



## MINUTES

*of the College Council in the Harrison Room  
at 1:10pm on Tuesday 1 November 2022*

There were present the Master, the Vice Master, the Bursar, the Senior Tutor, Dr Beauregard, Ms MacDonald, Mr Matheson, Mr Nicholson, Dr O'Donnell, Dr Reinbold, Dr V. Young; the JCR President, Ms Bella Cross; the JCR Treasurer, Mr Matthew Hambling. The MCR Treasurer, Mr Stanislaw Banach was also in attendance. The Admissions Tutor for the Arts, Dr T. Smith, was in attendance for item cc2022.230. Dr Woodford was in attendance as Secretary.

### UNRESERVED BUSINESS

- cc2022.223      *Statement of Conflicts of Interest*  
There were no conflicts of interest arising from the Unreserved Agenda concerning any of those persons present.
- cc2022.224      *Apologies for Absence*  
Apologies were received from Dr Bardhan and the MCR President, Ms Elsa Kobeissi.
- cc2022.225      *Minutes of the Unreserved Council Meeting held on 11 October 2022*  
The minutes were received and signed.
- cc2022.226      *Matters Arising*  
There were no matters arising.
- cc2022.227      *Library & Archives Committee*  
The minutes of the meeting of the Library & Archives Committee held on 12 October 2022 were received and noted (**CP2022/090**). Fellows were encouraged to engage with the Librarian and the Archivist over the opportunity to use the rare books collection for small exhibitions in College.
- cc2022.228      *HR Committee*  
The minutes of the meeting of the HR Committee held on 13 October 2022 were received and noted (**CP2022/091**). The Bursar noted that staffing pressures continue, not least in catering.

- cc2022.229 *Alumni & Development Committee*  
The minutes of the meeting of the Alumni & Development Committee held on 14 October 2022 (CP2022/092) were received and noted.
- cc2022.230 *Access Committee*  
The minutes of the meeting of the Access Committee held on 18 October 2022 were received and noted (CP2022/093a). The Senior Tutor drew attention to the highly effective work of the College's two recently appointed School Liaison Officers and emphasized that the Admissions statistics for this current round have maintained the high numbers recorded in recent years. The Admissions Tutor for the Arts, Dr T. Smith, presented a proposal for the College to pilot an academic pre-sessional Bridging Programme in 2023 for a small cohort of widening participation (WP) students (CP2022/093b). The programme would run in September for around 10-15 students, selected based on WP criteria; the students will have already achieved their offers, and the programme would be intended to support their integration into the College and the University. The Bridging Programmes already run by other colleges are perceived to be effective and welcomed by the students involved. The JCR President endorsed the proposal. Council gave its support in principle for the pilot in 2023, noting that the proposal would be brought back to Council at a later stage for approval, and that external funding to be sought from the Isaac Newton Trust and through the work of the Alumni & Development Office to support its cost, would be a key consideration in the final decision to proceed.
- cc2022.231 *Accommodation Committee*  
The minutes of the unreserved meeting of the Accommodation Committee held 19 October 2022 (CP2022/094) were received and noted. The newly refurbished hostels, 29 and 31 Grange Road, and 1 Selwyn Gardens, are expected to be handed over to the College during November. Students who had balloted for rooms in the hostels will be encouraged to remain in their alternative accommodation if possible, so that the rooms in the hostels can be let by the conference office.
- cc2022.232 *Operations Committee*  
The minutes of the meeting of the Operations Committee held on 21 October 2022 (CP2022/095) were received and noted. A power cuts working group is being established to mitigate any possible impact of energy shortages over the winter months. It is hoped to install additional solar panels on the roof of Cripps Court, although funding will be a consideration. During the planned kitchen closure for purposes of fire safety maintenance from 19 December there will be an additional offering of food at the College bar.
- cc2022.233 *Investment Committee*  
The minutes of the meeting of the Investment Committee held on 20 October 2022 (CP2022/096a) were received and noted. Council also received and noted the Investment Committee Annual Report for 2021-



22 (CP2022/096b). A gently positive performance in the investment portfolio in the first half of the academic year had been followed in the second half of the year, and in particular since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, by a rapid downturn in the value of investments. The result was a reduction in the value of the portfolio by £2.6 million in 2021-22, only the second time in twenty years that the value of the portfolio had fallen in the course of a year. Council endorsed the current investment approach, noting that the College has the benefit of a long-term perspective, and that a new investment strategy and policy document is due in early 2023.

cc2022.234

*Accounts for the Year Ending 30 June 2022*

The Bursar presented the College's draft audited accounts for the year ending 30 June 2022 (CP2022/097). No issues were raised by the College's auditors. The Bursar noted, as a reason for concern, an increase in the College's structural deficit, when compared to the situation before the pandemic. However, the results exceeded the original budget in terms of the level of the operating deficit and the cash surplus, both to the tune of approximately £600k. Council congratulated the Bursar and the Finance Manager, Mrs Clayson, on the accounts, which will be presented for their approval to the Governing Body as the College's Trustees on 15 November 2022.

cc2022.235

*Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Committee*

Council approved the draft Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy (CP2022/098) and recommended additional wording to clarify that the policy stands alongside the College's and the University's Free Speech policies.

cc2022.236

*Multi-Purpose Quiet Space*

The Senior Tutor noted that this item will be brought to the next meeting of Council.

cc2022.237

*Any Other Unreserved Business*

The Bursar, Mr Pierce, thanked all those who have served as members of Council during his time as Bursar for their support and constructive challenge, and he endorsed the role of the College Council in representing the long-term interests of the College and informing the key decisions which the College has needed to take. The Master warmly thanked the Bursar on behalf of the Council for the impact he has made during his time of office since November 2019.

