



**MINUTES**  
*of a meeting of the College Council  
at 1:10 pm on Tuesday 19 May 2020*

There were present by video conference: The Master, The Vice-Master, the Bursar, the Senior Tutor, Dr Beauregard, Professor Cant, Professor Ellis, Ms MacDonald, Mr Matheson, Dr Meer, Mr Nicholson, and the Revd Canon Shilson-Thomas. The JCR President, the JCR Treasurer, and the MCR President were present by video conference for the Unreserved Business, for which the MCR Treasurer was also in attendance. Dr Sage was in attendance for item cc2020.152. Dr Smith was in attendance as Secretary.

#### **UNRESERVED BUSINESS**

*cc2020.142 Statement of Conflicts of Interest*  
There were no conflicts of interest arising from the Unreserved Agenda concerning any of those persons present.

*cc2020.143 Apologies for Absence*  
There were no apologies for absence.

*cc2020.144 Minutes of the Unreserved Council Meeting held on 28 April 2020*  
The minutes were agreed and signed.

*cc2020.145 Matters arising*

*i. cc2020.129 Scholarships and Prizes 2020*  
The Senior Tutor introduced **CP2020/55**. Council approved the proposed arrangements, which fleshed out in detail the principles agreed at the previous meeting, and noted they were in line with what a number of other Colleges were known to be planning. Council also noted the need to consider revising the format of the Admission of Scholars and the Scholars' Dinner, possibly by postponing these events until 2021, and opening them up in this exceptional year to winners of prizes.

*cc2020.146 Coronavirus update*  
The Bursar reported that 80-85 of the College staff remained on furlough, and this was currently saving the College roughly £100,000 a month. The recovery task force was under way and would present draft plans to Council at its next meeting. The Senior Tutor reported that the University had that day issued guidance about how the return of research students to Cambridge was to be managed. Discussions with the JCR and the MCR were in hand about how students could retrieve belongings that they had

left in College. Students had recently completed an online survey indicating what they had left behind and when they hoped to collect it, and this data was informing the arrangements that were being devised.

*cc2020.147*

*Risk Register*

Council noted the updates to the headline risks in **CP2020/56**. The IT Committee would be reviewing the section on IT at its meeting on 12 June, and Council would review the yellow risk items at its next meeting.

*cc2020.148*

*Old Library*

The Bursar introduced **CP2020/57**, setting out two possible options for the refurbishment of the Old Library. Council agreed in principle to recommend to the Governing Body the adoption of the second option, which involved creating five seminar rooms on the ground floor and using the first floor for office space. Council noted that delays to Phase III meant that work on the Old Library was unlikely to begin until the second half of 2021. Council also noted that these plans should include provision of a designated space where priority will be given for outreach activities and also an area for medical and veterinary Fellows to keep teaching materials such as skeletons and anatomical models.

*cc2020.149*

*Joint Accommodation and Buildings and Estates Committee*

Council received and noted the minutes of a joint meeting of the Accommodation and Buildings and Estates Committees held on 6 May 2020 (**CP2020/58**). Council approved the proposals and noted that while the College remained closed the opportunity was being taken to press ahead with a number of works projects in the College and its grounds.

*cc2020.150*

*Phase III Committee*

Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Phase III Committee held on 7 May 2020 (**CP2020/59**). Council noted that work on Phase III had resumed on 27 April.

*cc2020.151*

*College Accounts: 9-month accounts*

The Bursar introduced **CP2020/60**. Council noted that the effects of the pandemic had increased the forecast deficit for 2019-20 from about £250,000 to about £1 million, principally because of lost revenue from Easter Term rents and facilities charges. These adverse developments were survivable provided that the College could return to as near normal as possible from October 2020 onwards. If, on the other hand, rental income were to be lost for the whole of the 2020-21 financial year there would be rather more serious financial consequences. Council noted that the budget for 2020-21 would be presented at its next meeting as part of the recovery plan. The Bursar also provided an update on the current valuation of the investment portfolio, which on a like-for-like basis now stood at £65.9 million. Council noted that the impact of market volatility had been reduced since market lows at the end of March. As a result, the reduction in value of the portfolio since the start of the year now stood at £1.7 million (or 2.5%).



cc2020.152

*Graduation (ceremonial plans) update*

The Master introduced **CP2020/60a**. Council agreed that students should be encouraged to take their degrees in absence later in the summer, and reiterated its pledge to hold some kind of College event at an appropriate date to celebrate their achievement. Council noted the University's commitment to hold a suitable ceremony in the Senate House irrespective of whether a degree has been taken in absence.

cc2020.153

*Snowball*

The Master reported that the Snowball committee had decided that this year's event would not be able to go ahead. It was nevertheless hoped that a significant social event could be held in College at some point during the 2020-21 academical year, provided that health restrictions permitted.

cc2020.154

*Weddings in Chapel*

The Dean of Chapel reported that in the light of the pandemic, and in consultation with Catering and Conferencing, no further weddings with receptions would be arranged for 2020-21. The priority was to seek to accommodate (at times suitable to the College) those to whom a prior commitment had been made but whose weddings had been postponed during the lockdown. In particular, it was hoped that the wedding of a current student, Christie Broom, to Ryan Gilfeather would be arranged as soon as possible after restrictions are lifted. Council agreed that in the circumstances the Dean of Chapel could make arrangements after consultation with the Bursar and the Senior Tutor, ensuring that all necessary social distancing was in place. The Dean of Chapel also reported that two further weddings had been rescheduled: that of Sebastian Aston-Deaville and Lauren Deakes for Saturday 9 January 2021; and that of Felix Newman and Sophie Gammage for Saturday 16 January 2021.

cc2020.155

*Any Other Unreserved Business*

*i. Sir Adrian Smith*

Council recorded its congratulations to Sir Adrian Smith (SE 1965, and an Honorary Fellow of the College) on becoming President-elect of the Royal Society and noted that he would take up the Presidency in November.

