



**MINUTES**  
*of a meeting of the College Council*  
*at 1:10 pm on Tuesday 28 April 2020*

There were present by video conference: The Master, The Vice-Master, the Bursar, the Senior Tutor, Dr Beauregard, Professor Cant, Ms MacDonald, Dr Meer, Mr Nicholson, and the Revd Canon Shilson-Thomas. The JCR President and the JCR Treasurer were present by video conference for the Unreserved Business. Dr Smith was in attendance as Secretary.

**UNRESERVED BUSINESS**

- cc2020.120*      *Statement of Conflicts of Interest*  
There were no conflicts of interest arising from the Unreserved Agenda concerning any of those persons present.
- cc2020.121*      *Apologies for Absence*  
Apologies were received from Professor Ellis, Mr Matheson, the MCR President, and the MCR Treasurer.
- cc2020.122*      *Minutes of the meeting on 17 April 2020*  
The minutes were approved.
- cc2020.123*      *Matters arising*
- i. Covid-19 crisis*  
The Master reported that the University was planning four possible scenarios for the 2020-21 academical year, ranging from the most optimistic to the most pessimistic. The key aim was to ensure that the University functioned as normally as possible from the Michaelmas Term onwards, but much would depend on how the national situation unfolded. These scenarios would be developed in careful co-ordination with the Colleges through the inter-collegiate committees.
- cc2020.124*      *Risk Register*  
Council noted the updates to the headline risks in **CP2020/50**, especially the one red item (risk to health and well-being) and the twelve amber items, including actions proposed and associated timescales. A briefing on IT risks and mitigations would be presented to Council in May, particularly bearing in mind the increased reliance on IT systems during the emergency. Council agreed to establish a Recovery Group, chaired by the Master or the Vice-Master, and including student representatives, to draw up plans for the College's recovery from the Covid-19 crisis, both

financially and operationally. These plans would be presented in draft to Council in June.

cc2020.125 *Phase III and Old Library update*  
Council received and noted the minutes of the meeting of the Phase III Committee held on 12 March 2020 (CP2020/51); and also noted that Council's consideration of plans for the conversion of the Old Library would be postponed until the next Council meeting (see item gb2020.5). The Bursar reported that work on Phase III had restarted on 27 April 2020, without additional financial consequences at this stage. Council noted that Barnes Construction would shortly submit proposals for a revised schedule and costings, and these would be brought to Phase III Committee and Council for consideration.

cc2020.126 *Investment Committee*  
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Investment Committee held on 23 April 2020 (CP2020/52). Council noted the resilience of the College's investment portfolio despite the current economic uncertainty. Whereas the portfolio had stood at £67.6 million at the end of 2019, on 15 April 2020 it stood at approximately £63.6 million, although on a like-for-like basis this would equate to £64.1 million, as the College withdrew £500,000 in cash towards the end of March. Within the overall portfolio, the College's CUEF holding was likely to stand at approximately £3.8 million, compared with £4.4 million at the end of 2019. Council agreed that the College would not invest in any collectives in which more than 5% was held in fossil fuel companies, and that the holding of Diverse Income Trust would therefore be sold. It was also agreed that the funds held in the portfolio would be reviewed every six months to establish whether any had exceeded the 5% threshold. Council also agreed that in the present circumstances, the move to a Total Return approach to investments, which had been approved in principle by Council (see item cc2020.41) and by Governing Body (see item gb2020.8) should be deferred for one year. Council would recommend this deferral to the Governing Body meeting on 16 June 2020.

cc2020.127 *IT Committee*  
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the IT Committee held on 6 March 2020 (CP2020/53). The Master reported that the College's new website had been launched earlier that day and he encouraged members of Council to test it on a range of devices.

cc2020.128 *Students and academic matters update*  
The Senior Tutor reported that matters were now in a more stable state than earlier in the month, and that the number of students remaining in College had barely altered over the past ten days. All undergraduates had completed an online survey indicating how the present circumstances were affecting their working conditions, and the results have been helpful in determining where financial and other support could be best directed. Beginning of term meetings with Tutors and Directors



of Studies have been informed by the survey results and have gone as smoothly as could be expected when conducted virtually. Discussions were in progress about ways in which the impact on supervisors of reduced amounts of teaching during the Easter Term might be mitigated. Looking ahead, Council agreed that in planning various scenarios for the future, the student experience should remain central, that pastoral and above all academic support should be maintained as far as possible, and that as much of the nature of the College community as possible should be preserved within national restrictions. The College was committed to organising events of whatever kind was possible to celebrate the achievements of those students who were due to graduate in June 2020 and would ensure that these were accessible to all those who wished to attend, either virtually or in person. Thought would have to be given to those students who might not be able to travel to Cambridge for such events.

cc2020.129

*Scholarships and Prizes 2020*

Following discussions with the Tutors, the Senior Tutor proposed that those students who both undertake summative assessment, and who achieved marks that would usually have made them eligible for a First, would still be eligible for a Scholarship, but that this would not extend to those who gained a First because of the 'safety-net' without achieving marks of a first class standard this year. For those students having formative assessment, the variations between Triposes were so great that the fairest solution was to put the award of Scholarships into abeyance for this year. The same would be true for named prizes, although a larger than usual number of College prizes might still be given to reward exceptional performances. Council agreed to these proposals in principle and asked the Senior Tutor to bring more detailed plans to the next meeting.

cc2020.130

*College diary*

Council approved the draft College diary for 2020-21 (CP2020/54), noting that it was still work in progress and that the dates of certain meetings and committees (e.g. Tutors, Directors of Studies) remained to be confirmed.

cc2020.131

*Ramsay Murray Lecture*

Council noted that this year's Ramsay Murray Lecture would take place online on Friday 15 May 2020. A dry run would be held on Tuesday 5 May 2020, which members of Council were encouraged to attend.

cc2020.132

*Any Other Unreserved Business*

*i. Virtual Chapel Service*

Council recorded its congratulations to the Dean of Chapel and the Director of Music in Chapel for the virtual Chapel service posted the previous weekend which had already attracted over a thousand views on YouTube.

