



MINUTES
of a meeting of the College Council in the New SCR
at 1:10 pm on Tuesday 21 May 2019

There were present: The Master, the Vice-Master, the Bursar, the Senior Tutor, Dr Beauregard, Professor Cant, Ms MacDonald, Mr Matheson, Mr Nicholson, Dr Rana, and the Revd Canon Shilson-Thomas. Professor Ellis was present except for items cc2019.122-cc2019.124. The JCR President and the JCR Treasurer were present for the Unreserved Business, for which the MCR Treasurer was also in attendance. Dr Sage and Sam Wisbey were in attendance for item cc2019.114i. Dr Smith was in attendance as Secretary.

UNRESERVED BUSINESS

cc2019.110 *Starred Items*

It was agreed that starred items should not be discussed.

cc2019.111 * *Statement of Conflicts of Interest*

There were no conflicts of interest arising from the Unreserved Agenda concerning any of those persons present.

cc2019.112 *Apologies for Absence*

Apologies were received from the MCR President.

cc2019.113 *Minutes of the Unreserved Council Meeting held on 30 April 2019*

The Minutes were agreed and signed, with the amendment that the final sentence of minute cc2019.98vi should read: 'The MCR President agreed to investigate this matter further in liaison with the Operations Manager.'

cc2019.114 *Matters arising*

i. cc2019.57 May Ball, 2019

Dr Sage and Mr Wisbey introduced **CP2019/46**. Council noted that ticket sales had now reached 1224, and that roughly 1250 guests were expected. Council noted that the Ball could not be insured for cancellation in the event of certain exceptional events, and the assumption was that the Ball would go ahead in all foreseeable circumstances given the very high cost of cancellation. Council also noted that several static entertainments were still in the process of being arranged, and that it was essential for the May Ball officers to liaise with the Bursar, the Operations Manager and the Chair of the Gardens Committee before signing any contracts relating to such attractions. Dr Sage indicated that after this year's May Ball he wished to step down from his role as Senior Treasurer of the May Ball.

- cc2019.115 Phase III and Old Library*
The Bursar reported that he was about to sign the contract for the project, and that otherwise there was nothing new to report.
- cc2019.116 Risk Register*
Council noted that there had been no changes to the headline risks in CP2019/35 since the last Council meeting.
- cc2019.117 Pensions*
The Bursar reported that the recent USS consultation on pensions had imposed a response time of only six days. Council noted the view of its independent advisory committee that in weighing up the various options, the first was the one that allowed for the greatest flexibility, and that it was important that limitations on the capacity to negotiate borrowings in the future should be avoided where possible. A paper to Council on staff pensions would be brought once clarity had emerged on the USS situation.
- cc2019.118 Investment Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Investment Committee held on 2 May 2019 (**CP2019/47**).
- cc2019.119 Accommodation Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Accommodation Committee held on 1 May 2019 (**CP2019/48**). The Senior Tutor praised the success of new measures, suggested by junior members, to make available much more information about individual rooms than had existed hitherto. The photographic database of rooms is incomplete and remaining gaps will be filled this summer. Council noted the need for future planning for the academical years 2021-2, 2022-3 and 2023-4, in each of which one hostel would be out of action to allow for refurbishment, to ensure that there would be alternative accommodation. Under item 5, Council noted the agreed statement regarding eligibility for rent rebates in the event of seriously disruptive noise during the Library building works. In view of the recent collapse of a ceiling in a hostel room, due to an unreported water leak, Council agreed that Housekeeping and students should be vigilant and promptly use the Maintenance Department reporting system for any problems.
- cc2019.120 Directors of Studies Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Directors of Studies Committee held on 8 May 2019 (**CP2019/49**). Under item 4, the Senior Tutor reported that CamCORS was in the process of being thoroughly overhauled, and that suggestions for improvements from Fellows and students would be welcome.



- cc2019.121 *Library and Archives Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Library and Archives Committee held on 13 May 2019 (**CP2019/50**). Under item 6.5.3, Council noted the importance of displaying as wide a variety of items from the Archives as possible during Open Cambridge.
- cc2019.122 *Guest Nights consultation*
The Master introduced **CP2019/51**. Council noted that many alumni appreciated the opportunity to attend Guest Nights, and also that students would welcome some kind of 'Super Formal Hall'. Council agreed that during the academical year 2019-20 there would be a Guest Night open to alumni in each of the Michaelmas and Easter Terms, and that in Lent Term there would if possible be a 'Super Formal Hall' on the final Thursday of Full Term. The Master agreed to talk to the Catering Department about these proposals.
- cc2019.123 *Senior Tutor's Report*
The Senior Tutor reported on several matters, as follows:
- i. Disciplinary procedures*
A ballot of senior members was currently being held regarding the revised University disciplinary procedures.
- ii. Access and participation*
Senior Tutors and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Admissions Forum had objected in the strongest possible terms to the University's proposal, after the Access and Participation Plan draft had been discussed at the Senior Tutors' Committee, not to set a maintained sector target. As a result, after vigorous discussion, the target had been reinstated by the University Council and set at 69.1%. Council expressed concern that, even allowing for the short time available, this episode reflected an underlying tendency for the University to proceed with inadequate consultation with the Colleges. The Senior Tutor agreed to circulate to members of Council his response on this matter, together with that of the Admissions Forum Chair. The Master reported that the issue would also be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the Colleges Committee.
- iii. University Education Framework*
Development of this Framework was currently on hold pending the completion of other strategic reviews that would contribute to it.
- iv. Harding benefaction challenge*
The issue of College eligibility to apply for matched funding to develop various student support initiatives was under discussion. Council noted the importance of flexibility in such arrangements and favoured the use of the old Newton Trust formula rather than that of the Colleges Fund to determine College eligibility for matching funds. The Senior Tutor and the Development Director would represent the College at a forthcoming



briefing meeting and Council will need to return to this issue in the coming weeks.

cc2019.124 Any Other Unreserved Business

i. High Table

Council agreed that High Table guests are normally expected to be of postgraduate age. Nobody under 18 is permitted to dine at High Table, except for outside Term when lunch is held in the New SCR and Fellows' children (if under 18) can sit with them at the Heads of Department table. The Bursar agreed to circulate a draft revised regulation for this.

ii. Photographer

The Master reported that a photographer would be in College the following Tuesday to take images on the theme of 'Excellence in Selwyn'. Fellows and students were encouraged to suggest possible subjects.

iii. Recruitment of a new Bursar

Council agreed that it was important that students be involved in the selection process for a new Bursar.

