



MINUTES
of a meeting of the College Council
at 2:00 pm on Thursday 1 October 2020

There were present by video conference: The Master, The Vice-Master, the Bursar, the Senior Tutor, Dr Beauregard, Ms MacDonald, Mr Matheson, Mr Nicholson, the Revd Canon Shilson-Thomas, and Dr Woodford. 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 Smith was in attendance as Secretary.

UNRESERVED BUSINESS

cc2020.251 Statement of Conflicts of Interest

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

cc2020.252 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Professor Cant and Professor Ellis. The Master welcomed Dr Woodford as a co-opted member of Council for the Michaelmas Term 2020.

cc2020.253 Covid recovery plan update

The Master reported that the Cambridge Colleges had unanimously agreed to continue with the plans to bring students back into residence for the Michaelmas Term, while taking reasonable care to ensure that everyone was kept as safe as possible. He expressed his gratitude particularly to Heads of Department and to the Bursar and the Senior Tutor for the immense amount of work that they continued to put into managing the current situation, and stressed the need for all members of College to be as reasonable as possible in exceptionally challenging circumstances.

The Bursar reported that the College's in-person briefings for students about Covid had received a very good response, and would shortly also be presented to new postgraduates and undergraduates as part of their induction programme. Council approved the College protocol on Covid-19, and the guidance on self-isolation and testing, which are available at <https://www.sel.cam.ac.uk/about/finances-and-governance/covid-19-information>, and noted the vital importance of everyone adhering to the guidelines contained in those documents. The JCR and MCR officers were asked to reinforce this message to their members, not least in relation to behaviour in areas of the College such as the Bar. Some students had been

in self-isolation in accordance with national quarantine restrictions and some as a precautionary measure. The results of tests, for the latter group, had been coming back within 24 hours and had so far all been negative. Asymptomatic testing for Selwyn students would be held on Thursday mornings, beginning on 8 October 2020: this was not mandatory but students were encouraged to participate because it would give a valuable early warning of the presence of infection. Looking ahead, students would be allowed to stay in College over the Christmas Vacation if they so wished, and would be charged three weeks' rent at term-time rates for a five-week stay. Students would also be permitted to leave their belongings in their rooms without charge.

The Senior Tutor reported that a further mop-up Covid briefing would be held in the form of a recorded Zoom webinar for any who were unable to attend the in-person briefings. Induction for new postgraduates would be held on Friday 2 October, and new undergraduates would be arriving on Friday 2 and Saturday 3 October 2020. He and the Bursar had met with the Tutors earlier that day to discuss a wide range of matters and to ensure that Tutors could brief their pupils as fully and consistently as possible on relevant issues. As well as Covid-related matters, these included the availability of grants from the Elgar Fund, such as for study over the vacations. Much of the College's business in relation to teaching and learning, and the pastoral care of its students, would be continuing as usual, and the management of Covid should therefore not be the sole focus of attention. Council also noted the importance of warning students, particularly those newly arrived in Cambridge, to be vigilant of attempts at identity theft, especially at this time of year.

The Master closed this discussion by wishing everyone well for the coming term.

cc2020.254

Any Other Unreserved Business

There was no other Unreserved Business.

