that many bottles had been disappearing over several years.

It is yet another headache for the college, founded in 1546, which is embroiled in a long dispute with its dean over alleged improper conduct, which has spilt over into an employment tribunal against the institution.

The college is investigating the disappearing wine after internal records showed a discrepancy in stocks. Staff can order wine from the cellar and charge it to themselves or to the college if it is used for official functions or business. However, an internal record of bottles being signed out at the college's expense revealed that far more was being charged to the college than expected.

The apparent discrepancy was brought to the attention of the college's management about a month ago.

Christ Church's website describes its collection as "extensive". It also holds stocks of sherry, port and whisky.

However, although the college keeps written records of who has taken and charged which wines, members of the college are concerned that no disciplinary action or suspension has taken place over the missing cases.

The mystery of the disappearing wine is apparently well known about among staff. Sources told *The Times* that it was a frequent topic of conversation among academics and college staff alike — but only out of the management's earshot.

"If there has been action, it is a well-guarded secret," a senior source in the college said.

A spokeswoman for Christ Church said: "As soon as these allegations came to light, Christ Church began an investigation, which is being led by an independent barrister. Those staff involved in the investigation have been kept fully updated.

Professor Belinda Jack:

1. Prof. Jack was heard by other members of the governing body on one occasion asking: "Why can't we get rid of the fucking Dean?" in June 2018. Why did she say that out loud?
2. Why did she suggest that the Rector of Lincoln College, Professor Henry Woudhuysen, should do more to control his wife?
3. Why did she suggest that fixing the outcome of the second Statute XXXIX tribunal should be obtained by getting two members of the governing body known to be hostile to the dean to sit with the assessor, the employment lawyer Rachel Crasnow KC, so that she could be outvoted if she reached a view supportive of Professor Percy?

Professor David Hine:

1. Why did David Hine persuade the Governing Body not to pay Martyn Percy's legal expenses following the outcome of the Smith Tribunal, and what was the basis for agreeing that the expenses of the other prosecution witnesses should be met?
2. Why did he and the other ex-censors keep telling the Governing Body that the Charity Commissioners had specifically advised that Percy's legal expenses could not be paid when the Charity Commission had never been asked about the matter?
3. Why did he tell Professor Biggar that not paying the Dean's expenses was "not moral but it was legal"?

4. Why did he write that Percy had a "low grade mind" and was "stupid and spiteful"? When did he decide that Percy had to go because "he'd make them all miserable?"
5. Why did he tell the Governing Body that Percy had threatened him and his family when, as he admitted to the Smith Tribunal that it was not true? Did he ever admit this to the Governing Body?
6. Why did the College try to sever the link with the McDonald Agape Foundation and demand their eviction from the college? Was it because the foundation's sponsor and Professor Biggar had supported Percy?
7. Why did he try to prevent Professor Pallot from delivering a get-well card to Percy at the Deanery?
8. Why did Professor Hine convene a meeting of the Development Board in London in November 2018 to tell them that the dean would probably be gone by Christmas, but that he could not say what the Dean had done except that it was obviously extremely serious? Does Professor Hine accept that this was a form of gaslighting?

Professor Lindsay Judson:

1. Why did he unilaterally and without consultation change the terms of the College's agreed salaries policy from ensuring comparability to considering whether there was comparability in salaries?
2. Why was he not required to be re-elected annually as Secretary to the Salaries Board, and why did he keep on the role for many years beyond the Charity Commission's specified guidelines?
3. Since the Dean's mental capacity was not raised before the Smith tribunal, why was it brought into play afterwards by Professor Judson? Was this a consequence and causal effect of Prof. Judson's conduct towards the Dean, or just another weaponisation of any means possible to get rid of him?

Professor Ian Watson:

1. Why did he tell Martyn Percy that "laws don't apply here" after Percy had given the police access to search Professor Obbink's room for stolen manuscripts? Does he not regard the law of the land as trumping college statutes?
2. Does Professor Watson wish to apologise, along with **Professor Rowland-Jones**, for agreeing with her description that Percy had a narcissistic personality disorder. as recorded at a governing body meeting in February 2020, for which Prof. Rowland-Jones was subsequently sanctioned by the royal College of Physicians?