



MINUTES
of a meeting of the College Council in the New SCR
at 1:10 pm on Tuesday 12 March 2019

There were present: The Master, the Vice-Master, the Bursar, the Senior Tutor, Dr Beauregard, Professor Cant, Professor Ellis, Ms MacDonald, Mr Matheson, Mr Nicholson and the Revd Canon Shilson-Thomas. The MCR President, 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 cc2019.57i. Dr Smith was in attendance as Secretary.

UNRESERVED BUSINESS

cc2019.53 *Starred Items*

It was agreed that starred items should not be discussed.

cc2019.54 * *Statement of Conflicts of Interest*

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

cc2019.55 *Apologies for Absence*

Apologies were received from Dr Rana.

cc2019.56 *Minutes of the Unreserved Council Meeting held on 12 February 2019*

The Minutes were agreed and signed.

cc2019.57 *Matters arising*

i. cc2018.246 *May Ball, 2019*

Dr Sage, the Senior Treasurer of the May Ball, and Sam Wisbey, the May Ball President, introduced **CP2019/20**. Council noted that 1,130 tickets had been sold so far, a third of them to alumni, and that this figure could be increased if demand required. The large number of May Balls and similar events in Cambridge at that time of year indicated that the current cycle of a Selwyn May Ball in alternate years might need to be reviewed in due course. Council noted the importance of ensuring that the weight of vehicles entering Old Court, and of other attractions set up in the Court, did not cause any damage. To this end, it was essential that the May Ball officers consulted, as appropriate, with the Operations Manager, the Head Gardener, and the Chair of the Gardens Committee, and any difficulties in this process would be referred to

Council for resolution. The importance of monitoring attractions throughout the duration of the Ball was noted. 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.

- cc2019.58 Phase III and Old Library*
Council noted that the Appeal had so far generated £11.3 million towards the target total of £12.6 million.
- cc2019.59 Risk Register*
Council noted the headline risks as detailed in **CP2019/21**, and the fact that no changes had been made to this document since it was presented to Governing Body on 26 February 2019.
- cc2019.60 Equality and Diversity Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Equality and Diversity Committee held on 5 February 2019 (**CP2019/22**). The Master reported that the University was developing a Race Action Plan as part of the preparation for a bid for a Race Equality Charter Bronze. Council expressed concern that the University was proceeding in this and other matters without adequate consultation with the relevant intercollegiate committees. Subsequent to the meeting, the Master circulated the current draft of the University's REC Action Plan to Council members, for information. Council supported the Bursar's view that in the development of such policies and documents it is essential that key stakeholders in collegiate Cambridge be consulted through the relevant intercollegiate committees and through Colleges' Councils and Governing Bodies as well as, where appropriate, the Colleges Committee.
- cc2019.61 Development Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Development Committee held on 8 February 2019 (**CP2019/23**). Council noted the need to maintain a clear sense of strategy in this area. It was agreed that every College committee should review its own terms of reference at its first meeting in each academical year.
- cc2019.62 Library and Archives Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Library and Archives Committee held on 11 February 2019 (**CP2019/24**). Council noted the Archivist's request for College departments, clubs and societies to share their records for archiving. The positive response of junior members to the consultation on the interior of the new Library was welcomed.
- cc2019.63 Access Committee*
Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Access Committee held on 13 February 2019 (**CP2019/25**), with the correction that



Dr Beauregard was present at the meeting. Council noted the need for the College websites to be helpful to prospective applicants and to avoid the risk inherent in links that immediately took visitors away from the Selwyn site, whilst also ensuring that links are used where reliance on resources such as the 'Undergraduate Study' pages of the University site are the best way to ensure that correct and up-to-date information is efficiently disseminated.

cc2019.64

Gardens Committee

Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Gardens Committee held on 15 February 2019 (**CP2019/26**). Dr Beauregard reported that the new Head Gardener, Mr Alex Turner, would start work on 18 March 2019, and encouraged members of Council to greet him.

cc2019.65

Steward's Committee

Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Steward's Committee held on 19 February 2019 (**CP2019/27**). Council noted that work had now begun on the Bar upgrade. Expenditure in the Servery had risen by 12 per cent, but card use had not improved, and there was some evidence of increased take-up by non-members of College coming in from the Sidgwick Site. Council noted that the Admissions team had met with the HR Manager to discuss the procedure for new students to signal dietary needs in advance of arrival in College, and the need for a realistic approach to this was acknowledged. Council agreed that improved advertising would help to raise awareness of the Servery's extended opening times.

cc2019.66

Chapel planned electrical works, Summer 2019

The Dean of Chapel reported that in line with the previously agreed strategy for ongoing works in the Chapel, it was planned to rewire the Chapel during the three months from the last week of June to the last week of September 2019. Council noted that this work was essential to ensure safety and reliability, and that it would be preceded by a survey taking three days. Council agreed that it was essential that the Chapel be serviceable again in time for the Commemoration of Benefactors on 28 September 2019, and that the contract for the work would include a compensation clause if the Chapel is not ready on time.

cc2019.67

Paintings Committee

Council received and noted the minutes of a meeting of the Paintings Committee held on 27 February 2019 (**CP2019/28a**). Council agreed that possible changes to the lighting in the New SCR needed further investigation. Council also agreed that there should be no necessary expectation that rooms named after a particular individual should contain a portrait of that individual. Council was sympathetic to a proposal from the Curator of Paintings (**CP2019/28b**) for hoardings to be decorated during the building of Phase III, possibly with quotations from books. However, this would only be practical if any such hoardings lent



themselves to this idea, and any quotations would be subject to careful editorial oversight by Council.

cc2019.68

Double beds in College accommodation

The JCR President and the MCR President introduced **CP2019/29**. Council noted the request from some students for double beds to be provided in certain student rooms, where space permitted. The advantages in terms of meeting student expectations, and of the possibility of enhancing conference and alumni trade, were noted. Equally, concern was expressed about issues of security and liability, as well as the need to ensure protection against double occupancy. Council agreed to establish a working group of senior and junior members to investigate the matter further and to report back to Council and Governing Body.

cc2019.69

MCR Annual Dinner, 14 June 2019

The MCR President introduced **CP2019/30**. Council gave permission for a professional String Quartet to play under the Gazebo during the drinks reception, and for a live band (Darwin College's Galapagos) to play in the Hall after the dinner. Council noted that those responsible for putting up the Gazebo and for moving tables and chairs would have received appropriate training. Council agreed that preparations for this event should be discreet because 14 June was the final day of the Quiet Period, and that clearing up should be completed in good time before the wedding due to take place in College the next day.

cc2019.70

Any Other Unreserved Business

i Weddings in Chapel

The Dean of Chapel reported that he had given permission for the weddings in Chapel of Sebastian Aston-Deaville (SE 2010) and Lauren Deakes on 21 March 2010; and of Sophie Gammage (SE 2013) and Felix Newman (SE 2013) on 20 June 2020. Council noted that both weddings would be followed by a reception and dinner in the Hall with live music and dancing. Council agreed that any reception in the College gardens would require separate permission. Council also agreed that the following dates would be reserved for wedding receptions following weddings in the Chapel or otherwise: 4 January 2020, 9 January 2021, 27 March 2021, 3 July 2021.

ii MCR Dinner, 19 April 2019

Council agreed that any theme adopted for this dinner should be non-political, and that the MCR President should send the Master further details of what was planned.

iii Education Strategy

Council noted that the University's Education Strategy was in the process of being renamed and comprehensively revised.

