



MINUTES

of a meeting of the College Council on Tuesday 13 June 2023

There were present the Master, Dr Beauregard, Mr Matheson, Dr O'Donnell, Dr O'Sullivan, Ms Phillips, Dr Reinbold, Dr Sewell, Dr V. Young; the JCR President, Ms Elina Smith, the MCR President, Mr Joel Kandiah. The MCR Treasurer, Ms Signe Reitz Krarup, was in attendance and Dr Woodford was in attendance as secretary.

UNRESERVED BUSINESS

cc2023.122 Starred Items

Council confirmed that starred items should not be discussed.

cc2023.123 Statement of Conflicts of Interest

Council confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest arising from the Unreserved Agenda concerning any of those persons present.

cc2023.124 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr Nicholson and the JCR treasurer, Mr Harper; Dr Sewell was present from cc2023.127.

cc2023.125 Minutes of the Unreserved Council meeting held on 23 May 2023

The minutes were received and signed.

cc2023.126 Matters arising

i. College Diary 2023-24

Council note that certain changes have been made to the online version of the College diary in the light of University committee dates.

ii. Visiting Bye-Fellowships in Indenture Studies cc2023.97

Council noted that the College has received two generous donations to support Indenture Studies. In recognition of a donation from Dr Niven R. Narain, this year's bye-fellowship post is to be known as the Ramesh and Leela Narain visiting bye-fellowship, and in recognition of a donation from Dr Tulsi Dyal Singh, next year's post is to be known as the Tulsi Dyal and Claudette Singh visiting bye-fellowship.

cc2023.127

Statutes and Regulations

The Bursar reported that the College's new statutes will come into force as soon as they are approved by His Majesty the King at the Privy Council, anticipated on 14 June 2023.

The draft regulations were reviewed by the Statutes Committee on 6 June 2023 in line with the principles outlined by Council (CP2023/052). Council agreed that the meeting of Governing Body to be held on 20 June 2023 would take place under the new Regulations, assuming the College has received notice that the Statutes have been approved. An amendment was agreed to Regulation 1:5 on the Reappointments Committee to draw on its terms and conditions; and Council agreed minor amendments to Regulation 7 on the Operation of College Bodies to reflect current practice. Regulation 11 relating to the Head of House has been amended to include the proviso for a Head of House to claim for reasonable legal costs. It was noted that the Statutes Committee is a standing committee of Council and continues once the new Statutes are in place.

cc2023.128

Budget 2023-24

The Bursar presented the College budget for 2023-24 (CP2023/053), which shows a £1.65m material deficit for next year. The College remains under financial pressure with costs increasing. The reduction in the forecast deficit needs to be seen in the context of a higher draw down from investments and higher assumptions about the use of donations, which together amount for the majority of the improvement on prior year. The budget builds in savings by Heads of Departments. The budget breaks even in terms of cash flow by cutting down capital expenditure spending; the Bursar, together with the Finance Committee, has reviewed planned future work to decide on strategic priorities. This continues to risk storing up issues for the future. The budget does not meet the need of building up the College's future liquid reserves.

The Bursar made Council aware of her concerns in relation to financial risks, e.g. that the conference targets may be too ambitious. Academic income and rent are subject to the risks connected to student numbers and assumptions about accommodation occupancy. There are key assumptions too in relation to costs - which anticipate that UK inflation will fall over the budgeted period.

The Bursar noted the strength of the teams in College departments and her view that significant effort is being invested in cost controls, which will help to meet the expectations in this budget. The Master thanked the JCR and the MCR for their understanding of the cost pressures to the College. The Bursar thanked the Finance Manager and the Heads of Departments for their work towards the budget. The College Council reviewed the budget and recommended it to the Governing Body.

cc2023.129

Fees and Charges 2023-24

The Council approved the Fees and Charges for 2023-24 (CP2023/054).

cc2023.130

CCTV Policy

Council noted and approved the revised CCTV policy (CP2023/055a) and the location of cameras (CP2023/055b).

cc2023.131

Library and Archives Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Library and Archive Committee held on 17 May 2023 were received and noted (CP2023/056). The Senior Tutor drew attention to the on-going problem of the lift in the Bartram Library, which had been out of action for large parts of recent months.

cc2023.132

Alumni and Development Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Alumni and Development Committee held on 22 May 2023 were received and noted (CP2023/057). The Harrison Fund was launched on Saturday 9 June at the Lyttelton dinner, and a target has been set of £1m for the support of teaching in the sciences. The Harrison Fund will be the focus of the telephone campaign to be held in December.

cc2023.133

Access Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Access Committee held on 24 May 2023 were received and noted (CP2023/058).

cc2023.134

Operations Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Operations Committee held on 26 May 2023 were received and noted (CP2023/059). The wayfinding project is underway and focused for budgetary reasons on phase 1 only at this stage. This will improve the quality and clarity of signage by the main entrance, around Old Court and to direct visitors to Ann's Court and the Quarry Whitehouse Auditorium, replacing the current use of A-boards.

cc2023.135

Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 5 June 2023 were received and noted (CP2023/060).

cc2023.136

UCU Marking and Assessment Boycott and Congregations

The Senior Tutor reported that the University will be communicating to all students plans to allow for the communication of provisional marks, where available and where final marks cannot be distributed. The congregations of the University will take place in an amended form in the week of General Admission to celebrate the completion of the undergraduates' courses. The July congregation for postgraduates will go ahead to allow postgraduates to receive their degrees or celebrate the end of their studies as appropriate. There continues to be uncertainty as to when class-lists will be finalised. The JCR noted that the principal concern of students relates to the requirements graduating students face in relation to their offers of employment or further study. The Senior Tutor explained that a letter template has been drafted by the University to support departments or Colleges in outlining the situation to employers or other HEIs. The Senior Tutor noted that the delay to the class lists will impact on the awarding of College Scholarships and Prizes. Council agreed it would be necessary to book

a reserve date for the Scholars' dinner in Lent Term in case scholarships are unable to be finalised in time for a Michaelmas Term event.

cc2023.137

Any Other Unreserved Business

There was no other unreserved business.